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Source : New Zealand Medicines Authority

Primacor Injection

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) summary

The [full CMI](#) on the next page has more details. If you are worried about using this medicine, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

1. Why am I using Primacor?

Primacor contains the active ingredient Milrinone Lactate. Primacor is used for the short term treatment of severe congestive heart failure.

For more information, see Section [1. Why am I using Primacor?](#) in the full CMI.

2. What should I know before I use Primacor?

Do not use if you have ever had an allergic reaction to Primacor or any of the ingredients listed at the end of the CMI.

Talk to your doctor if you have any other medical conditions, take any other medicines, or are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding.

For more information, see Section [2. What should I know before I use Primacor?](#) in the full CMI.

3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with Primacor and affect how it works.

A list of these medicines is in Section [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#) in the full CMI.

4. How do I use Primacor?

- Primacor is usually given to you in hospital. It is given to you as a series of injections.

More instructions can be found in Section [4. How do I use Primacor?](#) in the full CMI.

5. What should I know while using Primacor?

Things you should do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using Primacor.
Things you should not do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You should not use Primacor if you are allergic to milrinone, similar medicines, or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.
Driving or using machines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be careful before you drive or use any machines or tools until you know how Primacor affects you.
Drinking alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA
Looking after your medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you need to store Primacor make sure it is in a cool dry place where the temperature does not exceed 30°C. • Do not refrigerate.

For more information, see Section [5. What should I know while using Primacor?](#) in the full CMI.

6. Are there any side effects?

Effects you may feel during the Primacor injection include an irregular heartbeat, low blood pressure, light headedness, dizziness, chest pain, headaches, skin rashes. For more information, including what to do if you have any side effects, see Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#) in the full CMI.

Primacor Injection

Active ingredient(s): *Milrinone Lactate*

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

This leaflet provides important information about using Primacor. **You should also speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like further information or if you have any concerns or questions about using Primacor.**

Where to find information in this leaflet:

- [1. Why am I using Primacor?](#)
- [2. What should I know before I use Primacor?](#)
- [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#)
- [4. How do I use Primacor?](#)
- [5. What should I know while using Primacor?](#)
- [6. Are there any side effects?](#)
- [7. Product details](#)

1. Why am I using Primacor?

Primacor contains the active ingredient milrinone lactate.

Primacor is used for the short term treatment of severe congestive heart failure. This is a condition where the heart fails to pump enough blood around the body. The symptoms of this condition include weakness, breathlessness, fluid build-up in the tissues and a blue discolouration of the skin.

Primacor also helps to maintain the output of blood from the heart in patients following heart surgery.

Primacor helps improve the efficiency with which your heart pumps blood around your body.

Primacor works by increasing the force by which your heart muscles work and opening up your blood vessels to allow blood to flow more freely.

2. What should I know before I use Primacor?

Warnings

Do not use Primacor if:

- you are allergic to milrinone lactate, or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.
- Always check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.
- you have certain severe problems (obstructive aortic or pulmonary valvular disease).
- you are pregnant or breastfeeding, unless you and your doctor have discussed the risks and benefits involved.

Check with your doctor if you:

- have any other medical conditions
- take any medicines for any other condition
- suffer from kidney disease
- already suffer from another heart condition

- are allergic to other drugs used to treat congestive heart failure.

During treatment, you may be at risk of developing certain side effects. It is important you understand these risks and how to monitor for them. See additional information under Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#)

Pregnancy and breastfeeding

Check with your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.

Talk to your doctor if you are breastfeeding or intend to breastfeed.

Primacor should not be given if you are pregnant or breastfeeding, unless you and your doctor have discussed the risks and benefits involved.

It is not known whether Primacor can harm your baby or whether it is found in breast milk.

3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any medicines, vitamins or supplements that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about what medicines, vitamins or supplements you are taking and if these affect Primacor.

4. How do I use Primacor?

How much to take / use

- Primacor is usually given to you in hospital. It is given to you as a series of injections as follows:
- Adults:

Initial Dose

- One injection given slowly over a 10 minute period.

Second Dose

- The Primacor will be diluted with intravenous fluids and injected slowly into a vein. This "infusion" may last up to 48 hours. The dose used will depend upon the severity of your condition.

Primacor is not recommended for use in children.

When to take / use Primacor

Primacor is usually given to you in hospital. It is given to you as a series of injections.

If you use too much Primacor

If you think that you have used too much Primacor, you may need urgent medical attention.

Too high a dose of Primacor may cause low blood pressure. If this occurs, the dose of Primacor may be reduced or the infusion temporarily stopped.

You should immediately:

- phone the Poisons Information Centre (**by calling 13 11 26**) in Australia, or
- phone the National Poisons Centre on 0800 POISON (0800 764766) in New Zealand, or
- contact your doctor, or
- go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital.

You should do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

5. What should I know while using Primacor?

Things you should do

Call your doctor straight away if you:

- do not feel well while Primacor is being given to you.

Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using Primacor.

Things you should not do

- You should not use Primacor if you are allergic to milrinone, similar medicines, or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.

Driving or using machines

Be careful before you drive or use any machines or tools until you know how Primacor affects you.

Looking after your medicine

Primacor will usually be stored and administered at the hospital.

- If you need to store Primacor make sure it is in a cool dry place where the temperature does not exceed 30°C.
- Do not refrigerate.
- Follow the instructions in the carton on how to take care of your medicine properly.

Keep it where young children cannot reach it.

This is not all the information available on Primacor. If you have any more questions or are not sure about anything ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

6. Are there any side effects?

All medicines can have side effects. If you do experience any side effects, most of them are minor and temporary. However, some side effects may need medical attention.

See the information below and, if you need to, ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have any further questions about side effects.

Primacor helps most people with severe congestive heart failure, but it may have unwanted effects in some people.

All medicines have side effects. Some times they are serious, most of the time they are not.

Less serious side effects

Less serious side effects	What to do
Effects you may feel during the Primacor injection include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• an irregular heartbeat• low blood pressure• light headedness, dizziness• chest pain• headaches• skin rashes Allergy related: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• rash• asthma attack• hay fever.	Speak to your doctor if you have any of these less serious side effects and they worry you.

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that may be making you feel unwell.

Other side effects not listed here may occur in some people.

Reporting side effects

After you have received medical advice for any side effects you experience, you can report side effects to the Therapeutic Goods Administration online at www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems in Australia and <https://nzphvc.otago.ac.nz/reporting/> in New Zealand. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

Always make sure you speak to your doctor or pharmacist before you decide to stop taking any of your medicines.

7. Product details

This medicine is only available with a doctor's prescription.

What Primacor contains

Active ingredient (main ingredient)	Milrinone Lactate 1 mg/mL
Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)	Glucose Water for Injections Lactic acid Sodium hydroxide
Potential allergens	Not Applicable

Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to any of these ingredients.

What Primacor looks like

Primacor is a clear colourless to pale yellow solution.

A box contains 10 ampoules.

Primacor 10mg/10mL injection: AUST R 10372

Who distributes Primacor

Primacor is supplied in Australia by:

sanofi-aventis australia pty ltd

12-24 Talavera Road

Macquarie Park, NSW 2113

Freecall No: 1800 818 806

Primacor is supplied in New Zealand by:

sanofi-aventis new zealand limited

James & Wells Tower

56 Cawley Street

Ellerslie, Auckland

Freecall No: 0800 283 684

This leaflet was last revised in April 2021

primacor-ccds7-cmiv3-28apr21

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