

POTASSIUM CHANNEL ACTIVATOR

Nicorandil

Other names: Ikorel®



Important note: The following information is intended to add to, not replace, the knowledge and judgment of your doctor, pharmacist or other health care professional.

How does potassium channel activators work?

Potassium channel activators relax and increases the size of the blood vessels of the heart. This improves blood flow and oxygen supply to the heart muscle.

Why you are taking this medicine

Potassium channel activators can be used for the following conditions:

- for angina (chest pain)
- spasm of the coronary blood vessels

When to take this medicine

Potassium channel activators can be taken with or without food. If it upsets your stomach take your nicorandil with food. This medicine is usually taken twice a day.

Do not stop taking this medicine without the doctor's permission.

If you miss a dose

Take it as soon as possible except when it is close to the time for your next dose. If it is almost time for next dose, skip the missed dose and return to your regular dosing schedule. You should not take two doses at the same time.

Side Effects

Unfortunately as well as having good effects, most medicines have some effects on your body that are unwanted. These are called *side effects*.

Call your doctor **immediately** if you have any of these side effects:

- a fast or irregular heartbeat
- not eating
- chest pain
- abdominal pain
- muscle weakness/pain
- mouth ulceration

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have these side effects:

- dizziness
- flushing of the skin and face
- indigestion
- gastrointestinal (stomach) upsets such as nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, constipation

Beware if drowsy, not to drive or operate machinery or do hazardous tasks. This effect can be increased with alcohol.

The list of side effects is **not** complete. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if any of these side effects are of a concern to you.

Other Medication

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicine including herbal or complementary products and medicines you can buy without a prescription.

Do not use nicorandil with sildenafil (Viagra[®]), tadalafil (Cialis[®]) or vardenafil (Levitra[®]).

Storage

Keep all medicines out of reach of children.

Once the foil pack is opened, the tablets must be discarded after 30 days.

Read this leaflet and discuss any questions you have about your medicines with your doctor or pharmacist