

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

Serious Warning and Precautions

ACCURETIC should not be used during pregnancy. Patients should be advised to stop the medication and contact their physician as soon as possible if they discover that they are pregnant while taking **ACCURETIC**.

NOTE: As with many other drugs, certain advice to patients being treated with **ACCURETIC** (quinapril hydrochloride and hydrochlorothiazide) is warranted. This information is intended to aid in the safe and effective use of this medication. It is not a disclosure of all possible adverse or intended effects.

Angioedema: Angioedema, including laryngeal edema, may occur with ACE inhibitors, especially following the first dose. Patients should be so advised and told to report immediately any signs or symptoms suggesting angioedema, such as swelling of face, extremities, eyes, lips, tongue, difficulty in swallowing or breathing. They should immediately stop taking **ACCURETIC** and consult with their physician.

Pregnancy and Breast-feeding: Taking **ACCURETIC** during pregnancy can cause injury and even death to the developing fetus. This medicine should not be used by women who are pregnant, intend to become pregnant, or could become pregnant and who are not using adequate contraceptive measures. Patients should be advised to stop the medication and report to their doctor as soon as possible if they become pregnant while taking **ACCURETIC**. It is possible that **ACCURETIC** passes into breast milk. Patients should be advised not to breast-feed while taking **ACCURETIC**.

Hypotension: Patients should be cautioned to report light-headedness, especially during the first few days of **ACCURETIC** therapy. If actual syncope occurs, patients should be told to discontinue the drug and consult with their physician.

All patients should be cautioned that excessive perspiration and dehydration may lead to an excessive fall in blood pressure because of reduction in fluid volume. Other causes of volume depletion such as vomiting or diarrhea may also lead to a fall in blood pressure; patients should be advised to consult with their physician.

Agranulocytosis/Neutropenia: Patients should be told to report promptly to their physician any indication of infection (e.g. sore throat, fever), as this may be a sign of neutropenia.

Impaired Liver Function: Patients should be advised to return to their physician if they experience any symptoms possibly related to liver dysfunction. This would include "viral-like symptoms" in the first weeks to months of therapy (such as fever, malaise, muscle pain, rash or adenopathy which are possible indicators of hypersensitivity reactions), or if abdominal pain, nausea or vomiting, loss of appetite, jaundice, itching or any other unexplained symptoms occur during therapy.

Hyperkalemia: Patients should be told not to use salt substitutes containing potassium without consulting their physician.

Surgery: Patients planning to undergo surgery and/or anaesthesia should be told to inform their physician that they are taking an ACE inhibitor.