Package leaflet: Information for the user

Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka 8 mg/12.5 mg tablets
Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka 16 mg/12.5 mg tablets
Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka 32 mg/12.5 mg tablets
Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka 32 mg/25 mg tablets
candesartan cilexetil/hydrochlorothiazide

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.
- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet

1. What Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka is and what it is used for

The name of your medicine is Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka. It is used for treating high blood pressure (hypertension) in adult patients. It contains two active ingredients: candesartan cilexetil and hydrochlorothiazide.
These work together to lower your blood pressure.

Candesartan cilexetil belongs to a group of medicines called angiotensin II receptor antagonists. It makes your blood vessels relax and widen. This helps to lower your blood pressure.
Hydrochlorothiazide belongs to a group of medicines called diuretics (water tablets). It helps your body to get rid of water and salts like sodium in your urine. This helps to lower your blood pressure.

Your doctor may prescribe Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka if your blood pressure has not been properly controlled by candesartan cilexetil or hydrochlorothiazide alone.

2. What you need to know before you take Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka

Do not take Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka:
- if you are allergic to candesartan cilexetil or hydrochlorothiazide or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- if you are allergic to sulphonamide medicines. If you are not sure if this applies to you, please ask your doctor.
- if you are more than 3 months pregnant (it is also better to avoid Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka in early pregnancy – see pregnancy section).
- if you have severe kidney problems.
- if you have severe liver disease or biliary obstruction (a problem with the drainage of the bile from the gall bladder).

- if you have persistently low levels of potassium in your blood.
- if you have persistently high levels of calcium in your blood.
- if you have ever had gout.
- if you have diabetes or impaired kidney function and you are treated with a blood pressure lowering medicine containing aliskiren.

If you are not sure if any of these apply to you, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka.

Warnings and precautions
Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka.
- if you have diabetes.
- if you have heart, liver or kidney problems.
- if you have recently had a kidney transplant.
- if you are vomiting, had severe vomiting, or have diarrhoea.
- if you have a disease of the adrenal gland called Conn's syndrome (also called primary hyperaldosteronism).
- if you have ever had a disease called systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE).
- if you have low blood pressure.
- if you have ever had a stroke.
- if you have ever had allergy or asthma.
- you must tell your doctor if you think you are (or might become) pregnant. Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka is not recommended in early pregnancy, and must not be taken if you are more than 3 months pregnant, as it may cause serious harm to your baby if used at that stage (see pregnancy section).
- if you have had skin cancer or if you develop an unexpected skin lesion during the treatment. Treatment with hydrochlorothiazide, particularly long term use with high doses, may increase the risk of some types of skin and lip cancer (non-melanoma skin cancer). Protect your skin from sun exposure and UV rays while taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka.
- if you experienced breathing or lung problems (including inflammation or fluid in the lungs) following hydrochlorothiazide intake in the past. If you develop any severe shortness of breath or difficulty breathing after taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka, seek medical attention immediately.
- if you experience a decrease in vision or eye pain. These could be symptoms of fluid accumulation in the vascular layer of the eye (choroidal effusion) or an increase of pressure in your eye and can happen within hours to weeks of taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka. This can lead to permanent vision loss, if not treated. If you earlier have had a penicillin or sulfonamide allergy, you can be at higher risk of developing this.
- if you are taking any of the following medicines used to treat high blood pressure:
  - an ACE-inhibitor (for example enalapril, lisinopril, ramipril, etc.), in particular if you have diabetes-related kidney problems,
  - aliskiren.

Your doctor may check your kidney function, blood pressure and the amount of electrolytes (e.g. potassium) in your blood at regular intervals.

See also information under the heading "Do not take Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka".

Talk to your doctor if you experience abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting or diarrhoea after taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka. Your doctor will decide on further treatment. Do not stop taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka on your own.

Your doctor may want to see you more often and do some tests if you have any of these conditions.

If you are going to have an operation, tell your doctor or dentist that you are taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka. This is because Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka, when combined

with some anaesthetics, may cause an excessive drop in blood pressure.

Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka may cause increased sensitivity of the skin to sun.

Children and adolescents
There is no experience with the use of Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka in children (below the age of 18 years). Therefore Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka should not be given to children.

Other medicines and Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka
Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka can affect the way some other medicines work and some medicines can have an effect on Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka tablets. If you are using certain medicines, your doctor may need to do blood tests from time to time.

It particular, tell your doctor if you are using any of the following medicines as your doctor may need to change your dose and/or take other precautions:
- Other medicines to help lower your blood pressure, including beta-blockers, aliskiren-containing medicines, diazoxide and Angiotensin Converting Enzyme (ACE) inhibitors such as enalapril, captopril, lisinopril or ramipril.
- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as ibuprofen, naproxen, diclofenac, celecoxib or etoricoxib (medicines to relieve pain and inflammation).
- Acetylsalicylic acid (if you are taking more than 3 g each day) (medicine to relieve pain and inflammation).
- Potassium supplements or salt substitutes containing potassium (medicines that increase the amount of potassium in your blood).
- Calcium or vitamin D supplements.
- Medicines to lower your cholesterol such as colestipol or cholestyramine.
- Medicines for diabetes (tablets or insulin).
- Medicines to control your heart beat (antiarrhythmic agents) such as digoxin and beta-blockers.
- Medicines that can be affected by potassium blood levels such as some antipsychotic medicines.
- Heparin (a medicine for thinning the blood).
- Water tablets (diuretics).
- Laxatives.
- Penicillin or co-trimoxazole also known as trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole (an antibiotic medicines).
- Amphotericin (for the treatment of fungal infections).
- Lithium (a medicine for mental health problems).
- Steroids such as prednisolone.
- Pituitary hormone (ACTH).
- Medicines to treat cancer.
- Amantadine (for the treatment of Parkinson’s disease or for serious infections caused by viruses).
- Barbiturates (a type of sedative also used to treat epilepsy).
- Carbenoxolone (for treatment of oesophageal disease, or oral ulcers).
- Anticholinergic agents such as atropine and biperiden.
- Cyclosporine, a medicine used for organ transplant to avoid organ rejection.
- Other medicines that may lead to enhancement of the antihypertensive effect such as baclofen (a medicine for relief of spasticity), amifostin (used in cancer treatment) and some antipsychotic medicines.
- If you are taking an ACE-inhibitor or aliskiren (see also information under the headings “Do not take Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka” and “Warnings and precautions”).

Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka with food, drink and alcohol
- You can take Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka with or without food.

- When you are prescribed Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka, discuss with your doctor before drinking alcohol. Alcohol may make you feel faint or dizzy.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding
Pregnancy
You must tell your doctor if you think you are (or might become) pregnant. Your doctor will normally advise you to stop taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka before you become pregnant or as soon as you know you are pregnant and will advise you to take another medicine instead of Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka. Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka is not recommended in early pregnancy and must not be taken when more than 3 months pregnant, as it may cause serious harm to your baby if used after the third month of pregnancy.

Breastfeeding
Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding or about to start breast-feeding. Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka is not recommended for mothers who are breast-feeding and your doctor may choose another treatment for you if you wish to breast-feed.

Driving and using machines
Some people may feel tired or dizzy when taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka. If this happens to you, do not drive or use any tools or machines.

Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka contains lactose, which is a type of sugar.
If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact your doctor before taking this medicinal product.

3. How to take Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka

Always take this medicine exactly as described in this leaflet or as your doctor or pharmacist have told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

It is important to keep taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka every day.
The recommended dose of Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka is one tablet once a day.
Swallow the tablet with a drink of water.
Try to take the tablet at the same time each day. This will help you to remember to take it.

If you take more Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka than you should
If you take more Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka than prescribed by your doctor, contact a doctor or pharmacist immediately for advice.

If you forget to take Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka
Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.
Just take the next dose as normal.

If you stop taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka
If you stop taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka, your blood pressure may increase again. Therefore do not stop taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka without first talking to your doctor.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.
It is important that you are aware of what these side effects may be. Some of the side effects of

Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka are caused by candesartan cilexetil and some are caused by hydrochlorothiazide.

Stop taking Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka and seek medical help immediately if you have any of the following allergic reactions:
- difficulties in breathing, with or without swelling of the face, lips, tongue and/or throat,
- swelling of the face, lips, tongue and/or throat, which may cause difficulties in swallowing,
- severe itching of the skin (with raised lumps).

Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka may cause a reduction in number of white blood cells. Your resistance to infection may be decreased and you may notice tiredness, an infection or a fever. If this happens tell your doctor. Your doctor may occasionally do blood tests to check whether Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka has had any effect on your blood (agranulocytosis).

Other possible side effects include:

Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people)
- Changes in blood test results:
  - A reduced amount of sodium in your blood. If this is severe then you may notice weakness, lack of energy, or muscle cramps.
  - An increased or reduced amount of potassium in your blood, especially if you already have kidney problems or heart failure. If this is severe you may notice tiredness, weakness, irregular heart beat or pins and needles.
  - An increased amount of cholesterol, sugar, or uric acid in your blood.
- Sugar in your urine.
- Feeling dizzy/spinning sensation or weak.
- Headache.
- Respiratory infection.

Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)
- Low blood pressure. This may make you feel faint or dizzy.
- Loss of appetite, diarrhoea, constipation, stomach irritation.
- Skin rash, lumpy rash (hives), rash caused by sensitivity to sunlight.

Rare (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people)
- Jaundice (yellowing of your skin or the whites of your eyes). If this happens to you, contact your doctor immediately.
- Effects on how your kidneys work, especially if you already have kidney problems or heart failure.
- Difficulty in sleeping, depression, being restless.
- Tingling or prickling in your arms or legs.
- Blurred vision for a short time.
- Abnormal heart beat.
- Breathing difficulties (including lung inflammation and fluid in the lungs).
- High temperature (fever).
- Inflammation of the pancreas. This causes moderate to severe pain in the stomach.
- Muscle cramps.
- Damage to blood vessels causing red or purple dots in the skin.
- A reduction in your red or white blood cells or platelets. You may notice tiredness, an infection, fever or easy bruising.
- A severe rash, that develops quickly, with blistering or peeling of the skin and possibly blistering in the mouth.

Very rare (may affect up to 1 in 10,000 people)
- Swelling of the face, lips, tongue and/or throat.
- Itching.

- Back pain, pain in joints and muscles.
- Intestinal angioedema: a swelling in the gut presenting with symptoms like abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea.
- Changes in how your liver is working, including inflammation of the liver (hepatitis). You may notice tiredness, yellowing of your skin and the whites of your eyes and flu like symptoms.
- Cough.
- Nausea.
- Acute respiratory distress (signs include severe shortness of breath, fever, weakness, and confusion).

Not known (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data)
- Skin and lip cancer (Non-melanoma skin cancer).
- Diarrhoea.
- Sudden short-sightedness.
- Decrease in vision or pain in your eyes due to high pressure (possible signs of fluid accumulation in the vascular layer of the eye (choroidal effusion) or acute angle-closure glaucoma).
- Systemic and cutaneous lupus erythaematosus (allergic condition which causes fever, joint pain, skin rashes which may include redness, blistering, peeling and lumps).

Reporting of side effects
If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via HPRA Pharmacovigilance, Website: www.hpra.ie. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the packaging after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Tablets packaged in blisters of PVC/PVDC film and aluminium foil:
Do not store above 30 °C.

Tablets packaged in blisters of laminated OPA/Al/PVC foil and aluminium foil:
This medicinal product does not require any special storage conditions.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka contains
- The active substances are candesartan cilexetil and hydrochlorothiazide.
  Each tablet contains 8 mg candesartan cilexetil and 12.5 mg hydrochlorothiazide.
  Each tablet contains 16 mg candesartan cilexetil and 12.5 mg hydrochlorothiazide.
  Each tablet contains 32 mg candesartan cilexetil and 25 mg hydrochlorothiazide.
  Each tablet contains 32 mg candesartan cilexetil and 12.5 mg hydrochlorothiazide.
- The other ingredients are lactose monohydrate, maize starch, macrogol 8000, hydroxypropylcellulose, carmellose calcium, magnesium stearate, red iron oxide (E172) only for 16 mg/12.5 mg and 32 mg/25 mg and yellow iron oxide (E172) only for 32 mg/12.5 mg.

What Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka looks like and contents of the pack

Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka 8 mg/12.5 mg tablets are white, biconvex, oval, with a score on one side.
The score line is only to facilitate breaking for ease of swallowing and not to divide into equal doses.
Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka 16 mg/12.5 mg tablets are pale pink, biconvex, oval, with a score on one side.
The score line is only to facilitate breaking for ease of swallowing and not to divide into equal doses.
Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka 32 mg/12.5 mg tablets are yellowish white, biconvex, oval, with a score on one side.
The score line is only to facilitate breaking for ease of swallowing and not to divide into equal doses.
Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka 32 mg/25 mg tablets are pale pink, biconvex, oval, with a score on one side.
The tablet can be divided into equal doses.

Boxes of 14, 15, 28, 30, 56, 60, 84, 90, 98 tablets in blisters are available.
Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer
KRKA, d.d., Novo mesto, Šmarješka cesta 6, 8501 Novo mesto, Slovenia

This medicine is authorised in the Member States of the European Economic Area under the following names:

Name of the Member State	**Name of the medicine**
Austria	Candesartan/HCT Krka
Bulgaria, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic	Karbicombi
Czech Republic	Cancombino
Germany	Candesartan-HCTad
Cyprus	Candesartan/Hydrochlorothiazide KRKA
Ireland	Candesartan Hydrochlorothiazide Krka
Slovenia	Candecombi
Lithuania	Canocombi

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