

LOVASTIN[®] TABLET

Lovastatin (20mg)

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What Lovastatin[®] is used for

Lovastatin[®] is used together with a proper diet to lower cholesterol and triglyceride (fat) levels in the blood.

How Lovastatin[®] works

Lovastatin[®] contains lovastatin as active ingredient. It belongs to the group of medicines called HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors, or statins, and works to reduce the amount of cholesterol in the blood by blocking an enzyme that is needed by the body to make cholesterol.

Before you use Lovastatin[®]

- When you must not use it

Do not take Lovastatin[®] if you:

- are hypersensitive to lovastatin or any other ingredients of this medicine (listed in Product Description).
- have liver problems, high liver enzymes.
- are taking itraconazole, ketoconazole, posaconazole, voriconazole (antifungal medications).
- are taking boceprevir, telaprevir (antiviral for HIV).
- are taking erythromycin, clarithromycin, telithromycin (antibiotics).
- are taking nefazodone (antidepressant).
- are taking cyclosporine (used to prevent rejection after organ transplant).

Pregnancy and lactation

Lovastatin[®] is not recommended to be taken during pregnancy. Please consult your doctor or pharmacist if you are pregnant, planning for pregnancy or think you might be pregnant before taking Lovastatin[®].

Lovastatin[®] is not recommended to be taken during breastfeeding.

- Before you start to use it

You should inform your doctor:

- if you have a history of liver problems.
- if you have a rare condition called homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia, this medication may not work well and could raise liver enzyme levels.

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Lovastatin[®]:

- If you have or have had myasthenia (a disease with general muscle weakness including in some cases muscles used when breathing), or ocular myasthenia (a disease causing eye muscle weakness) as statins may sometimes aggravate the condition.

- Taking other medicines

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

You should talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking:

- gemfibrozil, other fibrates, and niacin (used to lower cholesterol).
- danazol (used in endometriosis treatment).
- verapamil, diltiazem, amiodarone (medications used in heart conditions).
- colchicine (used to treat acute gout attack).
- coumarin anticoagulants such as warfarin (blood thinning medication).

How to use Lovastatin[®]

- How much to use

General Dosage

- You should follow a cholesterol-lowering diet before starting this medication.
- Starting dose: Take 1 tablet once daily.
- Your doctor will adjust your dose according to your response or cholesterol level.

Use of Lovastatin[®] in children is not recommended.

Special consideration

Individuals with kidney problems:

- Your doctor will adjust your dose according to your kidney status.

- When to use it

Take once daily, preferably with the evening meal.

- How long to use it

Take Lovastatin[®] for the duration that the doctor recommends.

- If you forget to use it

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then to take the medicine and skip the missed dose. Do not take a double dose to make up for the missed dose.

- If you use too much (overdose)

Contact your doctor immediately or go to the Emergency Department of your nearest hospital, if you or anyone else may have taken too much of this medicine. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.

While you are using Lovastatin[®]

- Things you must do

Take your medicine exactly as your doctor has told you.

Tell all the doctors, dentists and pharmacists treating you that you are taking Lovastatin[®].

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Tell your doctor immediately if you become pregnant while taking this medication.

Take Lovastatin[®] only with a doctor's prescription.

- Things you must not do

Do not stop taking the medicine unless advised by your doctor.

Do not use any new medicines without consulting your doctor or pharmacist.

Do not give Lovastatin[®] to anyone else, even if they have the same symptoms or condition as you.

- Things to be careful of

Your doctor will do liver tests every 4 to 6 weeks for the first 15 months, then periodically to ensure no liver damage occurs.

If you experience any unexplained muscle pain, weakness, or tenderness, especially with fever or tiredness, while taking or even after stopping Lovastatin[®], please report these symptoms and see your doctor immediately.

Side effects

Like all medicines, Lovastatin[®] can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you experience any side effects after taking Lovastatin[®] including:

- Gastrointestinal - Common side effects include constipation, diarrhea, indigestion (dyspepsia), gas (flatulence), stomach pain or cramps, nausea, and heartburn.
- Musculoskeletal - Muscle cramps, muscle pain (myalgia), or muscle damage (myopathy, rhabdomyolysis). Rarely, severe muscle inflammation (immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy) can occur.
- Nervous system - Dizziness, headache, fatigue, and sleep problems such as insomnia.
- Skin - Rash and itchy skin (pruritus).

- Eyes and taste - Blurred vision or changes in taste (dysgeusia).
- Laboratory findings - Persistent increases in liver enzyme levels (serum transaminases).

Rare side effects (post-marketing)

- Cognitive issues such as memory loss, forgetfulness and confusion have been reported.
- Small increases in blood sugar have also been reported.

Unknown frequency:

- Myasthenia gravis (a disease causing general muscle weakness including in some cases muscles used when breathing).
- Ocular myasthenia (a disease causing eye muscle weakness).

Talk to your doctor if you experience weakness in your arms or legs that worsens after periods of activity, double vision or drooping of your eyelids, difficulty swallowing, or shortness of breath.

If you have muscle problems that do not go away even after your doctor has told you to stop taking Lovastatin[®], please refer to your doctor. Your doctor may do further tests to diagnose the cause of your muscle problems.

Visit your doctor or pharmacist immediately if you experience any side effects after using this medicine.

You may report any side effects or adverse drug reactions directly to the National Centre for Adverse Drug Reaction Monitoring by visiting the website npra.gov.my (Consumers → Reporting Side Effects to Medicines (ConSERF) or Vaccines (AEFI)).

Storage and disposal of Lovastatin[®]

- Storage

Keep in a tight container, store below 30°C, protect from light & moisture.

- Disposal

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

Product Description

- What it looks like

A light blue octagonal tablet with one side impressed with the mark "YUNG SHIN".

- Ingredients

- Active ingredient(s)

- Lovastatin

- Inactive ingredients

- Lactose
- Povidone
- Sodium Starch Glycolate
- Sodium Lauryl Sulfate
- Magnesium Stearate
- Isopropyl Alcohol
- Indigo carmine

- MAL number:

MAL19990107AZ

Manufacturer and Product Registration Holder

Y.S.P. Industries (M) Sdn. Bhd.
Lot 3, 5, 7, 12 & 14, Jalan P/7, Section 13, Kawasan Perindustrian Bandar Baru Bangi, 43000 Kajang, Selangor, Malaysia.

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