

# Neocard<sup>®</sup>

Tablet

## **Description**

Neocard contains Diltiazem Hydrochloride which tablet is available in potencies of 30 mg and 60 mg for oral administration.

## **Indications**

Neocard is a calcium antagonist. It is indicated for the prophylaxis and treatment of classical and vasospastic angina pectoris and hypertension, myocardial infarction, coronary artery spasm, hypertension, cardiac arrhythmias, Raynaud's phenomenon, oesophageal motility disorder, and migraine.

## **Dosage and Administration**

General : Usual dose is 60 mg three times daily. However patient responses may vary and dosage requirements can differ significantly between individual patients. If necessary the divided dose may be increased to 180-360 mg/day. Dosage may also be started as 30 mg four times daily and increasing at 1 to 2 days intervals until the optimum response is achieved. Higher doses up to 480 mg/day have been used with benefit in some patients especially in unstable angina. There is no evidence of any decrease in efficacy at these high doses. Neocard has not been reported to precipitate angina.

Elderly and patients with impaired hepatic or renal function : The recommended starting dose is 60 mg twice daily. The heart rate should be measured regularly in these groups of patients and the dose should not be increased if the heart rate falls below 50 beats per minute.

Children : Not recommended.

## **Contraindications**

Diltiazem Hydrochloride is contraindicated in pregnant women or those of child bearing potential, patients with Sick Sinus syndromes, patients with second or third degree AV block, patients with severe bradycardia and patients who demonstrated hypersensitivity to the drug.

## **Precautions**

Patients with mild bradycardia or a prolonged PR interval should be observed closely. Neocard does not have a significant myocardial depressant effect and is well tolerated in patients with poor left ventricular function. The drug should be used with caution in patients with impaired hepatic or renal function.

## **Drug Interactions**

Diltiazem Hydrochloride should be carefully administered in case of concomitant use with the following drugs.

- ◆ Anti-hypertensive agents : effects of anti-hypertensive agents are enhanced
- ◆ Propranolol : concentration of propranolol may be increased
- ◆ Carbamazepine : plasma level of Carbamazepine may be increased and it may cause Carbamazepine induced toxic symptoms such as sleepiness, nausea, vomiting, vertigo etc.
- ◆ Digoxin preparations : plasma level of Digoxin is increased
- ◆ Cyclosporin : may increase serum cyclosporin concentration by 75% or more.

## **Side Effects**

Diltiazem Hydrochloride produces few side effects and these are usually mild. Oedema, nausea, headache, finger swelling, skin rash, dizziness and asthenia have been reported. Other adverse effects include bradycardia, AV block, hypotension, gastrointestinal symptom, hyperactivity with associated psychiatric symptoms and mild elevation of liver function tests.

## **Commercial Packs**

Neocard® 30 Tablet : Box containing 10 blister strips of 10 tablets, each tablet contains Diltiazem Hydrochloride USP 30 mg.

Neocard® 60 Tablet : Box containing 10 blister strips of 10 tablets, each tablet contains Diltiazem Hydrochloride USP 60 mg.