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## Candesartan for (Vestibular) Migraine

Candesartan is a common antihypertensive, a medication used to treat high blood pressure. It has also been found in clinical trials to be an effective treatment for migraine, and although not yet licensed for the prevention of migraine in the UK, is used widely for this purpose.

### What is the dosage?

The dose should be gradually increased as detailed below. You should increase the dose until symptoms are suppressed or you reach the maximum dose. If you experience intolerable side effects, then reduce to the previous dose and discuss with your prescribing doctor.

Candesartan should be started at 2-4mg once daily, and increased in 2-4mg increments, every 2-3 weeks, up to 16mg daily (or alternatively 8mg twice daily).

*You should have a blood test to check your kidney function two weeks after any increase in Candesartan.*

### What are the side effects?

All medications have potential side effects in a small number of people. Candesartan is usually very well tolerated. It can affect blood pressure causing light headedness, although it tends to not have a significant effect on normal blood pressure. Nonetheless blood pressure should be monitored whilst taking this medication. Tiredness is a rare reported side effect. Candesartan may cause a reduction in the number of white blood cells (the cells which fight infections) decreasing your resistance to infections. If this happens then you should consult your prescribing doctor.

### You should NOT take Candesartan if you have:

- Renal Artery Stenosis
- Hypotension (low blood pressure)
- Liver or severe Kidney Disease
- Hyperkalaemia (high levels of Potassium)
- If you have a history of Idiopathic or Hereditary Angioedema
- If you are Pregnant
- If you are sensitive to any of the ingredients in the product

***Disclaimer: This Patient Information Leaflet is intended to provide a brief overview of this medication. It is not a substitute for the comprehensive 'product information' leaflet found inside all boxes of medication. The 'product information' leaflet MUST always be read before starting the medication. Your prescribing doctor will discuss the risks and benefits of the medication and they will decide on its suitability.***