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Metoprolol: Patient drug information

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(For additional information [see "Metoprolol: Drug information"](#) and [see "Metoprolol: Pediatric drug information"](#))

Brand Names: US

Kaspargo Sprinkle; Lopressor; Toprol XL

Brand Names: Canada

AG-Metoprolol-L; APO-Metoprolol; APO-Metoprolol SR; APO-Metoprolol Type L; DOM-Metoprolol; DOM-Metoprolol-L; JAMP-Metoprolol-L; Lopresor SR; Lopresor [DSC]; Metoprolol-100; Metoprolol-25; Metoprolol-50; Metoprolol-L; MYLAN-Metoprolol [DSC]; PMS-Metoprolol-B; PMS-Metoprolol-L; RIVA-Metoprolol-L; SANDOZ Metoprolol (Type L) [DSC]; Sandoz Metoprolol SR; TEVA-Metoprolol

Warning

- Do not stop taking this drug all of a sudden. If you do, chest pain that is worse and in some cases heart attack may occur. The risk may be greater if you have certain types of heart disease. To avoid side effects, you will want to slowly stop this drug as ordered by your doctor. Call your doctor right away if you have new or worse chest pain or if other heart problems occur.

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat high blood pressure.

- It is used to treat chest pain or pressure.
- It is used to treat heart failure (weak heart).
- It is used after a heart attack to help prevent future heart attacks and lengthen life.
- It may be given to you for other reasons. Talk with the doctor.

What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take this drug?

- If you are allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell your doctor about the allergy and what signs you had.
- If you have any of these health problems: Certain types of abnormal heartbeats called heart block or sick-sinus syndrome, heart failure (weak heart), low blood pressure, poor blood flow to the arms or legs, shock caused by heart problems, or a slow heartbeat.
- If you have any of these health problems: Asthma or other breathing problems like COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease).

This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with this drug.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all of your drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe for you to take this drug with all of your drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug without checking with your doctor.

What are some things I need to know or do while I take this drug?

- Tell all of your health care providers that you take this drug. This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Avoid driving and doing other tasks or actions that call for you to be alert until you see how this drug affects you.
- To lower the chance of feeling dizzy or passing out, rise slowly if you have been sitting or lying down. Be careful going up and down stairs.
- Check blood pressure and heart rate as the doctor has told you.
- Have blood work checked as you have been told by the doctor. Talk with the doctor.
- This drug may affect certain lab tests. Tell all of your health care providers and lab workers that you take this drug.
- This drug may hide the signs of low blood sugar. Talk with the doctor.
- If you have high blood sugar (diabetes), you will need to watch your blood sugar closely.

- If you are taking this drug and have high blood pressure, talk with your doctor before using OTC products that may raise blood pressure. These include cough or cold drugs, diet pills, stimulants, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) like ibuprofen or naproxen, and some natural products or aids.
- You may need to avoid drinking alcohol with some products. Talk with your doctor or pharmacist to see if you need to avoid drinking alcohol with this drug.
- This drug may make it harder to tell if you have signs of an overactive thyroid like fast heartbeat. If you have an overactive thyroid and stop taking this drug all of a sudden, it may get worse and could be life-threatening. Talk with your doctor.
- If you have had a very bad allergic reaction, talk with your doctor. You may have a chance of an even worse reaction if you come into contact with what caused your allergy. If you use epinephrine to treat very bad allergic reactions, talk with your doctor. Epinephrine may not work as well while you are taking this drug.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan on getting pregnant, or are breast-feeding. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks to you and the baby.

What are some side effects that I need to call my doctor about right away?

WARNING/CAUTION: Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your doctor or get medical help right away if you have any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Low mood (depression).
- Very bad dizziness or passing out.
- Chest pain that is new or worse.
- An abnormal heartbeat that is new or worse.
- Slow heartbeat.
- Shortness of breath, a big weight gain, or swelling in the arms or legs.

What are some other side effects of this drug?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother you or do not go away:

- Feeling dizzy, tired, or weak.
- Diarrhea, upset stomach, or throwing up.

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

How is this drug best taken?

Use this drug as ordered by your doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

Regular-release tablets:

- Take with or right after a meal.
- Swallow whole with a full glass of water.
- Keep taking this drug as you have been told by your doctor or other health care provider, even if you feel well.

Extended-release tablets:

- Take with or right after a meal.
- Swallow whole. Do not chew or crush.
- You may break the tablet in half. Do not chew or crush.
- Keep taking this drug as you have been told by your doctor or other health care provider, even if you feel well.

Extended-release capsules:

- Take with or without food.
- Swallow whole. Do not chew or crush.
- If you cannot swallow this drug whole, you may sprinkle the contents on applesauce, pudding, yogurt, or other soft food. If you do this, swallow the mixture within 60 minutes of mixing without chewing. Do not store for future use.
- Keep taking this drug as you have been told by your doctor or other health care provider, even if you feel well.
- Those who have feeding tubes may use this drug. Use as you have been told. Flush the feeding tube after this drug is given.

Injection:

- It is given as a shot into a vein.

What do I do if I miss a dose?**All oral products:**

- Skip the missed dose and go back to your normal time.
- Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses.

Injection:

- Call your doctor to find out what to do.

How do I store and/or throw out this drug?**All oral products:**

- Store at room temperature in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.
- Protect from heat.

Injection:

- If you need to store this drug at home, talk with your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist about how to store it.

All products:

- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.

General drug facts

- If your symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your doctor.
- Do not share your drugs with others and do not take anyone else's drugs.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.

- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

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