

Important

If you notice any swelling of the face, lips or tongue and/or throat, which may cause difficulties in breathing or swallowing, stop taking Entresto® and seek immediate medical attention.

These symptoms may be signs of angioedema (swelling caused by a build-up of fluid in deeper layers of the skin). This is not a common side effect, but may affect 1 in 100 people.

Is there another treatment option if I do not want to continue with this medicine?

This treatment is to reduce your symptoms of heart failure as the current therapy is not working. Should you decide not to take this medicine, please discuss this with your heart failure specialist nurse, cardiology consultant or GP.

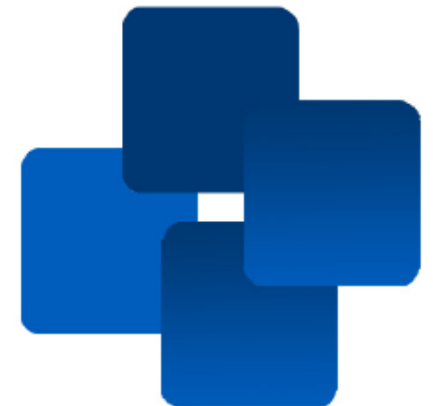
Contact details

Pharmacy Dedicated Patient Helpline: ☎ 01438 286150
Monday to Friday, 2pm - 4pm
email: medinfo.enhtr@nhs.net

Patient Information

Sacubitril Valsartan (Entresto®)

Pharmacy and Cardiology
Department



This leaflet is to give you general information and should be read together with the manufacturer's information leaflet. It is not intended to replace the discussion between you and the healthcare team, but may act as a starting point for discussion. If after reading this leaflet you have any concerns or require further explanation, please speak to a member of the healthcare team.

What is Sacubitril Valsartan (Entresto®)?

Sacubitril Valsartan (Entresto®) is a new medicine that has shown to reduce the symptoms of heart failure (meaning your heart is not working as well as it should). You are probably already taking medicines to treat this condition but are still experiencing symptoms, such as breathlessness, tiredness and ankle swelling. Your cardiologist (heart doctor) or specialist heart failure nurse believe you may benefit from taking this medicine.

How does it work?

Entresto® is a medicine known as an angiotensin receptor neprilysin inhibitor. It splits into two active substances in the body - sacubitril and valsartan. Entresto® blocks the effect of the enzyme neprilysin, which inactivates the natriuretic peptide hormones, which are protective to the heart and help the heart cope with its weakness. Natriuretic peptides help your body to retain less water, decrease blood pressure, etc., and this reduces the amount of ankle swelling and breathlessness that you may be suffering from.

How to take Entresto®

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Tablets should be swallowed with a full glass of water. You can take Entresto® with or without food. The usual starting dose is 24/26 mg or 49/51 mg twice a day (one tablet in the morning and one tablet in the evening). Your doctor will decide your exact starting dose based on which medicines you have been taking previously.

Your doctor will then adjust the dose depending on how you respond to the treatment until the best dose for you is found. The recommended target dose is 97/103 mg twice a day.

What should I do if I miss a dose?

It is advisable to take your medicine at the same time each day. However, if you forget to take a dose, you should simply take the next one at the scheduled time. **Do not** take a double dose to make up for tablets you have missed.

Can I take other medicines whilst taking Entresto®?

It is important that you check with your doctor, heart failure nurse or pharmacist before taking any other medicines, including ones that you buy over the counter.

Entresto® should not be taken with an ACE inhibitor or an ARB.

If you are taking medicines called ACE inhibitors (e.g. Lisinopril, Ramipril, Perindopril, Quinapril, Enalapril, Trandolapril, Fosinopril) **you must stop these 36 hours before taking Entresto®.**

ARBs are Losartan, candesartan, telmisartan, olmesartan, Irbesartan, Eprosartan **and should also be stopped before taking Entresto®**

What are the side effects of Entresto®?

Like all medicines, Entresto® can cause side effects in some people. The most common side effect is a fall in blood pressure, which may make you feel lightheaded, dizzy or faint. This side effect is likely to become less noticeable with time, but if you cannot cope please contact the heart failure specialist nurse.

Other side effects may include changes in the levels of chemicals in your blood, e.g. potassium, and how well your kidneys work. For this reason you may have a blood test two weeks after starting your new tablets. This will be arranged by your heart failure specialist nurse.