

# *Your Medication*

## **Carvedilol**

**(Coreg)**



IH-V-194  
W.D. 10/01  
Pg. 1 of 2

### **Why do I need this medicine?**

Carvedilol is used to lower blood pressure. It is also used to treat people who have congestive heart failure (CHF). It is a type of drug called a beta-blocker.

### **How do I take this medicine?**

- Take this medicine just like your doctor tells you. **Do not** stop taking this medicine unless your doctor tells you to.
- Take this medicine with food and a full glass of water.
- Take carvedilol at the same time each day.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular schedule.
- **Do not** take two doses at the same time.

### **What common side effects may I have?**

- a slower heart beat than usual
- headache
- vomiting
- tiredness
- dizziness
- diarrhea (loose stools)
- trouble sleeping
- dry eyes

If you notice any other side effects, tell your doctor.

**(over)**

**Call your health care provider or  
go to the Emergency Room right away if you:**

- have shortness of breath
- have a slow heart beat
- gain more than 2 pounds in a day
- have a seizure
- become confused
- feel faint or dizzy
- vomit

**What special things do I need to know?**

1. Be sure your health care providers and dentist know that you are taking carvedilol.
2. Talk to your health care provider, or pharmacist **before** you take any medicine you can buy without a prescription.
3. Tell your health care provider if you are **allergic to any medicine**.
4. Be sure to **keep your appointments** for health care provider visits and blood tests.
5. Ask your health care provider about **drinking alcohol** while you are on carvedilol.
6. This medicine may make you feel dizzy or sleepy. See how you feel after taking the first dose. If you are dizzy, stand up slowly after you have been sitting or lying down. If you are dizzy or sleepy, **do not** drive or do other jobs where you need to be alert.
7. **Do not** share this medicine with anyone.
8. Keep all medicine out of the reach of children. Even a small amount of this medicine may make a child very sick or cause death. Keep all your medicines in a safe place where children cannot get them.
9. If you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breast-feeding, tell your health care provider **before** you take this medicine. **This medicine may have harmful effects on unborn babies**. If you are not using birth control, be sure and tell your health care provider.
10. All medicines can cause side effects. Usually, these side effects will get better after a few days. If they do not, you should tell your health care provider. The health care provider can make some changes in the medicine. **Do not** stop taking the medicine unless the health care provider tells you to. Side effects **do not** mean that you are allergic to the medicine.