





# IRBESARTAN

Sartan

Availability <sup>1</sup>	Brand name	Quick guide
Tablet 75 mg, 150 mg, 300 mg	Abisart, Avapro, Avasartan, Karvea Generics are available	 
Combination tablet, film-coated irbesartan 150 mg or 300 mg & hydrochlorothiazide 12.5 mg or 25 mg	Abisart HCTZ, Avapro HCT, Avasartan HCT, Karvezide Generics are available	 

**Effect of food** Food does not significantly affect absorption. Can be given without regard to food.<sup>1</sup>

**Warnings** **Teratogen.**<sup>1</sup> **Do not crush or disperse the tablet if you are pregnant.** Contact a pharmacist or a medicines information service for advice.

**Other** May cause dry mouth, impaired or altered sense of taste, swallowing difficulties and oesophagitis.<sup>1</sup>

## What to do for people with enteral feeding tubes

- Option 1** Disperse the tablet in 10–20 mL of water in an enteral syringe. Irbesartan GH tablets will form a coarse suspension in 2 minutes.<sup>2</sup> Abisart will disperse within 7 minutes.<sup>2</sup> Irbesartan HCT GH tablets will form a coarse suspension within 4 minutes.<sup>2</sup> See Method A for instructions.
- Option 2** Crush the tablet and mix with water, then draw into an enteral syringe. See Method B for instructions.

## What to do for people with swallowing difficulties

- Option 1** Irbesartan has an unpleasant taste, candesartan may be more acceptable to children.<sup>3,4</sup> Crush the tablet and mix with water. If the person cannot swallow thin fluids, crush the tablet and mix with a spoonful of yoghurt or apple puree. See Method E for instructions.

## What to do for doses less than a whole tablet

The tablets are oval and some brands are not scored. May be cut in half using a tablet cutter.

### REFERENCES:

1. Product information. Available from [www.tga.gov.au](http://www.tga.gov.au). Accessed 19/10/2022.
2. SHPA. Drug dispersion database; 2015; 2017.
3. Meier CM, Simonetti GD, Ghiglia S, Fossali E, Salice P, Limoni C, Bianchetti MG. Palatability of angiotensin II antagonists among nephropathic children. *Br J Clin Pharmacol* 2006; 63: 628–31.
4. Ferrarini A, Bianchetti AA, Fossali EF, Faré PB, Simonetti GD, Lava SA, Bianchetti MG. What can we do to make antihypertensive medications taste better for children? *Int J Pharm* 2013; 457: 333–6.