PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Amlodipine

This information from UpToDate® Lexidrug™ explains what you need to know about this medication, including what it's used for, how to take it, its side effects, and when to call your healthcare provider.

Brand Names: US

Katerzia; Norliqva; Norvasc; Sdamlo

Brand Names: Canada

ACH-Amlodipine; AG-AmLODIPine; APO-AmLODIPine; Auro-AmLODIPine; BIO-AmLODIPine; JAMP-AmLODIPine; M-Amlodipine; Mar-AmLODIPine; MINT-AmLODIPine; MYLAN-AmLODIPine; NB-Amlodipine; Norvasc; NRA-Amlodipine; PDP-Amlodipine; PHARMA-AmLODIPine; PMS-AmLODIPine; PRZ-Amlodipine; RIVA-AmLODIPine; SANDOZ AmLODIPine; SANDOZ-AmLODIPine; TARO-Amlodipine; TEVA AmLODIPine

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat high blood pressure.
- It may be given to your child for other reasons. Talk with

the doctor.

What do I need to tell the doctor BEFORE my child takes this drug?

- If your child is allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell the doctor about the allergy and what signs your child had.

This drug may interact with other drugs or health problems.

Tell the doctor and pharmacist about all of your child's drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe to give this drug with all of your child's other drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug your child takes without checking with the doctor.

What are some things I need to know or do while my child takes this drug?

- Tell all of your child's health care providers that your child is taking this drug. This includes your child's doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Have your child avoid tasks or actions that call for alertness until you see how this drug affects your child. These are things like riding a bike, playing sports, or using items such as scissors, lawnmowers, electric

scooters, toy cars, or motorized vehicles.

- To lower the chance of feeling dizzy or passing out, have your child rise slowly if your child has been sitting or lying down. Have your child be careful going up and down stairs.
- Have your child's blood pressure checked as you have been told.
- It is rare, but chest pain that is new or worse can happen after this drug is first started or after the dose is raised. Heart attack can also happen. The risk may be greater in people who have very bad heart blood vessel disease. Talk with the doctor.
- If your child is taking this drug and has high blood pressure, talk with the doctor before giving OTC products that may raise blood pressure. These include cough or cold drugs, diet pills, stimulants, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) like ibuprofen or naproxen, and some natural products or aids.
- Alcohol may interact with this drug. Be sure your child does not drink alcohol.
- Liver problems have happened with this drug. Sometimes, liver problems have needed to be treated in the hospital. Talk with the doctor.

If your child is pregnant or breast-feeding a baby:

- Talk with the doctor if your child is pregnant, becomes pregnant, or is breast-feeding a baby. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks to your child and the baby.

What are some side effects that I need to call my child's doctor about right away?

WARNING/CAUTION: Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your child's doctor or get medical help right away if your child has any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Signs of liver problems like dark urine, tiredness, decreased appetite, upset stomach or stomach pain, light-colored stools, throwing up, or yellow skin or eyes.
- Severe dizziness or passing out.
- Chest pain that is new or worse.

- Fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- Swelling.
- Stiff muscles, shakiness, or muscle movements that are not normal.

What are some other side effects of this drug?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your child's doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother your child or do not go away:

- Feeling dizzy, sleepy, tired, or weak.
- Flushing.
- Upset stomach.
- Stomach pain.

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your child's doctor. Call your child's doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

How is this drug best given?

Give this drug as ordered by your child's doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

All products:

- Give this drug at the same time of day.
- Give this drug with or without food.
- Keep giving this drug to your child as you have been told by your child's doctor or other health care provider, even if your child feels well.

All liquid products:

- Measure liquid doses carefully. Use the measuring device that comes with this drug. If there is none, ask the pharmacist for a device to measure this drug.

Liquid (suspension):

- Shake well before use.

Solution (Sdamlo):

- Each container is for one use only. Be sure you know how to mix this drug. If you have questions, talk with your pharmacist.
- To mix this drug, remove the cap from the container and peel off the seal. Add 15 mL water. Wait 60 seconds for

this drug to dissolve. You will not need to shake it. Give this drug right away or within 60 minutes after mixing. If this drug is not given within 60 minutes after mixing, throw it away. After giving your child this drug, rinse the container with 15 mL water 1 or 2 times and have your child drink.

What do I do if my child misses a dose?

- Give a missed dose as soon as you think about it.
- If it has been 12 hours or more since the missed dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your child's normal time.
- Do not give 2 doses at the same time or extra doses.

How do I store and/or throw out this drug?

Tablets:

- Store at room temperature protected from light. Store in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.

Liquid (solution):

- Store in the original container at room temperature.
- Store in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.

Liquid (suspension):

- Store in a refrigerator. Do not freeze.
- Protect from heat and light.

All products:

- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.

General drug facts

- If your child's symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your child's doctor.
- Do not share your child's drug with others and do not give anyone else's drug to your child.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your child's doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready

to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

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If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.

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