

SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Saranto 50

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITIONS:

Each film-coated tablet contains Losartan Potassium Ph. Eur 50 mg.

Excipient with known effect:

Each tablet contains 40.0 mg of Lactose monohydrate

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM:

Losartan Potassium Tablets 50 mg:

Descriptions:

White to off-white, oval shaped, biconvex film-coated tablets debossed with 'E' on one side and '4' and '6' separated by score line on other side.

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS:

4.1 Therapeutic indications

Treatment of essential hypertension in adults and in children and adolescents 6 – 18 years of age.

Treatment of renal disease in adult patients with hypertension and type 2 diabetes mellitus with proteinuria ≥ 0.5 g/day as part of an antihypertensive treatment.

Treatment of chronic heart failure in adult patients when treatment with Angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors is not considered suitable due to incompatibility, *especially cough*, or contraindication. Patients with heart failure who have been stabilised with an ACE inhibitor should not be switched to losartan. The patients should have a left ventricular ejection fraction $\leq 40\%$ and should be clinically stable and on an established treatment regimen for chronic heart failure.

Reduction in the risk of stroke in adult hypertensive patients with left ventricular hypertrophy documented by ECG.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Posology

Hypertension

The usual starting and maintenance dose is 50 mg once daily for most patients. The maximal antihypertensive effect is attained 3-6 weeks after initiation of therapy. Some patients may receive an additional benefit by increasing the dose to 100 mg once daily (in the morning).

Losartan may be administered with other antihypertensive agents, especially with diuretics (e.g., hydrochlorothiazide).

Hypertensive type II diabetic patients with proteinuria ≥ 0.5 g/day

The usual starting dose is 50 mg once daily. The dose may be increased to 100 mg once

daily based on blood pressure response from one month onwards after initiation of therapy. Losartan may be administered with other antihypertensive agents (e.g., diuretics, calcium channel blockers, alpha-or beta-blockers, and centrally acting agents) as well as with insulin and other commonly used hypoglycemic agents (e.g., sulfonylureas, glitazones and glucosidase inhibitors).

Heart Failure

The usual initial dose of losartan in patients with heart failure is 12.5 mg once daily. The dose should generally be titrated at weekly intervals (i.e., 12.5 mg daily, 25 mg daily, 50 mg daily, 100 mg daily, up to a maximum dose of 150 mg once daily) as tolerated by the patient.

Reduction in the risk of stroke in hypertensive patients with left ventricular hypertrophy documented by ECG

The usual starting dose is 50 mg of losartan once daily. A low dose of hydrochlorothiazide should be added and/or the dose of losartan should be increased to 100 mg once daily based on blood pressure response.

Special populations

Use in patients with intravascular volume depletion:

For patients with intravascular volume-depletion (e.g. those treated with high-dose diuretics), a starting dose of 25 mg once daily should be considered.

Use in patients with renal impairment and haemodialysis patients:

No initial dosage adjustment is necessary in patients with renal impairment and in haemodialysis patients.

Use in patients with hepatic impairment:

A lower dose should be considered for patients with a history of hepatic impairment. There is no therapeutic experience in patients with severe hepatic impairment. Therefore, losartan is contraindicated in patients with severe hepatic impairment.

Paediatric population

6 months – less than 6 years

The safety and efficacy of children aged 6 months to less than 6 years has not been established.

6 years to 18 years

For patients who can swallow tablets, the recommended dose is 25 mg once daily in patients >20 to <50 kg. (In exceptional cases the dose can be increased to a maximum of 50 mg once daily). Dosage should be adjusted according to blood pressure response.

In patients >50 kg, the usual dose is 50 mg once daily. In exceptional cases the dose can be adjusted to a maximum of 100 mg once daily. Doses above 1.4 mg/kg (or in excess of 100 mg) daily have not been studied in paediatric patients.

Losartan is not recommended for use in /children under 6 years old, as limited data are available in these patient groups.

It is not recommended in children with glomerular filtration rate < 30 ml/min/1.73 m², as no

data are available.

Losartan is also not recommended in children with hepatic impairment.

Use in Elderly

Although consideration should be given to initiating therapy with 25 mg in patients over 75 years of age, dosage adjustment is not usually necessary for the elderly.

Method of administration

Losartan tablets should be swallowed with a glass of water. Losartan tablets may be administered with or without food.

4.3 Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients. 2nd and 3rd trimester of pregnancy.

Severe hepatic impairment.

The concomitant use of losartan with aliskiren-containing products is contraindicated in patients with diabetes mellitus or renal impairment (GFR < 60 ml/min/1.73 m²).

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Hypersensitivity:

Angiooedema. Patients with a history of angiooedema (swelling of the face, lips, throat, and/or tongue) should be closely monitored.

Hypotension and electrolyte/fluid imbalance

Symptomatic hypotension, especially after the first dose and after increasing of the dose, may occur in patients who are volume- and/or sodium-depleted by vigorous diuretic therapy, dietary salt restriction, diarrhoea or vomiting. These conditions should be corrected prior to administration of losartan, or a lower starting dose should be used. This also applies to children 6 to 18 years of age.

Electrolyte imbalances

Electrolyte imbalances are common in patients with renal impairment, with or without diabetes, and should be addressed. In type 2 diabetic patients with nephropathy, the incidence of hyperkalaemia was higher in the patients treated with losartan. Therefore, the plasma concentrations of potassium as well as creatinine clearance values should be closely monitored, especially patients with heart failure and a creatinine clearance between 30-50 ml/min should be closely monitored.

The concomitant use of potassium-sparing diuretics, potassium supplements and potassium-containing salt substitutes with losartan is not recommended.

Hepatic impairment

Based on pharmacokinetic data which demonstrate significantly increased plasma concentrations of losartan in cirrhotic patients, a lower dose should be considered for patients with a history of hepatic impairment. There is no therapeutic experience with losartan in patients with severe hepatic impairment. Therefore, losartan must not be administered in patients with severe hepatic impairment.

Losartan is not recommended in children with hepatic impairment.

Renal impairment

As a consequence of inhibiting the renin-angiotensin system, changes in renal function including renal failure have been reported (in particular, in patients whose renal function is dependent on the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system such as those with severe cardiac insufficiency or pre-existing renal dysfunction). As with other medicinal products that affect the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system, increases in blood urea and serum creatinine have also been reported in patients with bilateral renal artery stenosis or stenosis of the artery to a solitary kidney; these changes in renal function may be reversible upon discontinuation of therapy. Losartan should be used with caution in patients with bilateral renal artery stenosis or stenosis of the artery to a solitary kidney.

Use in paediatric patients with renal impairment

Losartan is not recommended in children with glomerular filtration rate $< 30 \text{ ml/min/1.73 m}^2$ as no data are available.

Renal function should be regularly monitored during treatment with losartan as it may deteriorate. This applies particularly when losartan is given in the presence of other conditions (fever, dehydration) likely to impair renal function.

Concomitant use of losartan and ACE-inhibitors has shown to impair renal function. Therefore, concomitant use is not recommended.

Renal transplantation

There is no experience in patients with recent kidney transplantation.

Primary hyperaldosteronism

Patients with primary aldosteronism generally will not respond to antihypertensive medicinal products acting through inhibition of the renin-angiotensin system. Therefore, the use of losartan is not recommended.

Coronary heart disease and cerebrovascular disease

As with any antihypertensive agents, excessive blood pressure decrease in patients with ischaemic cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease could result in a myocardial infarction or stroke.

Heart failure

In patients with heart failure, with or without renal impairment, there is - as with other medicinal products acting on the renin-angiotensin system - a risk of severe arterial hypotension, and (often acute) renal impairment.

There is no sufficient therapeutic experience with losartan in patients with heart failure and concomitant severe renal impairment, in patients with severe heart failure (NYHA class IV) as well as in patients with heart failure and symptomatic life-threatening cardiac

arrhythmias. Therefore, losartan should be used with caution in these patient groups. The combination of losartan with a beta-blocker should be used with caution.

Aortic and mitral valve stenosis, obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

As with other vasodilators, special caution is indicated in patients suffering from aortic or mitral stenosis, or obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.

Excipients

This medicinal product contains lactose. Patients with rare hereditary problems of galactose intolerance, the Lapp lactase deficiency or glucose-galactose malabsorption should not take this medicine.

Pregnancy

Losartan should not be initiated during pregnancy. Unless continued losartan therapy is considered essential, patients planning pregnancy should be changed to alternative anti-hypertensive treatments which have an established safety profile for use in pregnancy. When pregnancy is diagnosed, treatment with losartan should be stopped immediately, and, if appropriate, alternative therapy should be started.

Other warnings and precautions

As observed for angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, losartan and the other angiotensin antagonists are apparently less effective in lowering blood pressure in black people than in non-blacks, possibly because of higher prevalence of low-renin states in the black hypertensive population.

Dual blockade of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (RAAS)

The concomitant use of ACE-inhibitors, angiotensin II receptor blockers or aliskiren increases the risk of hypotension, hyperkalaemia, and decreased renal function (including acute renal failure). Dual blockade of RAAS through the combined use of ACE- inhibitors, angiotensin II receptor blockers or aliskiren is therefore not recommended.

If dual blockade therapy is considered absolutely necessary, this should only occur under specialist supervision and subject to frequent close monitoring of renal function, electrolytes and blood pressure. ACE-inhibitors and angiotensin II receptor blockers should not be used concomitantly in patients with diabetic nephropathy.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Other antihypertensive agents may increase the hypotensive action of losartan. Concomitant use with other substances which may induce hypotension as an adverse reaction (like tricyclic antidepressants, antipsychotics, baclofen and amifostine) may increase the risk of hypotension.

Losartan is predominantly metabolised by cytochrome P450 (CYP) 2C9 to the active carboxy-acid metabolite. It was found that Fluconazole (inhibitor of CYP2C9) decreases the exposure to the active metabolite by approximately 50%. It was found that concomitant treatment of losartan with rifampicin (inducer of metabolism enzymes) gave a 40% reduction in plasma concentration of the active metabolite, but this effect is unknown. No difference in exposure was found with concomitant treatment with fluvastatin (weak inhibitor of CYP2C9).

As with other medicinal products that block angiotensin II or its effects, concomitant use of other medicinal products which retain potassium (e.g., potassium-sparing diuretics: amiloride, triamterene, spironolactone) or may increase potassium levels (e.g. heparin), potassium supplements or salt substitutes containing potassium may lead to increases in serum potassium. Co-medication is not advisable.

Reversible increases in serum lithium concentrations and toxicity have been reported during concomitant administration of lithium with ACE inhibitors. Very rare cases have also been reported with angiotensin II receptor antagonists. Coadministration of lithium and losartan should be undertaken with caution. If this combination proves essential, serum lithium level monitoring is recommended during concomitant use.

When angiotensin II antagonists are administered simultaneously with NSAIDs (i.e. selective COX-2 inhibitors, acetylsalicylic acid at anti-inflammatory doses and non-selective NSAIDs), attenuation of the antihypertensive effect may occur. Concomitant use of angiotensin II antagonists or diuretics and NSAIDs may lead to an increased risk of worsening of renal function, including possible acute renal failure, and an increase in serum potassium, especially in patients with poor pre-existing renal function. The combination should be administered with caution, especially in the elderly. Patients should be adequately hydrated and consideration should be given to monitoring renal function after initiation of concomitant therapy, and periodically thereafter.

Dual blockade of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (RAAS) through the combined use of ACE-inhibitors, angiotensin II receptor blockers or aliskiren is associated with a higher frequency of adverse events such as hypotension, hyperkalaemia, and decreased renal function (including acute renal failure) compared to the use of a single RAAS-acting agent.

4.6 Pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

The use of losartan is not recommended during the first trimester of pregnancy. The use of losartan is contraindicated during the 2nd and 3rd trimester of pregnancy.

Epidemiological evidence regarding the risk of teratogenicity following exposure to ACE inhibitors during the first trimester of pregnancy has not been conclusive; however, a small increase in risk cannot be excluded. Whilst there is no controlled epidemiological data on the risk with Angiotensin II Receptor Inhibitors (AIIRAs), similar risks may exist for this class of medicinal products. Unless continued AIIRA therapy is considered essential, patients planning pregnancy should be changed to alternative anti-hypertensive treatments which have an established safety profile for use in pregnancy. When pregnancy is diagnosed, treatment with losartan should be stopped immediately and, if appropriate, alternative therapy should be started.

Exposure to AIIRA therapy during the second and third trimesters is known to induce human fetotoxicity (decreased renal function, oligohydramnios, skull ossification retardation) and neonatal toxicity (renal failure, hypotension, hyperkalaemia).

Should exposure to losartan have occurred from the second trimester of pregnancy, ultrasound check of renal function and skull is

recommended. Infants whose mothers have taken losartan should be closely observed for hypotension.

Lactation

Because no information is available regarding the use of losartan during breastfeeding, losartan is not recommended and alternative treatments with better established safety profiles during breastfeeding are preferable, especially while nursing a newborn or preterm infant.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

No studies on the effects on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed. However, when driving vehicles or operating machines it must be borne in mind that dizziness or drowsiness may occasionally occur when taking antihypertensive therapy, in particular during initiation of treatment or when the dose is increased.

4.8 Undesirable effects

The frequency of adverse reactions listed below is defined using the following convention: very common ($\geq 1/10$); common ($\geq 1/100$, to $< 1/10$); uncommon ($\geq 1/1,000$, to $< 1/100$); rare ($\geq 1/10,000$ to $< 1/1,000$); very rare ($< 1/10,000$), not known (cannot be estimated from the available data).

Table 1. The frequency of adverse reactions identified were given below

Adverse Reaction	Frequency of adverse reaction by indication				others
	Hypertension	Hypertensive patients with left-ventricular	Chronic Heart failure	Hypertension and type 2 diabetes with renal disease	
Blood and lymphatic system disorders					
Anaemia			Common		frequency not known
Thrombocytopaenia					frequency not known
Immune system disorders					
hypersensitivity reactions, anaphylactic reactions and angioedema*					rare
Psychiatric disorders					
depression					frequency not known
Nervous system disorders					
dizziness	common	common	common	common	
somnolence	uncommon				
headache	uncommon		uncommon		
sleep disorders	uncommon				
paraesthesia			rare		

Migraine					frequency	not
dysgeusia					frequency	not
Ear and labyrinth disorders						
vertigo	common	common				
tinnitus					frequency	not
Cardiac disorders						

palpitations	uncommon				
angina pectoris	uncommon				
syncope			rare		
atrial fibrillation			rare		
cerebrovascular accident			rare		
Vascular disorders					
(orthostatic) hypotension (including dose- related orthostatic effects)	uncommon		common	common	
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders					
dyspnoea			uncommon		
cough			uncommon		frequency not
Gastrointestinal disorders					
abdominal pain	uncommon				
obstipation	uncommon				
diarrhoea			uncommon		frequency not
nausea			uncommon		
vomiting			uncommon		
Hepatobiliary disorders					
pancreatitis					frequency not
hepatitis					rare
liver function abnormalities					Frequency not
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders					
urticaria			uncommon		frequency not
pruritus			uncommon		frequency not

rash	uncommon		uncommon		frequency	not
photosensitivity					frequency	not
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders						
myalgia					frequency	not
arthralgia					frequency	not
rhabdomyolysis					frequency	not
Renal and urinary disorders						
renal impairment			common			
renal failure			common			
Reproductive system and breast disorders						
erectile dysfunction / impotence					frequency	not
General disorders and administration site conditions						
asthenia	uncommon	common	uncommon	common		
fatigue	uncommon	common	uncommon	common		
oedema	uncommon					
malaise					frequency	not
Investigations						
hyperkalaemia	common		uncommon†	common‡		
increased alanine aminotransferase (ALT) &	rare					
increase in blood urea, serum creatinine and serum potassium			common			
hyponatraemia					frequency	not
hypoglycaemia				common		

*Including swelling of the larynx, glottis, face, lips, pharynx, and/or tongue (causing airway obstruction); in some of these patients angioedema had been reported in the past in connection with the administration of other medicines, including ACE inhibitors.

**Including Henoch-Schönlein purpura.

Especially in patients with intravascular depletion, e.g., patients with severe heart failure or under treatment with high dose diuretics.

Common in patients who received 150 mg losartan instead of 50 mg. In a clinical study conducted in type 2 diabetic patients with nephropathy, 9.9% of patients treated with Losartan tablets developed hyperkalaemia >5.5 mmol/l and 3.4% of patients treated with placebo.

Usually resolved upon discontinuation. The following additional adverse reactions occurred more frequently in patients who received Losartan: back pain, urinary tract infection and flu-like symptoms.

Renal and urinary disorders:

As a consequence of inhibiting the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system, changes in renal function including renal failure have been reported in patients at risk; these changes in renal function may be reversible upon discontinuation of therapy.

Paediatric population

The adverse reaction profile for paediatric patients appears to be similar to that seen in adult patients. Data in the paediatric population are limited.

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare providers are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions to the marketing authorization holder or if available via the national reporting system (See details below);

Paper based reporting: TMDA yellow card

Online reporting: <https://sqr.tmda.go.tz/>

*USSD reporting: send a simple short text message to report any suspected Adverse Drug Reaction by dialing *152*00# and follow the instructions.*

4.9 Over dosage

Symptoms of intoxication

Limited data are available with regard to overdose in humans. The most likely manifestation of overdose would be hypotension and tachycardia. Bradycardia could occur from parasympathetic (vagal) stimulation.

Treatment of intoxication

If symptomatic hypotension should occur, supportive treatment should be instituted. Measures are depending on the time of medicinal product intake and kind and severity of symptoms. Stabilization of the cardiovascular system should be given priority. After oral intake, the administration of a sufficient dose of activated charcoal is indicated. Afterwards, close monitoring of the vital parameters should be performed. Vital

parameters should be corrected if necessary.

Neither losartan nor the active metabolite can be removed by haemodialysis.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Angiotensin II antagonists, plain, ATC code: C09CA01

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Losartan is a synthetic oral angiotensin-II receptor (type AT1) antagonist. Angiotensin II, a potent vasoconstrictor, is the primary active hormone of the renin/angiotensin system and an important determinant of the pathophysiology of hypertension. Angiotensin II binds to the AT1 receptor found in many tissues (e.g., vascular smooth muscle, adrenal gland, kidneys and the heart) and elicits several important biological actions, including vasoconstriction and the release of aldosterone. Angiotensin II also stimulates smooth muscle cell proliferation.

Losartan selectively blocks the AT1 receptor. *In vitro* and *in vivo* losartan and its pharmacologically active carboxylic acid metabolite E-3174 block all physiologically relevant actions of angiotensin II, regardless of the source or route of its synthesis.

Losartan does not have an agonist effect nor does it block other hormone receptors or ion channels important in cardiovascular regulation. Furthermore, losartan does not inhibit ACE (kininase II), the enzyme that degrades bradykinin. Consequently, there is no potentiation of undesirable bradykinin-mediated effects.

During administration of losartan, removal of the angiotensin II negative feedback on renin secretion leads to increased plasma renin activity (PRA). Increase in the PRA leads to an increase in angiotensin II in plasma. Despite these increases, antihypertensive activity and suppression of plasma aldosterone concentration are maintained, indicating effective angiotensin II receptor blockade. After discontinuation of losartan, PRA and angiotensin II values fell within three days to the baseline values.

Both losartan and its principal active metabolite have a far greater affinity for the AT1-receptor than for the AT2-receptor. The active metabolite is 10- to 40- times more active than losartan on a weight for weight basis.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Absorption

Following oral administration, Losartan is well absorbed and undergoes first-pass metabolism, forming an active carboxylic acid metabolite and other inactive metabolites. The systemic bioavailability of Losartan tablets is approximately 33%. Mean peak concentrations of Losartan and its active metabolite are reached in 1 hour and in 3-4 hours, respectively.

Distribution

Both Losartan and its active metabolite are 99% bound to plasma proteins, primarily albumin. The volume of distribution of Losartan is 34 litres.

Biotransformation

About 14% of an intravenously or orally-administered dose of Losartan is converted to its

active metabolite. Following oral and intravenous administration of ¹⁴C-labelled Losartan Potassium, circulating plasma radioactivity primarily is attributed to Losartan and its active metabolite. In addition to the active metabolite, inactive metabolites are formed.

Elimination

Plasma clearance of Losartan and its active metabolite is about 600 ml/min and 50 ml/min, respectively. Renal clearance of Losartan and its active metabolite is about 74 ml/min and 26 ml/min, respectively. When Losartan is administered orally, about 4% of the dose is excreted unchanged in the urine, and about 6% of the dose is excreted in the urine as active metabolite. The pharmacokinetics of Losartan and its active metabolite are linear with oral Losartan Potassium doses up to 200 mg.

Following oral administration, plasma concentrations of Losartan and its active metabolite decline polyexponentially with a terminal half-life of about 2 hours and 6-9 hours, respectively. During once daily dosing with 100 mg, neither Losartan nor its active metabolite accumulates significantly in plasma.

Both biliary and urinary excretion contribute to the elimination of Losartan and its metabolites. Following an oral dose/intravenous administration of ¹⁴C-labelled Losartan in man, about 35%/43% of radioactivity is recovered in the urine and 58%,50% in the faeces.

Characteristics in patients

In elderly hypertensive patients the plasma concentrations of losartan and its active metabolite do not differ essentially from those found in young hypertensive patients. In female hypertensive patients the plasma levels of losartan were up to twice as high as in male hypertensive patients, while the plasma levels of the active metabolite did not differ between men and women.

In patients with mild to moderate alcohol-induced hepatic cirrhosis, the plasma levels of losartan and its active metabolite after oral administration were respectively 5 and 1.7 times higher than in young male volunteers.

Plasma concentrations of losartan are not altered in patients with a creatinine clearance above 10 ml/minute. Compared to patients with normal renal function, the AUC for losartan is about 2-times higher in haemodialysis patients. The plasma concentrations of the active metabolite are not altered in patients with renal impairment or in haemodialysis patients. Neither losartan nor the active metabolite can be removed by haemodialysis.

Pharmacokinetics in paediatric patients

Pharmacokinetic parameters of losartan following oral administration are roughly similar in infants and toddlers, preschool children, school age children and adolescents. The pharmacokinetic parameters for the metabolite differed to a greater extent between the age groups. When comparing preschool children with adolescents these differences became statistically significant. Exposure in infants/ toddlers was comparatively high.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Tablet core:

Cellulose microcrystalline, Lactose monohydrate, Starch Pregelatinized, Low substituted hydroxy propyl cellulose, Magnesium stearate.

Tablet coat:

Hydroxypropyl cellulose (E463), Hypromellose 6cP (E464), Titanium Dioxide (E171).

6.2 Incompatibilities

None known.

6.3 Shelf life

24 months.

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Do not store above 30°C. Store in dry condition.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

PVC/PE/PVdC and Aluminium blisters of 2 x 14's

PVC/PE/PVdC and Aluminium blisters of 7 x 14's

7. Name of Marketing Authorization Holder

Aurobindo Pharma Ltd., Plot No.: 2, Maitrivihar, Ameerpet, Hyderabad, Telangana state, India.

8. Marketing Authorisation Number

TAN 20 HM 0454

9. Date of First Authorisation / Renewal of The Authorisation

25/09/2020

10. Date of Revision / Approval of The Text