

# CARDEF (FILM-COATED TABLETS)

## (AMLODIPINE/ATORVASTATIN)

**Composition:** Each film-coated tablet contains: Amlodipine (as besylate)/Atorvastatin (as Calcium) 5/10, 5/20, 5/40, 5/80, 10/10, 10/20, 10/40, 10/80 mg. **Excipients:** Calcium carbonate, Croscarmellose sodium, Microcrystalline cellulose, Pregelatinised starch, Polysorbate80, Hydroxypropyl cellulose, Colloidal silicon dioxide, Magnesium stearate, Opadry white, blue, and yellow. **Mechanism of action:** Cardef is a combination of two drugs, a dihydropyridine calcium channel blocker (amlodipine) and an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor (atorvastatin). The amlodipine component of Amlodipine/atorvastatin inhibits the transmembrane influx of calcium ions into vascular smooth muscle and cardiac muscle. The atorvastatin component of Amlodipine/atorvastatin is a selective, competitive inhibitor of HMG-CoA reductase, the rate-limiting enzyme that converts 3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl-coenzyme A to mevalonate, a precursor of sterols, including cholesterol.

**Pharmacokinetics:** **Absorption:** Amlodipine: After oral administration of therapeutic doses of amlodipine alone, absorption produces peak plasma concentrations between 6 and 12 hours. Absolute bioavailability has been estimated to be between 64% and 90%. **Atorvastatin:** After oral administration alone, atorvastatin is rapidly absorbed; maximum plasma concentrations occur within 1 to 2 hours. Extent of absorption increases in proportion to atorvastatin dose. The absolute bioavailability of atorvastatin (parent drug) is approximately 14% and the systemic availability of HMG-CoA reductase inhibitory activity is approximately 30%. The low systemic availability is attributed to presystemic clearance in gastrointestinal mucosa and/or hepatic first-pass metabolism. Plasma atorvastatin concentrations are lower (approximately 30% for Cmax and AUC) following evening drug administration compared with morning. However, LDL-C reduction is the same regardless of the time of day of drug administration.

**Amlodipine/atorvastatin:** Following oral administration of Amlodipine/atorvastatin, peak plasma concentrations of amlodipine and atorvastatin are seen at 6 to 12 hours and 1 to 2 hours post dosing, respectively. The bioavailability of amlodipine and atorvastatin from Amlodipine/atorvastatin are not significantly different from their bioavailability when administered separately. The bioavailability of amlodipine from Amlodipine/atorvastatin was not affected by food. Food decreases the rate and extent of absorption of atorvastatin from Amlodipine/atorvastatin by approximately 32% and 11%, respectively, as it does with atorvastatin when given alone. LDL-C reduction is similar whether atorvastatin is given with or without food.

**Distribution:** Amlodipine: Approximately 93% of the circulating amlodipine is bound to plasma proteins in hypertensive patients. Steady-state plasma levels of amlodipine are reached after 7 to 8 days of consecutive daily dosing. **Atorvastatin:** Mean volume of distribution of atorvastatin is approximately 381 liters. Atorvastatin is ≥ 98 % bound to plasma proteins.

**Metabolism:** Amlodipine: Amlodipine is extensively (about 90%) converted to inactive metabolites via hepatic metabolism. **Atorvastatin:** Atorvastatin is extensively metabolized to ortho- and parahydroxylated derivatives and various oxidation products. Approximately 70% of circulating inhibitory activity for HMG-CoA reductase is attributed to active metabolites.

**Elimination:** Amlodipine: Elimination from the plasma is biphasic with a terminal elimination half-life of about 30–50 hours. Ten percent of the parent amlodipine compound and 60% of its the metabolites are excreted in the urine. **Atorvastatin:** Atorvastatin and its metabolites are eliminated primarily in bile following hepatic and/or extra-hepatic metabolism; however, the drug does not appear to undergo enterohepatic recirculation. Mean plasma elimination half-life of atorvastatin in humans is approximately 14 hours, but the half-life of inhibitory activity for HMG-CoA reductase is 20 to 30 hours because of the contribution of active metabolites. Less than 2% of a dose of atorvastatin is recovered in urine following oral administration.

**Renal impairment:** Amlodipine: The pharmacokinetics of amlodipine are not significantly influenced by renal impairment. Patients with renal failure may therefore receive the usual initial amlodipine dose. **Atorvastatin:** Renal disease has no influence on the plasma concentrations or LDL-C reduction of atorvastatin; thus, dose adjustment of atorvastatin in patients with renal dysfunction is not necessary. **Hemodialysis:** Hemodialysis is not expected to clear atorvastatin or amlodipine since both drugs are extensively bound to plasma proteins.

**Patients with hepatic impairment:** Amlodipine: Elderly patients and patients with hepatic insufficiency have decreased clearance of amlodipine with a resulting increase in AUC of approximately 40–60%. **Atorvastatin:** In patients with chronic alcoholic liver disease, plasma concentrations of atorvastatin are markedly increased. Cmax and AUC are each 4-fold greater in patients with Childs-Pugh A disease. Cmax and AUC of atorvastatin are approximately 16-fold and 11-fold increased, respectively, in patients with Childs-Pugh B disease. **Atorvastatin is contraindicated in patients with active liver disease.**

**Heart Failure:** Amlodipine: In patients with moderate to severe heart failure, the increase in AUC for amlodipine was similar to that seen in the elderly and in patients with hepatic insufficiency. **Indications:** Amlodipine/atorvastatin is indicated in patients for whom treatment with both amlodipine and atorvastatin is appropriate. **Hypertension:** Amlodipine is indicated for the treatment of hypertension. **Coronary Artery Disease:** Chronic Stable Angina: Amlodipine is indicated for the symptomatic treatment of chronic stable angina. Amlodipine may be used alone or in combination with other antianginal agents.

**Vasospastic Angina (Prinzmetal's or Variant Angina):** Amlodipine is indicated for the treatment of confirmed or suspected vasospastic angina. Amlodipine may be used as monotherapy or in combination with other antianginal agents. **Angiographically Documented Coronary Artery Disease:** In patients with recently documented Coronary Artery Disease by angiography and without heart failure or an ejection fraction < 40 %, amlodipine is indicated to reduce the risk of hospitalization for angina and to reduce the risk of a coronary revascularization procedure. **Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease:** In adult patients without clinically evident coronary heart disease, but with multiple risk factors for coronary heart disease such as age, smoking, hypertension, low HDL-C, or a family history of early coronary heart disease, atorvastatin is indicated to:

- Reduce the risk of myocardial infarction.
- Reduce the risk of stroke.
- Reduce the risk for revascularization procedures and angina.
- In patients with type 2 diabetes, and without clinically evident coronary heart disease, but with multiple risk factors for coronary heart disease such as retinopathy, albuminuria, smoking, or hypertension, atorvastatin is indicated to:
- Reduce the risk of myocardial infarction.
- Reduce the risk of stroke.
- In patients with clinically evident coronary heart disease, atorvastatin is indicated to:
- Reduce the risk of non-fatal myocardial infarction.
- Reduce the risk of fatal and non-fatal stroke.
- Reduce the risk for revascularization procedures.
- Reduce the risk of hospitalization for congestive heart failure.
- Reduce the risk of angina

**Hypertension:** Atorvastatin is indicated: **- As an adjunct to diet to reduce elevated total-C, LDL-C, apo B, and TG levels and to increase HDL-C in patients with primary hypercholesterolemia (heterozygous familial and nonfamilial) and mixed dyslipidemia (Fredrickson Types IIa and IIb).** **- As an adjunct to diet for the treatment of patients with elevated serum TG levels (Fredrickson Type IV).** **- For the treatment of patients with primary dysbetalipoproteinemia (Fredrickson Type III) who do not respond adequately to diet.**

**- To reduce total-C and LDL-C in patients with homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia as an adjunct to other lipid-lowering treatments (e.g., LDL apheresis) or if such treatments are unavailable.** **- As an adjunct to diet to reduce total-C, LDL-C, and apo B levels in boys and postmenarchal girls, 10 to 17 years of age, with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia if after an adequate trial of diet therapy the following findings are present:**  
a. LDL-C remains ≥ 190 mg/dL or  
b. LDL-C remains ≥ 160 mg/dL and:

• There is a positive family history of premature cardiovascular disease or  
• Two or more other cardiovascular risk factors are present in the pediatric patient. **Limitations of Use:** Atorvastatin has not been studied in conditions where the major lipoprotein abnormality is elevation of chylomicrons (Fredrickson Types I and V). **Contraindications:** **Active Liver Disease:** Atorvastatin is contraindicated in patients with active liver disease, which may include unexplained persistent elevations in hepatic transaminase levels.

**Pregnancy:** Atorvastatin is contraindicated in women who are pregnant or may become pregnant. Atorvastatin may cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. Serum cholesterol and triglycerides increase during normal pregnancy, and cholesterol or cholesterol derivatives are essential for fetal development. Atherosclerosis is a chronic process and discontinuation of lipid-lowering drugs during pregnancy should have little impact on the outcome of long-term therapy of primary hypercholesterolemia. Amlodipine/atorvastatin should be administered to women of childbearing age only when such patients are highly unlikely to conceive and have been informed of the potential hazard. If the patient becomes pregnant while taking this drug, therapy should be discontinued immediately and the patient apprised of the potential hazard to the fetus.

**Nursing Mothers:** It is not known whether atorvastatin or amlodipine are excreted into human milk; however, a small amount of another statin does pass into breast milk. Because statins have the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants, women taking Amlodipine/atorvastatin should not breastfeed their infants. **Side Effects:** In general, treatment with amlodipine and atorvastatin combination is well tolerated. For the most part, adverse reactions have been mild or moderate in severity. No adverse reactions peculiar to this combination. Adverse reactions are similar in terms of nature, severity, and frequency to those reported previously with amlodipine and atorvastatin.

**Amlodipine:** The most commonly side effects are dizziness, edema, flushing, palpitations, fatigue, nausea, abdominal pain and somnolence. The following events occurred in <1% but >0.1% of patients treated with amlodipine: arrhythmia (including ventricular tachycardia and atrial fibrillation), bradycardia, chest pain, peripheral ischemia, syncope, tachycardia, vasculitis, hypoesthesia, neuropathy peripheral, paresthesia, tremor, vertigo, anorexia, constipation, dysphagia, diarrhea, flatulence, pancreatitis, vomiting, gingival hyperplasia, allergic reaction, asthenia, back pain, hot flashes, malaise, pain, rigors, weight gain, weight decrease, arthralgia, arthrosis, muscle cramps, myalgia, sexual dysfunction (male and female), insomnia, nervousness, depression, abnormal dreams, anxiety, depersonalization, dystopia, epistaxis, angioedema, erythema multiforme, pruritus, rash, rash erythematous, rash maculopapular, abnormal vision, conjunctivitis, diplopia, eye pain, tinnitus, micturition frequency, micturition disorder, nocturia, dry mouth, sweating increased, hyperglycemia, thirst, leukopenia, purpura, thrombocytopenia.

**Atorvastatin:** The five most common adverse reactions that led to treatment discontinuation were: myalgia, diarrhea, nausea, alanine aminotransferase increase, and hepatic enzyme increase. The most commonly adverse reactions (incidence ≥ 2%): Nasopharyngitis, arthralgia, diarrhea, pain in extremity, urinary tract infection, dyspepsia, nausea, musculoskeletal pain, muscle spasms, myalgia, insomnia and pharyngolaryngeal pain. Other adverse reactions reported include:

malaise, pyrexia; abdominal discomfort, eructation, flatulence, hepatitis, cholestasis; musculoskeletal pain, muscle fatigue, neck pain, joint swelling; transaminases increase, liver function test abnormal, blood alkaline phosphatase increased, creatine phosphokinase increase, hyperglycemia; nightmare; epistaxis; urticaria; vision blurred, tinnitus; white blood cells urine positive. The following postmarketing events have been reported infrequently with amlodipine: gynecostasia, jaundice and hepatic enzyme elevations (mostly consistent with cholestasis or hepatitis), in some cases severe enough to require hospitalization.

Amlodipine has been used safely in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, well compensated congestive heart failure, coronary artery disease, peripheral vascular disease, diabetes mellitus, and abnormal lipid profiles. Adverse reactions associated with atorvastatin therapy reported since market introduction that are not listed above include the following: anaphylaxis, angioneurotic edema, bullous rashes (including erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, and toxic epidermal necrolysis), rhabdomyolysis, fatigue, tendon rupture, fatal and non-fatal hepatic failure, dizziness, depression, peripheral neuropathy, and pancreatitis.

There have been rare reports of immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy associated with statin use and cognitive impairment (e.g., memory loss, forgetfulness, amnesia, memory impairment, confusion). The reports are generally non-serious, and reversible upon statin discontinuation, with variable times to symptom onset (1 day to years) and symptom resolution (median of 3 weeks). **Warnings & Precautions:** **Myopathy and Rhabdomyolysis:** Rare cases of rhabdomyolysis with acute renal failure secondary to myoglobinuria have been reported with statines. A history of renal impairment may be a risk factor for the development of rhabdomyolysis. Such patients merit closer monitoring for skeletal muscle effects. Atorvastatin, like other statins, occasionally causes myopathy, defined as muscle aches or muscle weakness in conjunction with increases in creatine phosphokinase values >10 times upper limit of normal. The concomitant use of higher doses of atorvastatin with certain drugs such as cyclosporine and strong CYP3A4 inhibitors (e.g., clarithromycin, itraconazole, and HIV protease inhibitors) increases the risk of myopathy/rhabdomyolysis.

**There have been rare reports of immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy, an autoimmune myopathy, associated with statin use. It is characterized by: proximal muscle weakness and elevated serum creatine kinase, which persist despite discontinuation of statin treatment; muscle biopsy showing necrotizing myopathy without significant inflammation; improvement with immunosuppressive agents. Myopathy should be considered in any patient with diffuse myalgias, muscle tenderness or weakness, or marked elevation of CPK. Patients should be advised to report promptly unexplained muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness, particularly if accompanied by malaise or fever or if muscle signs and symptoms persist after discontinuing Amlodipine/atorvastatin. Amlodipine/atorvastatin therapy should be discontinued if markedly elevated CPK levels occur or myopathy is diagnosed or suspected. The risk of myopathy during treatment with statins is increased with concurrent administration of cyclosporine, fibric acid derivatives, erythromycin, clarithromycin, the hepatitis C protease inhibitor, telaprevir, combinations of HIV protease inhibitors, including saquinavir plus ritonavir, lopinavir plus ritonavir, tipranavir plus ritonavir, darunavir plus ritonavir, fosamprenavir, and fosamprenavir plus ritonavir, niacin, or azole antifungals. Physicians considering combined therapy with Amlodipine/atorvastatin and such drugs should carefully weigh the potential benefits and risks and should carefully monitor patients for any signs or symptoms of muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness, particularly during the initial months of therapy and during any periods of upward dosage titration of either drug. Lower starting and maintenance doses of atorvastatin should be considered when taken concomitantly with the aforementioned drugs. Periodic creatine phosphokinase determinations may be considered in such situations, but there is no assurance that such monitoring will prevent the occurrence of severe myopathy.**

Cases of myopathy, including rhabdomyolysis, have been reported with atorvastatin co-administered with colchicine, and caution should be exercised when prescribing atorvastatin with colchicine. Treatment using Amlodipine/atorvastatin should be withheld or discontinued in any patient with an acute, serious condition suggestive of a myopathy or having a risk factor predisposing to the development of renal failure secondary to rhabdomyolysis (e.g., severe acute infection; hypotension; major surgery; trauma; severe metabolic, endocrine, and electrolyte disorders; and uncontrolled seizures). **Liver Dysfunction:** Statins, like atorvastatin, have been associated with biochemical abnormalities of liver function. Persistent elevations (>3 times the upper limit of normal occurring on 2 or more occasions) in serum transaminases occurred in patients who received atorvastatin. Upon dose reduction, drug interruption, or discontinuation, transaminase levels returned to or near pretreatment levels without sequelae. It is recommended that liver enzyme tests be obtained prior to initiating therapy with atorvastatin and repeated as clinically indicated. There have been rare postmarketing reports of fatal and non-fatal hepatic failure in patients taking statins, including atorvastatin. If serious liver injury with clinical symptoms and/or hyperbilirubinemia or jaundice occurs during treatment with Amlodipine-Atorvastatin combination, promptly interrupt therapy. If an alternate etiology is not found, do not restart this combination.

Active liver disease or unexplained persistent transaminase elevations are contraindications to the use of Amlodipine/atorvastatin.

**Increased Angina and Myocardial Infarction:** Worsening angina and acute myocardial infarction can develop after starting or increasing the dose of amlodipine, particularly in patients with severe obstructive coronary artery disease.

**Hypotension:** Symptomatic hypotension is possible with use of amlodipine, particularly in patients with severe aortic stenosis. Because of the gradual onset of action, acute hypotension is unlikely. **Endocrine Function:** Increases in HbA1c and fasting serum glucose levels have been reported with HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors, including atorvastatin. Avoid a statin with drugs that may decrease the levels or activity of endogenous steroid hormones such as ketoconazole, spironolactone, and cimetidine.

**Hemorrhagic Stroke:** In a study of the Stroke Prevention by Aggressive Reduction in Cholesterol Levels study where atorvastatin 80 mg vs. placebo was administered in subjects without coronary heart disease who had a stroke or transient ischemic attack within the preceding 6 months, a higher incidence of hemorrhagic stroke was seen in the atorvastatin 80 mg group compared to placebo.

**DRUG INTERACTIONS:** Data from a drug-drug interaction study involving 10 mg of amlodipine and 80 mg of atorvastatin in healthy subjects indicate that the pharmacokinetics of amlodipine are not altered when the drugs are coadministered. The effect of amlodipine on the pharmacokinetics of atorvastatin showed no effect on the Cmax, but the AUC of atorvastatin increased by 18% which is not clinically meaningful.

No drug interaction studies have been conducted with the combination Amlodipine-Atorvastatin and other drugs, although studies have been conducted in the individual amlodipine and atorvastatin components, as described below: **- Amlodipine:** **CYP3A4 Inhibitors:** Co-administration with CYP3A inhibitors (moderate and strong) results in increased systemic exposure to amlodipine and may require dose reduction. Monitor for symptoms of hypotension and edema when amlodipine is co-administered with CYP3A inhibitors to determine the need for dose adjustment.

**CYP3A4 Inducers:** No information is available on the quantitative effects of CYP3A4 inducers on amlodipine. Blood pressure should be closely monitored when amlodipine is co-administered with CYP3A4 inducers. **Sildenafil:** Monitor for hypotension when sildenafil is co-administered with amlodipine. **Immunosuppressants:** Amlodipine may increase the systemic exposure of cyclosporine or tacrolimus when co-administered. Frequent monitoring of trough blood levels of cyclosporine and tacrolimus is recommended and adjust the dose when appropriate.

**- Atorvastatin:** The risk of myopathy during treatment with statins is increased with concurrent administration of fibric acid derivatives, lipid-modifying doses of niacin, cyclosporine, or strong CYP3A4 inhibitors. **Strong Inhibitors of CYP3A4:** Concomitant administration of atorvastatin with strong inhibitors of CYP3A4 can lead to increases in plasma concentrations of atorvastatin. The extent of interaction and potentiation of effects depend on the variability of effect on CYP3A4. **Clarithromycin:** Atorvastatin AUC was significantly increased with concomitant administration of atorvastatin 80 mg with clarithromycin (500 mg twice daily) compared to that of atorvastatin alone.

**CYP3A4 Inducers:** No information is available on the quantitative effects of CYP3A4 inducers on atorvastatin. Blood pressure should be closely monitored when atorvastatin is co-administered with CYP3A4 inducers. **Combination of Protease Inhibitors:** Atorvastatin AUC was significantly increased with concomitant administration of atorvastatin with several combinations of HIV protease inhibitors, as well as with the hepatitis C protease inhibitor telaprevir, compared to that of atorvastatin alone. Therefore, in patients taking the HIV protease inhibitor tipranavir plus ritonavir, or the hepatitis C protease inhibitor telaprevir, concomitant use of atorvastatin should be avoided. In patients taking the HIV protease inhibitor lopinavir plus ritonavir, caution should be used when prescribing atorvastatin and the lowest dose necessary should be used. In patients taking the HIV protease inhibitors saquinavir plus ritonavir, darunavir plus ritonavir, fosamprenavir, or fosamprenavir plus ritonavir, the dose of atorvastatin should not exceed 20 mg. In patients taking the HIV protease inhibitor nelfinavir or the hepatitis C protease inhibitor boceprevir, the dose of atorvastatin should not exceed 40 mg and close clinical monitoring is recommended.

**Itraconazole:** Atorvastatin AUC was significantly increased with concomitant administration of atorvastatin 40 mg and itraconazole 200 mg. Therefore, in patients taking itraconazole, avoid atorvastatin doses >20 mg. **Grapefruit Juice:** Grapefruit Juice can increase plasma concentrations of atorvastatin, especially with excessive grapefruit juice consumption (>1.2 liters per day).

**Cyclosporine:** Cyclosporine can increase the bioavailability of atorvastatin. The coadministration of atorvastatin with cyclosporine should be avoided. **Gemfibrozil:** Because of an increased risk of myopathy/rhabdomyolysis when HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors are co-administered with gemfibrozil, avoid concomitant administration of atorvastatin with gemfibrozil. **Other Fibrates:** The risk of myopathy during treatment with HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors is increased with concurrent administration of other fibrates.

**Niacin:** The risk of skeletal muscle effects may be enhanced when atorvastatin is used in combination with niacin; consider a reduction in atorvastatin dosage in this setting. **Rifampin or other Inducers of CYP3A4:** Concomitant administration of atorvastatin with inducers of CYP3A4 (e.g., efavirenz, rifampin) can lead to variable reductions in plasma concentrations of atorvastatin. Because of the dual interaction mechanism of rifampin, simultaneous co-administration of atorvastatin with rifampin is recommended, as delayed administration of atorvastatin after administration of rifampin has been associated with a significant reduction in atorvastatin plasma concentrations.

**Digoxin:** When multiple doses of atorvastatin and digoxin were co-administered, steady-state plasma digoxin concentrations increased by approximately 20%. Monitor digoxin levels. **Oral Contraceptives:** Co-administration of atorvastatin and an oral contraceptive increased AUC values for norethindrone and ethinyl estradiol. Consider these increases when selecting an oral contraceptive for a woman taking the combination Amlodipine-Atorvastatin.

**Warfarin:** Atorvastatin had no clinically significant effect on prothrombin time when administered to patients receiving chronic warfarin treatment. **Colchicine:** Cases of myopathy, including rhabdomyolysis, have been reported with atorvastatin co-administered with colchicine.

**Pregnancy:** Pregnancy Category X Atorvastatin is contraindicated in women who are pregnant or may become pregnant. Atorvastatin may cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. Amlodipine-Atorvastatin should be administered to women of child bearing potential only when such patients are highly unlikely to conceive and have been informed of the potential hazards. If the woman becomes pregnant while taking Amlodipine-Atorvastatin, it should be discontinued immediately and the patient advised again as to the potential hazards to the fetus, and the lack of known clinical benefit with continued use during pregnancy.

Serum cholesterol and triglycerides increase during normal pregnancy, and cholesterol products are essential for fetal development. Atherosclerosis is a chronic process, and discontinuation of lipid lowering drugs during pregnancy should have little impact on long-term outcomes of primary hypercholesterolemia therapy. **Nursing Mothers:** It is not known whether amlodipine is excreted in human milk. In the absence of this information, it is recommended that nursing be discontinued while Amlodipine-Atorvastatin is administered.

It is not known whether atorvastatin is excreted in human milk, but a small amount of another drug in this class does pass into breast milk. Because another drug in this class passes into human milk and because statins have a potential to cause serious adverse reactions in nursing infants, women taking Amlodipine-Atorvastatin should be advised not to nurse their infants. **Pediatric Use:** The safety and effectiveness of Amlodipine-Atorvastatin have not been established in pediatric populations.

**Amlodipine:** Amlodipine (2.5 to 5 mg daily) is effective in lowering blood pressure in patients 6 to 17 years The effect of amlodipine on blood pressure in patients less than 6 years of age is not known. **Atorvastatin:** Safety and effectiveness in patients 10–17 years of age with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia have been evaluated in a controlled clinical trial of 6 months' duration in adolescent boys and postmenarchal girls. Patients treated with atorvastatin had an adverse experience profile generally similar to that of patients treated with placebo. The most common adverse experiences observed in both groups, regardless of causality assessment, were infections. Doses greater than 20 mg have not been studied in this patient population. Adolescent females should be counseled on appropriate contraceptive methods while on atorvastatin therapy.



Safety and effectiveness of Amlodipine-Atorvastatin have not been established in geriatric populations.

**Geriatric Use:** Safety and effectiveness of Amlodipine-Atorvastatin have not been established in geriatric populations. Amlodipine: In general, dose selection for an elderly patient should be cautious, usually starting at the low end of the dosing range, reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function, and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy. Elderly patients have decreased clearance of amlodipine with a resulting increase of AUC of approximately 40–60%, and a lower initial dose may be required.

**Atorvastatin:** No overall differences in safety or effectiveness were observed between these subjects and younger subjects, and other reported clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between the elderly and younger patients, but greater sensitivity of some older adults cannot be ruled out. Advanced age (>65 years) is a predisposing factor for myopathy. **Hepatic Impairment:** Amlodipine-Atorvastatin is contraindicated in patients with active liver disease which may include unexplained persistent elevations in hepatic transaminase levels.

**Doses & Administration:** **- Amlodipine-Atorvastatin :** Dosage of Amlodipine-Atorvastatin must be individualized on the basis of both effectiveness and tolerance for each individual component in the treatment of hypertension/angina and hyperlipidemia. Select doses of amlodipine and atorvastatin independently. Amlodipine-Atorvastatin may be substituted for its individually titrated components. Patients may be given the equivalent dose of Amlodipine-Atorvastatin or a dose of Amlodipine-Atorvastatin with increased amounts of amlodipine, atorvastatin, or both for additional antianginal effects, blood pressure lowering, or lipid-lowering effect.

**Amlodipine-Atorvastatin** may be used to provide additional therapy for patients already on one of its components. **Amlodipine-Atorvastatin** may be used to initiate treatment in patients with hyperlipidemia and either hypertension or angina.

**- Amlodipine:** The usual initial antihypertensive oral dose of amlodipine is 5 mg once daily, and the maximum dose is 10 mg once daily. **Pediatric (age > 6 years), small adult, fragile, or elderly patients, or patients with hepatic insufficiency:** may be started on 2.5 mg once daily and this dose may be used when adding amlodipine to other antihypertensive therapy. Adjust dosage according to blood pressure goals. In general, wait 7 to 14 days between titration steps. Titration may proceed more rapidly, however, if clinically warranted, provided the patient is assessed frequently.

**Angina:** The recommended dose of amlodipine for chronic stable or vasospastic angina is 5 –10 mg, with the lower dose suggested in the elderly and in patients with hepatic insufficiency. Most patients will require 10 mg for adequate effect. **Coronary artery disease:** The recommended dose range of amlodipine for patients with coronary artery disease is 5–10 mg once daily. In clinical studies, the majority of patients required 10 mg. **Pediatrics:** The effective antihypertensive oral dose of amlodipine in pediatric patients ages 6 –17 years is 2.5 mg to 5 mg once daily. Doses in excess of 5 mg daily have not been studied in pediatric patients.

**- Atorvastatin (Hyperlipidemia) Hyperlipidemia (Heterozygous Familial and Nonfamilial) and Mixed Dyslipidemia (Fredrickson Types IIa and IIb):** The recommended starting dose of atorvastatin is 10 or 20 mg once daily. Patients who require a large reduction in LDL-C (more than 45%) may be started at 40 mg once daily. The dosage range of atorvastatin is 10 to 80 mg once daily. Atorvastatin can be administered as a single dose at any time of the day, with or without food. The starting dose and maintenance doses of atorvastatin should be individualized according to patient characteristics such as goal of therapy and response. After initiation and/or upon titration of atorvastatin, lipid levels should be analyzed within 2 to 4 weeks and dosage adjusted accordingly.

**Homozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia:** The dosage range of atorvastatin in patients with homozygous hypercholesterolemia is 10 to 80 mg daily. Atorvastatin should be used as an adjunct to other lipid-lowering treatments (e.g., LDL apheresis) in these patients or if such treatments are unavailable. **Concomitant Lipid Lowering Therapy:** Atorvastatin may be used with bile acid resins. Monitor for signs of myopathy in patients receiving the combination of HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors (statins) and fibrates.

**Patients with Renal Impairment:** Dosage adjustment is not necessary. **Use with Cyclosporine, Clarithromycin, Itraconazole, or Certain Protease Inhibitors:** In patients taking cyclosporine or the HIV protease inhibitors (tipranavir plus ritonavir) or the hepatitis C protease inhibitor (telaprevir), avoid therapy with atorvastatin. In patients with HIV taking lopinavir plus ritonavir, use the lowest necessary dose of atorvastatin. In patients taking clarithromycin, itraconazole, or in patients with HIV taking a combination of saquinavir plus ritonavir, darunavir plus ritonavir, or fosamprenavir plus ritonavir, limit therapy with atorvastatin to 20 mg, and make appropriate clinical assessment to ensure that the lowest dose necessary of atorvastatin is employed. In patients taking the HIV protease inhibitor nelfinavir or the hepatitis C protease inhibitor boceprevir, limit therapy with atorvastatin to 40 mg, and make appropriate clinical assessment to ensure that the lowest dose necessary of atorvastatin is employed.

**Heterozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia in Pediatric Patients (10 –17 years of age):** The recommended starting dose of atorvastatin is 10 mg/day; the maximum recommended dose is 20 mg/day (doses greater than 20 mg have not been studied in this patient population). Doses should be individualized according to the recommended goal of therapy. Adjustments should be made at intervals of 4 weeks or more.

**Overdosage:** There is no information on overdosage with Amlodipine-Atorvastatin in humans. **Amlodipine:** Overdosage might be expected to cause excessive peripheral vasodilation with marked hypotension and possibly a reflex tachycardia. **Atorvastatin:** There is no specific treatment for atorvastatin overdosage. In the event of an overdose, the patient should be treated symptomatically, and supportive measures instituted as required. Because of extensive drug binding to plasma proteins, hemodialysis is not expected to significantly enhance atorvastatin clearance.

**Packaging:** 1 blister Aluminum/Aluminum contains 10 film-coated tablets of all strengths of CARDEF. 2 blisters Aluminum/Aluminum contain 20 film-coated tablets of all strengths of CARDEF. **Storage Conditions:** Store at room temperature, below 25° C, away from light. Keep out of reach of children.

TPP1800000	THIS IS A MEDICAMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A medicament is a product but unlike any other products.</li> <li>- A medicament is a product which affects your health, and its consumption contrary to instructions is dangerous for you.</li> <li>- Follow strictly the doctor's prescription, the method of use and the instructions of the pharmacist who sold the medicament. The doctor and the pharmacist are experts in medicine, its benefits and risks.</li> <li>- Do not by yourself interrupt the period of treatment prescribed for you.</li> <li>- Do not repeat the same prescription without consulting your doctor.</li> </ul>	
<b>KEEP MEDICAMENTS OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN</b> <small>(Council of Arab Health Ministers) (Arab Pharmacists Association)</small>	

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