### **COVERAM®**

#### **Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) summary**

The <u>full CMI</u> on the next page has more details. If you are worried about using this medicine, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

## 1. Why am I using COVERAM?

COVERAM contains the active ingredient perindopril arginine. Perindopril belongs to a group of medicines called angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors. It also contains the active ingredient amlodipine besilate. Amlodipine belongs to a group of medicines called calcium channel blockers. You have been prescribed COVERAM if you have high blood pressure (hypertension). You may also have been prescribed COVERAM if you have coronary heart disease. Coronary heart disease is narrowing of the vessels carrying blood to the heart. For more information, see Section 1. Why am I using COVERAM? in the full CMI.

## 2. What should I know before I use COVERAM?

Do not use if you have ever had an allergic reaction to perindopril or amlodipine, any other ACE inhibitors or calcium channel blockers, or any of the ingredients

listed at the end of the CMI. Talk to your doctor if you have any other medical conditions, take any other medicines, or are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed.

For more information, see Section 2. What should I know before I use COVERAM? in the full CMI.

## 3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with COVERAM and affect how it works. A list of these medicines is in Section 3. What if I am taking other medicines? in the full CMI.

## 4. How do I use COVERAM?

Your doctor will select a dose when they prescribe COVERAM for you. The usual dose is one tablet once daily. Swallow your tablet(s) with a glass of water. Grapefruit juice and grapefruit should not be consumed by people who are taking COVERAM.

More instructions can be found in Section <u>4. How do I</u> use COVERAM? in the full CMI.

## 5. What should I know while using COVERAM?

Things you should do

• Take this medicine exactly as prescribed and remind any

	healthcare professional you are taking it.  If you have stopped treatment with COVERAM due to an allergic reaction you should not start taking COVERAM again.
Driving or using machines	<ul> <li>COVERAM may affect your ability to drive or use machines. If the tablets make you sick, dizzy, weak or tired, or give you a headache, do not drive or use machines and contact your doctor immediately.</li> </ul>
Drinking alcohol	<ul> <li>Your doctor may advise you to limit your alcohol intake.</li> </ul>
Looking after your medicine	<ul> <li>Store in a cool dry place away from moisture, heat, and sunlight. Keep your tablets in the bottle until it is time to take them. Keep out of reach of children.</li> </ul>

For more information, see Section <u>5. What should I know while using COVERAM?</u> in the full CMI.

## 6. Are there any side effects?

All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. If you do not feel well while you are taking COVERAM then tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible. Angioedema (a severe allergic reaction) has been reported in patients treated with ACE inhibitors, including COVERAM. This may occur at any time during treatment. If you develop swelling of your limbs, hands or feet, lips, face, mouth, tongue or throat, purple spots with occasional blisters on the front of your arms and legs and/or around your neck and ears (a rare condition known as Stevens-Johnson Syndrome), painful red areas, developing large blisters and peeling of layers of skin (accompanied by fever and chills), red, often itchy spots, similar to the rash of measles, which starts on the limbs and sometimes on the face and the rest of the body, difficulty in breathing or a fast and irregular heartbeat after taking COVERAM - please seek urgent medical attention.

For more information, including what to do if you have any side effects, see Section <u>6. Are there any side</u> <u>effects?</u> in the full CMI.

## **COVERAM®**

**Active ingredient(s):** perindopril arginine/amlodipine besilate

### **Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)**

This leaflet answers some common questions about COVERAM. It does not contain all the available information about this medicine. Reading this leaflet does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking COVERAM against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine. You may need to read it again.

#### Where to find information in this leaflet:

- 1. Why am I using COVERAM?
- 2. What should I know before I use COVERAM?
- 3. What if I am taking other medicines?
- 4. How do I use COVERAM?
- 5. What should I know while using COVERAM?
- 6. Are there any side effects?
- 7. Product details

## 1. Why am I using COVERAM?

The name of your medicine is COVERAM.

The medicine contains the active ingredient perindopril arginine. Perindopril belongs to a group of medicines called angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors.

It also contains the active ingredient amlodipine besilate. Amlodipine belongs to a group of medicines called calcium channel blockers. Calcium channel blockers do not change the amount of calcium in your blood or bones.

COVERAM has been prescribed for you by your doctor to replace the separate tablets of perindopril and amlodipine you were taking. One COVERAM tablet replaces separate tablets of perindopril and amlodipine.

#### What COVERAM is used for

You have been prescribed COVERAM if you have high blood pressure, also known as hypertension.

#### Why COVERAM is used for high blood pressure

Everyone has blood pressure. This pressure helps get your blood all around the body. Your blood pressure may be different at different times of the day, depending on how busy or stressed you are.

You have high blood pressure when your blood pressure stays higher than is needed, even when you are calm or relaxed.

There are usually no symptoms of high blood pressure. The only way of knowing that you have it is to have your blood pressure checked on a regular basis. If high blood pressure is not treated it can lead to serious health problems. You may feel fine and have no symptoms, but eventually it can cause stroke, heart disease and kidney failure.

The active ingredients in COVERAM, perindopril arginine and amlodipine help lower your blood pressure.

You may also have been prescribed COVERAM if you have coronary heart disease.

#### Why COVERAM is used for coronary heart disease

Coronary heart disease is narrowing of the vessels carrying blood to the heart.

In patients with coronary artery disease, COVERAM has been shown to reduce some of the risks, including heart attacks.

#### **How COVERAM works**

COVERAM works by widening your blood vessels, which reduces pressure in the vessel, making it easier for your heart to pump blood around your body.

This helps increase the supply of oxygen to your heart, so that when you place extra demands on your heart, such as during exercise, your heart may cope better and you may not get short of breath as easily.

## Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why COVERAM has been prescribed for you.

COVERAM is available only with a doctor's prescription.

There is no evidence that COVERAM is addictive.

## 2. What should I know before I use COVERAM?

There are some people who shouldn't take COVERAM. Please read the list below.

If you think any of these situations apply to you or you have any questions, please consult your doctor or pharmacist.

### **Warnings**

#### Do not use COVERAM if:

- you are allergic to perindopril or amlodipine, or any of the other ingredients of COVERAM listed at the end of this leaflet.
- you have had an allergic reaction to any other ACE inhibitors or calcium channel blockers.

Symptoms of an allergic reaction to COVERAM may include skin rash, itchiness, shortness of breath, swelling of the face, lips or tongue, muscle pain or tenderness or joint pain.

- are pregnant or trying to become pregnant.
   COVERAM may affect your developing baby if you take it during pregnancy.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. COVERAM passes into breast milk and therefore there is a possibility that the breastfed baby may be affected.
- are undergoing treatments where your blood is treated outside of the body (also known as extracorporeal treatments) that may increase your risk of allergic reactions, treatments such as:
  - renal dialysis or haemofiltration using polyacrylonitrile membranes
  - low-density lipoprotein (LDL) apheresis, a technique where LDL is 'filtered' out of the blood, using dextran sulfate.
- you are treated with a blood pressure lowering medicine containing aliskiren and have diabetes or impaired kidney function.
- you are being treated with sacubitril/valsartan, a medicine for heart failure as the risk of angioedema (rapid swelling under the skin in an area such as the throat) is increased (see also 'Tell your doctor straight away if' and 'What if I am taking other medicines?' sections).
- have renal artery stenosis (narrowing of the blood vessels to one or both kidneys).
- have aortic stenosis (narrowing of the main blood vessel leaving from the heart).
- have severe hypotension (low blood pressure).
- have unstable angina. Unstable angina is a pain or uncomfortable feeling in the chest that lasts longer

- than a few minutes or occurs with rest and may not be relieved with medication.
- have cardiogenic shock which is a sudden and severe drop in blood pressure and blood flow through the body because the heart is not pumping normally.
- have heart failure during the first 28 days after a heart attack (Heart failure means that the heart muscle cannot pump blood strongly enough to supply all the blood needed throughout the body. It does not mean that the heart stops working).
- have experienced swelling of the face, tongue, lips or throat either spontaneously or in response to another medicine in the past. (This rare condition is known as angio-oedema).
- the packaging is damaged or shows sign of tampering.
- the expiry date (EXP) on the pack has passed.

If you think any of these situations apply to you, or you have any doubts or questions about taking COVERAM speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

## Tell your doctor straight away if:

- you are pregnant or become pregnant while taking COVERAM, as it may cause serious harm to your baby.
- you are undergoing desensitisation treatment or have had an allergic reaction during previous desensitisation treatment (e.g. treatments using bee, wasp or ant venom).
- you are undergoing, or you are intending to undergo, treatments where your blood is treated outside of the

- body (also known as extracorporeal treatments) you are to undergo anaesthesia and/or surgery.
- you have recently suffered from diarrhoea or vomiting.
- you are on a salt restricted diet or use salt substitutes which contain potassium.
- you have an intolerance to some sugars as COVERAM contains lactose.
- you are taking any of the following medicines used to treat high blood pressure:
  - an 'angiotensin II receptor blocker' (also known as ARBs or sartans - for example valsartan, telmisartan, irbesartan), in particular if you have diabetes-related kidney problems
  - aliskiren
- you are treated with immunosuppressant therapy or allopurinol or procainamide.
- you have any other health problems, including:
  - kidney disease or if you are on renal dialysis
  - liver disease
  - high or low levels of potassium, or other problems with salt balance
  - diabetes
  - heart disease, severe increase in blood pressure or other heart problems
  - Systemic lupus erythematous or scleroderma (a disease affecting the skin, joints and kidneys)
  - abnormally increased levels of a hormone called aldosterone in your blood (primary hyperaldosteronism)

# If you think any of these situations apply to you, or you have any doubts or questions about taking COVERAM consult your doctor or pharmacist.

During treatment, you may be at risk of developing certain side effects. It is important you understand these risks and how to monitor for them. See additional information under Section 6. Are there any side effects?

### Pregnancy and breastfeeding

- Do not take COVERAM if you are pregnant or trying to become pregnant. COVERAM may affect your developing baby if you take it during pregnancy.
- Do not take COVERAM if you are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. COVERAM passes into breast milk and therefore there is a possibility that the breastfed baby may be affected.

## For older people and patients with renal impairment

- COVERAM can generally be used safely by elderly people.
- Reduced kidney function is often found in elderly people and in this case, the starting dose should always be 2.5 mg of perindopril arginine and 2.5 mg of amlodipine taken as separate tablets.

#### For children

COVERAM is not recommended for children.

## **Driving and using machines**

 COVERAM may affect your ability to drive or use machines. If the tablets make you feel sick, dizzy, weak or tired, or give you a headache, do not drive or use machines and contact your doctor immediately.

## 3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any medicines, vitamins or supplements that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Taking COVERAM may change the effect of some medicines, and some medicines may affect how well COVERAM works. You may need different amounts of your medication or to take different medicines.

The medicines that may interact with COVERAM include the following:

- some treatments where your blood is treated outside of the body, also known as extracorporeal treatments (see also 'Do not use COVERAM if' and 'Tell your doctor straight away if' sections)
- some antibiotic medicines such as erythromycin, clarithromycin and rifampicin
- some medicines used to treat fungal infections such as ketoconozole or itracanazole
- some anti-inflammatory drugs (including high dose aspirin, ibuprofen to relieve pain swelling and other

- symptoms of inflammation, including arthritis, and gold injections to treat rheumatoid arthritis)
- medicines used to treat mood swings and some types of depression (lithium, tricyclic antidepressants, antipsychotics)
- potassium-sparing medicines (spironolactone, triamterene, amiloride, eplerenone), sources of potassium, like potassium tablet and salt substitutes containing potassium, other drugs which can increase potassium in your body (such as heparin, a medicine used to thin blood to prevent clots; co-trimoxazole also known as trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole for infections caused by bacteria; and ciclosporin, an immunosuppressant medicine used to prevent organ transplant rejection)
- some medications used to treat high blood pressure (including angiotensin receptor blocker, beta-blockers, alpha-blockers) aliskiren (see also 'Do not use COVERAM if' and 'Tell your doctor straight away if' sections), or diuretics (sometimes called 'fluid' or 'water' tablets because they increase the amount of urine passed each day)
- vasodilators including nitrates
- medicines used to treat diabetes (tablets and insulin)
- muscle relaxants such as baclofen and dantrolene; dantrolene is also used to treat hyperthermia during anaesthesia (symptoms include very high fever and muscle stiffness)
- medicines used to treat epilepsy such as carbamazepine, phenobarbitone, phenytoin or primidone

- St. John's Wort
- medicines which lower your immune system, such as corticosteroids, cyclosporin, tacrolimus or medicines used to treat cancer (including radiation therapy)
- simvastatin (cholesterol lowering medicine)
- tetracosactide, a medicine used to treat adrenal insufficiency
- medicines which may affect the blood cells, such as allopurinol, procainamide
- medicines affecting the part of the nervous system that controls the activities of the heart and blood vessels, including ephedrine, noradrenaline or adrenaline
- alpha-blockers used for the treatment of enlarged prostate such as prazosin, alfuzosin, doxazosin, tamsulosin, terazosin
- amifostine (used to prevent or reduce side effects caused by other medicines or radiation therapy that are used to treat cancer)
- corticosteroids (used to treat various conditions including severe asthma and rheumatoid arthritis)
- medicines used to treat HIV infection such as indinavir, ritonavir (also called 'protease inhibitors')
- mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR) inhibitors used to avoid rejection of transplanted organs (e.g. temsirolimus, sirolimus, everolimus)
- sacubitril/valsartan (used to treat long-term heart failure) (see also 'Do not use COVERAM if' and 'Tell your doctor straight away if' sections)
- gliptins used to treat diabetes (e.g. linagliptin, saxagliptin, sitagliptin, vildagliptin, alogliptin)

Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about what medicines, vitamins or supplements you are taking and if these affect COVERAM. Your doctor or pharmacist has more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while taking COVERAM.

## 4. How do I use COVERAM?

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor and pharmacist carefully. They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you do not understand the instructions on the label, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

#### How much to take / use

- Your doctor will select a dose when they prescribe COVERAM for you. The usual dose is one tablet once daily.
- Follow the instructions provided and use COVERAM until your doctor tells you to stop.
- Swallow your tablet(s) with a glass of water.
- Grapefruit juice and grapefruit should not be consumed by people who are taking COVERAM. This is because grapefruit and grapefruit juice can lead to an increase in the blood levels of the active ingredient amlodipine, which can cause an unpredictable increase in the blood pressure lowering effect of COVERAM.

### How long to take it for

 COVERAM helps control your blood pressure and/or treat your coronary heart disease but does not cure it. Continue taking the tablets for as long as your doctor tells you.

#### When to take / use COVERAM

- Take COVERAM at about the same time each day unless your doctor tells you otherwise.
- Taking your tablet at the same time each day will have the best effect. It will also help you remember when to take the tablets.
- COVERAM should be taken in the morning before a meal.

### If you forget to use COVERAM

COVERAM should be used regularly at the same time each day.

If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to. Otherwise, take it as soon as you remember, and then go back to taking it as you would normally.

Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose you missed.

### If you use too much COVERAM

If you think that you have used too much COVERAM, you may need urgent medical attention.

#### You should immediately:

- phone the Poisons Information Centre (by calling 13 11 26), or
- contact your doctor, or
- go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital.

You should do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

## 5. What should I know while using COVERAM?

### Things you should do

If you become pregnant while you are taking COVERAM, tell your doctor.

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, remind your doctor and pharmacist that you are taking COVERAM.

Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists involved with your treatment that you are taking COVERAM.

Take COVERAM exactly as your doctor has prescribed. Otherwise you may not get the benefits from treatment.

If any of the signs below occur, then tell your doctor immediately or go to the Accident and Emergency department at your nearest hospital.

- swelling of your lips, face, mouth, tongue or throat
- purple spots with occasional blisters on the front of your arms and legs and/or around your neck and ears (a rare condition known as Stevens-Johnson Syndrome, Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis (TEN))
- severe blisters, skin rash, itching or other allergic reactions.

These side effects are extremely rare but can become serious.

If you have stopped treatment with COVERAM due to an allergic reaction you should not start taking COVERAM again.

### Things you should not do

- do not give COVERAM to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.
- do not use COVERAM to treat other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.
- do not stop taking COVERAM or change the dosage, without checking with your doctor.
- do not stop taking your tablets because you are feeling better, unless advised by your doctor.

### Things that may help your condition

Some self - help measures suggested below may help your condition. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist about these measures and for more information.

- Alcohol your doctor may advise you to limit your alcohol intake.
- Diet eat a healthy low-fat diet which includes plenty of fresh vegetables, fruit, bread, cereals and fish. Also eat less fat and sugar.
- Exercise regular exercise helps to reduce blood pressure and helps get the heart fitter, but it is important not to overdo it. Walking is good exercise but try to find a route that is reasonably flat. Before starting any exercise, ask your doctor about the best kind of program for you.
- Salt your doctor may advise you to watch the amount of salt in your diet. To reduce your salt intake you should avoid using salt in cooking or at the table.
- Smoking your doctor may advise you to stop or at least cut down smoking.
- Weight your doctor may suggest losing some weight to help lower your blood pressure and help lessen the amount of work your heart has to do. Some people may need a dietician's help to lose weight.

#### **Driving or using machines**

Be careful before you drive or use any machines or tools until you know how COVERAM affects you.

COVERAM may affect your ability to drive or use machines. If the tablets make you feel sick, dizzy, weak or tired, or give you a headache, do not drive or use machines and contact your doctor immediately.

### **Drinking alcohol**

Tell your doctor if you drink alcohol. Your doctor may advise you to limit your alcohol intake.

## Looking after your medicine

Keep your COVERAM tablets in the bottle until it is time to take them.

COVERAM will not keep as well outside its packaging.

Keep your COVERAM tablets in a cool, dry place away from light where the temperature stays below 25°C.

Do not store medicines in a bathroom or near a sink. Do not leave them in a car or on a window sill.

Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

## Keep your COVERAM tablets where children cannot reach them.

A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

#### When to discard your medicine

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date.

## Getting rid of any unwanted medicine

If your doctor tells you to stop taking COVERAM, or the tablets have passed their expiry date, return any leftover tablets to your pharmacist for disposal.

## 6. Are there any side effects?

All medicines can have side effects. If you do experience any side effects, most of them are minor and temporary. However, some side effects may need medical attention.

See the information below and, if you need to, ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have any further questions about side effects.

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**COVERAM** ®

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# Consult your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you experience any of these or notice anything else that is making you feel unwell.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them. Other uncommon side effects have been reported and you should ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you want to know more.

#### Reporting side effects

After you have received medical advice for any side effects you experience, you can report side effects to the Therapeutic Goods Administration online at <a href="https://www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems">www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems</a>. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

COVERAM ® 58

Always make sure you speak to your doctor or pharmacist before you decide to stop taking any of your medicines.

# 7. Product details

This medicine is only available with a doctor's prescription.

#### What COVERAM contains

Active ingredient (main ingredient)	Each tablet of COVERAM 5/5 contains 5 mg perindopril arginine and 5 mg amlodipine besilate.  Each tablet of COVERAM 5/40 contains 5 mg
	5/10 contains 5 mg perindopril arginine and 10 mg amlodipine besilate.
	Each tablet of COVERAM 10/5 contains 10 mg perindopril arginine and 5 mg amlodipine besilate.
	Each tablet of COVERAM 10/10 contains 10 mg perindopril arginine and 10 mg amlodipine besilate.
Other ingredients	Lactose monohydrate

COVERAM® 59

(inactive ingredients)	Microcrystalline cellulose
	Colloidal anhydrous silica
	Magnesium stearate
Potential allergens	Lactose monohydrate

Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to any of these ingredients.

#### What COVERAM looks like

COVERAM 5/5 tablets are white and rod-shaped engraved with 5/5 on one face and the Servier Logo on the other face, supplied in a bottle of 30 tablets.



(Tablet image not actual size)

COVERAM 5/10 tablets are white and square-shaped engraved with 5/10 on one face and the Servier Logo on the other face, supplied in a bottle of 30 tablets.



(Tablet image not actual size)

COVERAM® 60

COVERAM 10/5 tablets are white and triangular-shaped engraved with 10/5 on one face and the Servier Logo on the other face, supplied in a bottle of 30 tablets.



(Tablet image not actual size)

COVERAM 10/10 tablets are white and round engraved with 10/10 on one face and the Servier Logo on the other face, supplied in a bottle of 30 tablets.



(Tablet image not actual size)

Thirty (30) tablets are supplied in a white bottle containing desiccant sachets and equipped with a white child-resistant screw-on cap.

COVERAM is registered on the Australian register of Therapeutic Goods. Australian Register Numbers:

COVERAM 5/5: AUST R 154438

COVERAM 5/10: AUST R 154439

COVERAM 10/5: AUST R 154440

COVERAM 10/10: AUST R 154441

#### **Who distributes COVERAM**

Servier Laboratories (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.

www.servier.com.au

Level 4, Building 9

588A Swan Street

Burnley, 3121, Victoria

Phone: 1800 153 590

This leaflet was prepared in May 2024.

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