

ANPEC

(New formulation)

verapamil hydrochloride

Consumer Medicine Information

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Anpec.

It does not contain all the available information.

It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking Anpec against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine.

You may need to read it again.

What Anpec is used for

There are two types of Anpec:

- Anpec tablets (available as Anpec 40mg and 80mg.)

Anpec is used in the treatment of:

- high blood pressure, also called hypertension
- angina (chest pain)

Anpec tablets are also used to treat irregular heartbeats, also called arrhythmias

Your doctor may have prescribed Anpec for another reason. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why Anpec has been prescribed for you.

Anpec belongs to a group of medicines called calcium channel blockers or calcium antagonists. They work by opening up blood vessels, which lets more blood and oxygen reach the heart and at the same time lowers high blood pressure. Anpec tablets also help to control fast or irregular heartbeats.

Anpec does not change the amount of calcium in your blood or bones. Calcium in your diet or in calcium supplements will not interfere with the way Anpec works.

Anpec is available only with a doctor's prescription.

There is no evidence that Anpec is addictive.

Before you take Anpec

When you must not take it

Do not take Anpec if you have an allergy to verapamil hydrochloride or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include:

- shortness of breath
- wheezing or difficulty breathing
- swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body
- rash, itching or hives on the skin

Do not take Anpec if you:

- have certain heart conditions (such as heart failure, a very slow heart rate, heart conduction problems, some irregular heartbeats or disease of the heart muscle)
- have low blood pressure, also called hypotension

- are taking any of the following medications, or medications containing these ingredients:
 - ivabradine
 - Direct Oral Anticoagulants (DOACs) such as dabigatran (in certain situations)

Do not use Anpec after the expiry date (EXP) printed on the pack.

If you take this medicine after the expiry date has passed, it may not work as well.

Do not use Anpec if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

If you are not sure whether you should start taking Anpec contact your doctor.

Before you start to take Anpec:

Tell your doctor if you have allergies to:

- any other medicines
- any other substances, such as foods, dyes or preservatives.

Tell your doctor if you have or have ever had any medical conditions especially the following:

- any other heart problem
- blood vessel (circulatory) disease or a stroke
- liver or kidney problems
- muscle conditions such as Duchenne muscular dystrophy, myasthenia gravis, Lambert-Eaton syndrome

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.

Anpec may affect your baby if you take it in pregnancy. Your doctor will discuss the possible risks and benefits of taking Anpec during pregnancy.

Tell your doctor if you are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed.

Anpec passes into breast milk. Your doctor will discuss the possible risks and benefits of taking Anpec when breastfeeding.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you start taking Anpec.

Taking other medicines

Several medicines can cause unwanted reactions if used with Anpec.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

In particular tell your doctor if you are taking any of the following medicines:

Medicines to treat heart problems or high blood pressure:

- Beta-blockers e.g. atenolol, propranolol, metoprolol, etc
- Ivabradine
- Digoxin
- Any other medicines used to control an irregular heartbeat e.g. quinidine, flecainide, amiodarone, disopyramide
- Any medicines used to control high blood pressure (especially prazosin or terazosin)

Medicines used to lower cholesterol:

- Statins such as atorvastatin or simvastatin

Medicines used to treat or prevent blood clots (sometimes referred to as "blood thinners")

- Direct Oral Anticoagulants (DOACs) such as dabigatran
- Aspirin

Medicines used to treat or prevent gout:

- Colchicine, sulfinpyrazone.

Medicines used to treat psychological problems

- Any medicines to treat depression, or psychosis. Such as imipramine, buspirone, midazolam or lithium

Medicines to treat epilepsy or seizures:

- Phenytoin, carbamazepine, phenobarbital.

Medicines to treat or prevent organ transplant rejection:

- Cyclosporin, everolimus, sirolimus, tacrolimus

Medicines used to treat infections or tuberculosis:

- such as erythromycin, clarithromycin, telithromycin or rifampicin

Medicines used in the treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV):

- such as ritonavir

Medicines used in surgical procedures:

- General anaesthetics used for inducing sleep
- Muscle relaxants

Other medicines that may react with Anpec:

- theophylline, a medicine used to treat asthma
- doxorubicin, a medicine used to treat certain cancers
- cimetidine, a medicine commonly used to treat stomach ulcers and reflux
- metformin and glibenclamide, medicines used to treat diabetes
- aspirin

Avoid alcohol while using Anpec. You may experience greater blood pressure lowering effects than usual.

Avoid grapefruit juice, as this may increase the blood levels of verapamil.

These medicines may be affected by Anpec, or may affect how well it works. You may need different amounts of your medicine or you may need to take different medicines. Your doctor will advise you.

This is not a complete list of medicines which may interfere with Anpec.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines or herbal remedies, including those obtained without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

How to take Anpec

How much to take

Your doctor will tell you how many tablets you will need to take each day and when to take them. This depends on your condition and whether or not you are taking any other medicines.

Anpec tablets are usually taken two or three times a day.

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor carefully.

If you do not understand the instructions on the pharmacist's label fixed on the box, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

How to take it

Swallow Anpec with a glass of water.

Anpec tablets are to be swallowed whole. They are not meant to be broken.

When to take it

Anpec can be taken with or without food.

If you forget to take it

If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to. Otherwise, take it as soon as you remember, and then go back to taking your medicine as you would normally.

Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose that you missed.

This may increase the chance of you getting an unwanted side effect.

If you miss more than one dose, or are not sure what to do, check with your doctor or pharmacist.

How long to take it

Treatment with Anpec is usually long term. Keep taking Anpec for as long as your doctor recommends.

If you take too much (overdose)

Immediately telephone your doctor or the Poisons Information Centre (telephone 13 11 26) for advice, or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital, if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much Anpec. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

You may need urgent medical attention.

If you take too much Anpec, you may have difficulty breathing, a slow heartbeat, chest pain, feel very faint or collapse.

While you are taking Anpec

Things you must do

If you become pregnant while taking Anpec, tell your doctor.

Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are taking Anpec.

If you are being treated for angina, tell your doctor if you continue to have angina attacks or if they become more frequent while you are using Anpec.

If you are going to have surgery including dental surgery, tell your doctor or dentist that you are taking Anpec.

Visit your doctor regularly so that they can check on your progress.

Your doctor may ask you to have blood tests to check your liver from time to time.

Things you must not do

Do not take Anpec with grapefruit or its juice.

Do not give Anpec to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.

Do not take Anpec to treat any other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.

Do not stop taking Anpec, or lower the dosage without checking with your doctor.

Things to be careful of

Be careful getting up from a sitting position.

Dizziness, light-headedness or fainting may occur, especially when you get up quickly. Getting up slowly may help.

Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how Anpec affects you.

As with other medicines, Anpec may cause dizziness, light-headedness or tiredness in some people. If this occurs, do not drive, operate machinery or do anything else that could be dangerous if you are tired, dizzy or lightheaded.

If you drink alcohol while taking Anpec, dizziness or light-headedness may be worse.

Side effects

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking Anpec.

Like all other medicines, Anpec may have unwanted side effects in some people. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the side effects.

As with most medicines, if you are over 65 years of age you may have an increased chance of getting side effects. Report any side effects to your doctor promptly.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist any questions you may have.

Tell your doctor if you notice any of the following more common side effects and they worry you:

- constipation
- dizziness, light-headedness
- feeling sick, upset stomach
- headache
- tiredness
- flushing

Tell your doctor immediately or go to Accident and Emergency at the nearest hospital if you notice any of the following:

- chest pain, fainting, collapse
- slow, fast, or irregular heart beat
- shortness of breath (sometimes with tiredness, weakness and reduced ability to exercise), which may occur together with swelling of the feet and legs due to fluid build up
- fever, upper stomach pain, feeling generally unwell
- severe blisters, skin rash, itching or flaking skin

Other side effects not listed above may occur in some patients. Ask your doctor or pharmacist for more information about side effects, as they have a more complete list of side effects. Inform your doctor promptly about these or any other symptoms. If the condition persists or worsens, seek medical attention.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects.

You may not experience any of them.

Tell your doctor if you notice anything that is making you feel unwell.

After using Anpec

Storage

Keep your tablets in the pack until it is time to take them.

If you take the tablets out of the pack they will not keep well.

Keep Anpec tablets in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C.

Do not store Anpec or any other medicine in the bathroom or near a sink.

Do not leave it in the car on hot days or on window sills.

Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

Keep your tablets where children cannot reach them.

Disposal

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste.

If your doctor tells you to stop taking Anpec, or the tablets have passed their expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any tablets left over.

Product description

What it looks like

Anpec is available as:

Anpec 40 mg: White biconvex film coated tablet with "40" (side 1) and the Knoll triangle (side 2).

Anpec 80 mg: White biconvex film coated tablet.

Each pack of Anpec 40 mg and 80 mg contains 100 tablets.

Ingredients

Anpec tablets are gluten free.

The active ingredient in Anpec is verapamil hydrochloride.

Anpec tablets contain 40 mg or 80 mg of verapamil hydrochloride.

These tablets also contain:

- calcium hydrogen phosphate dihydrate
- microcrystalline cellulose
- croscarmellose sodium
- magnesium stearate
- colloidal anhydrous silica
- hypromellose
- purified talc
- sodium lauryl sulfate
- macrogol 6000
- titanium dioxide

Supplier

Anpec tablets are supplied by:

Mylan Health Pty Ltd
Level 1, 30 The Bond
30-34 Hickson Road
Millers Point, NSW 2000
Australia
www.mylan.com.au
Phone: 1800 314 527

Australian registration numbers:

Anpec 40 mg - AUST R 316008

Anpec 80 mg - AUST R 316009

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