

# BETACARD

(Atenolol Tablets B.P., 25mg, 50mg & 100mg)

Betacard (Atenolol) is a beta1-selective (cardioselective) adrenoceptor blocking agent, which is indicated for the management of hypertension, angina.

#### CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY :

Betacard is a hydrophilic, cardio-selective beta1 receptor blocker, which does not undergo any first-pass metabolism and is excreted as such. It does not cross the blood-brain barrier causing minimum side effects on central nervous system. Its half-life varies from 6 to 9 hours, while the biological action persists for a longer time and it is possible to treat the patient by administering a single dose per day, which maintains the effect for more than 24 hours.

#### INDICATIONS :

Betacard is indicated in all grades of hypertension either alone or in combinations with diuretics and nifedipine. It is also a drug of choice for treatment of angina of effort.

#### CONTRAINDICATIONS :

Betacard is contraindicated in sinus bradycardia, heart block greater than first degree, cardiogenic shock and overt cardiac failure.

#### WARNINGS :

Betacard should be used with extreme caution in patients with history of Cardiac Failure, Diabetes Mellitus, Thyrotoxicosis, Bronchial Asthama, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

#### PRECAUTIONS :

The dose of atenolol should be reduced in renal failure, to 1 tablet of 25mg administered everyday or every alternate day depending on the degree of renal failure.

#### USE IN PREGNANCY :

Betacard when administered to pregnant women can cause fetal harm. Administration of Atenolol, starting in the second trimester of pregnancy, has been associated with birth of infants that are small for gestational age.

#### ADVERSE REACTIONS :

Betacard is quite well tolerated. Like other beta adrenoceptor blockers, atenolol can cause bradycardia, skin rashes, CCF etc. However, side effects are mild and transient.

#### DRUG INTERACTIONS :

Administration of calcium salts decreases the bio-availability of Betacard. Concomitant use of Betacard with verapamil or diltiazem may cause increased incidence of heart block.

#### DOSAGE & ADMINISTRATION :

Hypertension : The initial therapy is started with 50mg once a day either alone or with diuretic/vasodilator. Full therapeutic effect is seen within 1-2 weeks. To achieve desired therapeutic benefit, dose may be increased upto 100mg/day. Higher dosage are unlikely to produce further therapeutic benefit.

Angina Pectoris : The initial dose of Betacard is 50mg given as one tablet a day. If an optimal response is not achieved within a week, then dosage should be increased to 100mg given as one tablet a day. Some patients may require a dosage of 200mg once a day for optimal effect. This may be administered as 100mg tablet twice a day.

In underweight patients with renal impairment and elderly patients administer 25mg/day dose i.e. 1 Betacard-25/day.

#### PRESENTATION :

Betacard tablets are supplied in blister strip of 10 film coated tablets each of either 25mg or 50mg or 100mg.



Manufactured by :  
TORRENT PHARMACEUTICALS LTD.  
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