

HYPERTENSION TREATMENTS: ORAL CCBs

Generic	Brand	Strength	Form	Usual Dose
DIHYDROPYRIDINES				
amlodipine	Norvasc	2.5mg, 5mg, 10mg	tabs	Adults: 5mg once daily. Adjust at 7–14 day intervals; usual max 10mg/day. <i>Small, fragile, elderly, hepatic impaired, patients on other antihypertensives:</i> 2.5mg once daily. Children: <6yrs: not established. 6–17yrs: 2.5–5mg once daily.
felodipine	—	2.5mg, 5mg, 10mg	ext-rel tabs	Adults: Initially 5mg once daily. Range 2.5–10mg once daily. Adjust at 2wk intervals; max 10mg/day. <i>Elderly or hepatic dysfunction:</i> initially 2.5mg once daily. Children: Not established.
nicardipine	—	20mg, 30mg	caps	≥18yrs: Initially 20mg 3 times daily; adjust at intervals of at least 3 days; max 120mg/day. <i>Severe hepatic impairment:</i> initially 20mg twice daily. <18yrs: Not established.
nifedipine	—	30mg, 60mg, 90mg	ext-rel tabs	Adults: Initially 30mg once daily. Usual maintenance: 30–60mg once daily. Titrate over 7–14 days; max 90mg/day. Children: Not established.
	Procardia XL	30mg, 60mg, 90mg	ext-rel tabs	Adults: Initially 30 or 60mg once daily, titrate over 7–14 days; max 120mg/day. Children: Not established.
nisoldipine	Sular	8.5mg, 17mg, 34mg	ext-rel tabs	Adults: Initially 17mg once daily; may increase by 8.5mg per week or longer intervals. Usual maintenance: 17–34mg once daily; max 34mg/day. <i>Hepatic impairment or elderly (>65yrs):</i> initially 8.5mg once daily. Children: Not established.
NON-DIHYDROPYRIDINES				
diltiazem	Cardizem LA	120mg, 180mg, 240mg, 300mg, 360mg, 420mg	ext-rel tabs	Adults: Initially 180–240mg once daily; adjust at 2wk intervals up to max 540mg/day. <i>Concomitant simvastatin:</i> max 240mg/day. Children: Not established.
	Cardizem CD	120mg, 180mg, 240mg, 300mg, 360mg	ext-rel caps	Adults: Initially 180–240mg once daily; adjust at 2wk intervals. Usual range: 240–360mg once daily; usual max 480mg/day. <i>Concomitant simvastatin:</i> max 240mg/day. Children: Not established.
	Tiazac	120mg, 180mg, 240mg, 300mg, 360mg, 420mg	ext-rel caps	Adults: Initially 120–240mg once daily; adjust at 2wk intervals; usual max 540mg/day. Children: Not established.
verapamil	—	40mg, 80mg+, 120mg+	tabs	≥18yrs: Initially 80mg 3 times daily; usual max 360mg/day in divided doses. <i>Elderly, small patients:</i> initially 40mg 3 times daily. <18yrs: Not established.
	Calan SR	120mg, 240mg+	sust-rel caplets	≥18yrs: Initially 180mg in the AM; may titrate to max 480mg/day in divided doses. <i>Elderly, small patients:</i> initially 120mg in the AM. <18yrs: Not established.
	Verelan	120mg, 180mg, 240mg, 360mg	sust-rel caps	≥18yrs: usually 240mg daily in the AM; adjust in 120mg increments. <i>Elderly, small patients, others with increased sensitivity:</i> 120mg daily; if needed, may increase to 180mg/day, then 240mg/day, then higher in 120mg increments. Max 480mg/day. <18yrs: Not established.
	Verelan PM	100mg, 200mg, 300mg	controlled onset ext-rel caps	Adults: Initially 200mg once daily at bedtime; may titrate upwards in steps to 300mg, then 400mg if needed. <i>Elderly, small patients, renal or hepatic impairment:</i> initially 100mg once daily. Children: Not established.

NOTES

Key: + = scored.

Not an inclusive list of medications, official indications and/or doses. Please see drug monograph at www.eMPR.com and/or contact company for full drug labeling. Individualize dose. Initially may start at lower doses in certain patient populations. May be confused with other products with similar names. Ensure that the patient receives the appropriate product.

With few exceptions, ext-rel and sust-rel products should not be crushed, chewed, or divided to preserve the products' release characteristics.