Medicines for Children

Information for parents and carers

Entresto to improve heart function

This leaflet is for parents and carers about how to use this medicine in children. Our information sometimes differs from that provided by the manufacturers, because their information is usually aimed at adults. Please read this leaflet carefully. Keep it somewhere safe so that you can read it again.

Name of medicine

Brand name: Entresto

Entresto contains two medicines: sacubitril and valsartan

Why is it important for my child to take this medicine?

The two medicines in Entresto work in several ways to make it easier for the heart to pump blood around the body.

What is Entresto available as?

The first number is the amount of sacubitril; the second number is the amount of valsartan:

- **Tablets:** 24 mg/26 mg, 49 mg/51 mg, 97 mg/103 mg
- **Sprinkle capsules:** 6 mg/6 mg, 15 mg/16 mg

When should I give Entresto?

Entresto is usually given **twice** each day. Give one dose in the morning and one in the evening. Ideally these times are 10–12 hours apart. For example, this could be between 7 and 8 am and between 7 and 8 pm.

Give the medicine at about the same time(s) each day so that this becomes part of your child's daily routine, which will help you to remember.

How much should I give?

- Your health professional may suggest that your child has a low dose to start with. They may then increase the dose as your child gets used to the medicine and depending on how your child responds to it.
- Your health professional will work out the amount of medicine (the dose) that is right for your child. The dose will be shown on the medicine label.

It is important that you follow your health professional's instructions about how much to give.

How should I give it?

Tablets should be swallowed with a glass of water or juice/squash. Your child should not chew the tablet.

Sometimes, to provide the correct dose of Entresto, your health professional may tell you to give part of a tablet or to disperse a tablet in a small amount of water and give some of the mixture, measured using an oral syringe. Your health professional will explain what to do if this is necessary. This method should only be used if you have been told to do it. Any unused mixture should be poured into a paper towel and put in the bin. Do not pour down the sink.

'Sprinkle capsules': Hold the capsule between the thumb and first finger of each hand over a small dish or large spoon. Twist the two halves in opposite directions to open the capsule. Sprinkle the granules into a teaspoonful of soft food (e.g. yogurt, honey or jam). If you prefer, you can sprinkle the granules into a small amount of water. Stir the mixture. Make sure your child swallows all the food or mixture straight away, without chewing. Throw the empty capsule shell away.

Your child should not swallow whole capsules or the empty capsule shells.

When should the medicine start to work?

It may take a few days or weeks for Entresto to work properly, so your child may still have symptoms for a while. This is because the amount of medicine has to be increased slowly. Continue to give the medicine as you have been told to by your health professional.

What if my child is sick (vomits)?

- If your child is sick less than 30 minutes after having a dose of Entresto, give them the same dose again.
- If your child is sick more than 30 minutes after having a dose of Entresto, you do not need to give them another dose. Wait until the next normal dose.
- If your child is sick again, seek advice from your healthcare team. They will decide what to do based on your child's condition and the medicine involved.

What if I forget to give it?

If you remember within 4 hours, give your child the missed dose. For example, if you usually give a dose at 7 am, you can give the missed dose at any time up to 11 am. If you remember after this time, do not give the missed dose. Wait until it is time to give the next normal dose.

Do not give a double dose of Entresto.

What if I think I have given too much?

If you think you have given your child too much Entresto, contact your health professional immediately. If your child is very dizzy or faints, get them to lie down and contact your health professional.

Are there any possible side-effects?

We use medicines to make our children better, but sometimes they cause effects that we don't want (side-effects).

Side-effects you must do something about

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If your child is short of breath or is wheezing, or their face, lips or tongue start to swell, or they develop a rash, they may be allergic to Entresto. Take your child to hospital or phone for an ambulance straight away.

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If your child's face (or elsewhere in the body) seems swollen or puffy, contact your health professional as they may have a rare side-effect called angioedema.

Very rarely, children may have hallucinations (seeing things that are not there), paranoia (being extra worried about things) or their sleep may be disturbed. Contact your health professional if you think your child is affected.

Other side-effects you need to know about

- Your child may have some muscle weakness.
- They may get a cough
- Your child may feel sick (nausea) or be sick (vomit) or have stomach ache or pain. Giving the medicine with some food or milk may help.
- They may get diarrhoea.
- Your child may feel dizzy or light-headed when they stand up, or may faint. Encourage them to stand up slowly, and to sit or lie down if they feel dizzy or light-headed. If this happens frequently, contact your health professional to check your child's blood pressure, as it may be too low.

There may sometimes be other side-effects that are not listed above. If you notice anything unusual and are concerned, contact your health professional. You can report any suspected side-effects to a UK safety scheme at mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard.

More information on side-effects can be found in a leaflet on our website.

Can other medicines be given at the same time as Entresto?

- Do not give your child ibuprofen.
- You can give your child medicines that contain paracetamol, unless your health professional has told you not to.
- Entresto should not be taken with some medicines that you get on prescription. Tell your health professional and pharmacist about any other medicines your child is taking before giving Entresto.
- Check with your health professional or pharmacist before giving any other medicines to your child. This includes herbal and complementary medicines.

Is there anything else I need to know about this medicine?

Tell your health professional if your child has ever had a reaction to any medicine. Check with your health professional before giving Entresto to your child.

General advice about medicines

- Try to give medicines at about the same times each day, to help you remember.
- If you are not sure a medicine is working, contact your health professional but continue to give the medicine as usual in the meantime. Do not give extra doses, as you may do harm.
- Only give this medicine to your child. Never give it to anyone else, even if their condition appears to be the same, as this could do harm.
- If you think someone else may have taken the medicine by accident, contact a health professional straight away.
- Make sure that you always have enough medicine. Order a new prescription at least 2 weeks before you will run out.
- Make sure that the medicine you have at home has not reached the 'best before' or 'use by' date on the packaging. Give old medicines to your pharmacist to dispose of.

Where should I keep this medicine?

- Keep the medicine in a cupboard, away from heat and direct sunlight. It does not need to be kept in the fridge.
- Make sure that children cannot see or reach the medicine.
- Keep the medicine in the container it came in.

Who to contact for more information

Your healthcare team will be able to give you more information about Entresto and about other medicines used to improve heart function. You can also get useful information from:

England: NHS 111 Tel 111 nhs.uk

Scotland: NHS 24 Tel 111 nhs24.scot

Wales: NHS 111 Tel 111 111.wales.nhs.uk

Northern Ireland: NI Direct nidirect.gov.uk

Tiny Tickers: 0300 102 1508 tinytickers.org

British Heart Foundation: 0300 330 3311 bhf.org.uk

Children's Heart Federation: 0300 561 0065 chfed.org.uk

RCPCH Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health — Leading the way in Children's Health

WellChild the national charity for sick children

NPPG Neonatal & Paediatric Pharmacy Group

Health & care information you can trust — The Information Standard Certified Member

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The primary information source for this leaflet is the British National Formulary for Children. Details on other sources used can be found on www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk.

We take great care to make sure that the information in this leaflet is correct and up to date. However, medicines can be used in different ways for different patients. It is important that you ask the advice of your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about something. This leaflet is about the use of these medicines in the UK, and may not apply to other countries. The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacists Group, WellChild and the contributors and editors cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of information, omissions of information, or any actions that may be taken as a consequence of reading this leaflet.