NORVASC- amlodipine besylate tablet Pfizer Laboratories Div Pfizer Inc

NORVASC® (amlodipine besylate) 2.5-mg, 5-mg, and 10-mg tablets

Read this information carefully before you start taking **NORVASC** (NORE-vask) and each time you refill your prescription. There may be new information. This information does not replace talking with your doctor. If you have any questions about **NORVASC**, ask your doctor. Your doctor will know if **NORVASC** is right for you.

What is NORVASC?

NORVASC is a type of medicine known as a calcium channel blocker (CCB). It is used to treat high blood pressure (hypertension) and a type of chest pain called angina. It can be used by itself or with other medicines to treat these conditions.

High Blood Pressure (hypertension)

High blood pressure comes from blood pushing too hard against your blood vessels. **NORVASC** relaxes your blood vessels, which lets your blood flow more easily and helps lower your blood pressure. Drugs that lower blood pressure lower your risk of having a stroke or heart attack.

Angina

Angina is a pain or discomfort that keeps coming back when part of your heart does not get enough blood. Angina feels like a pressing or squeezing pain, usually in your chest under the breastbone. Sometimes you can feel it in your shoulders, arms, neck, jaws, or back. **NORVASC** can relieve this pain.

Who should not use NORVASC?

Do not use **NORVASC** if you are allergic to amlodipine (the active ingredient in **NORVASC**), or to the inactive ingredients. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you a list of these ingredients.

What should I tell my doctor before taking NORVASC?

Tell your doctor about any prescription and non-prescription medicines you are taking, including natural or herbal remedies.

Tell your doctor if you:

- ever had heart disease
- ever had liver problems
- are pregnant, or plan to become pregnant. Your doctor will decide if **NORVASC** is the best treatment for you.
- are breast-feeding. NORVASC passes into your milk.

How should I take NORVASC?

- Take **NORVASC** once a day, with or without food.
- It may be easier to take your dose if you do it at the same time every day, such as with breakfast or dinner, or at bedtime. Do not take more than one dose of **NORVASC** at a time.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. Do not take **NORVASC** if it has been more than 12 hours since you missed your last dose. Wait and take the next dose at your regular time.

- Other medicines: You can use nitroglycerin and NORVASC together. If you take nitroglycerin for angina, don't stop taking it while you are taking NORVASC.
- While you are taking **NORVASC**, do not stop taking your other prescription medicines, including any other blood pressure medicines, without talking to your doctor.
- If you took too much **NORVASC**, call your doctor or Poison Control Center, or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.

What should I avoid while taking NORVASC?

• **Do not** start any new prescription or non-prescription medicines or supplements, unless you check with your doctor first.

What are the possible side effects of NORVASC?

NORVASC may cause the following side effects. Most side effects are mild or moderate:

- swelling of your legs or ankles
- tiredness, extreme sleepiness
- stomach pain, nausea
- dizziness
- flushing (hot or warm feeling in your face)
- arrhythmia (irregular heartbeat)
- heart palpitations (very fast heartbeat)
- muscle rigidity, tremor and/or abnormal muscle movement

It is rare, but when you first start taking **NORVASC** or increase your dose, you may have a heart attack or your angina may get worse. If that happens, call your doctor right away or go directly to a hospital emergency room.

Tell your doctor if you are concerned about any side effects you experience. These are not all the possible side effects of **NORVASC**. For a complete list, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

How do I store NORVASC?

Keep **NORVASC** away from children. Store **NORVASC** Tablets at room temperature (between 59° and 86°F). Keep **NORVASC** out of the light. Do not store in the bathroom. Keep **NORVASC** in a dry place.

General advice about NORVASC

Sometimes, doctors will prescribe a medicine for a condition that is not written in the patient information leaflets. Only use **NORVASC** the way your doctor told you to. Do not give **NORVASC** to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

You can ask your pharmacist or doctor for information about **NORVASC**, or you can visit the Pfizer website at **www.pfizer.com** or call 1-800-438-1985.

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