

Your Guide to Kerendia[®] (finerenone)

 **Kerendia[®]**
(finerenone)
10 mg • 20 mg Tablets

Understanding Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) and Type 2 Diabetes (T2D)

Your kidneys filter your blood by removing waste and extra water to make urine. CKD is a condition where the kidneys gradually lose their ability to function properly over time.

CKD is a common complication of type 2 diabetes.



Over time, CKD and T2D may lead to worsening kidney damage, causing a decrease in kidney function and, in some cases, kidney failure.



CKD and T2D can also lead to cardiovascular problems such as a heart attack, heart failure, or heart or blood vessel disease.

Understanding CKD and T2D may help you better manage your condition.

About Kerendia[®]

Why have I been prescribed Kerendia[®]?

Kerendia[®] is used along with other medicines to treat adults with CKD and T2D to:



slow the worsening of kidney damage



lower the risk of dying from heart or blood vessel disease, having a heart attack, and being hospitalized for heart failure

How do I take Kerendia[®]?

It's important to take Kerendia[®] as directed by your doctor and at the same time every day.

- Kerendia[®] is an oral tablet, taken once daily. You should swallow the tablet whole.
- Kerendia[®] can be taken with a glass of water, with or without food.
- If you cannot swallow the whole tablet, you can crush it and mix it with water or soft foods like applesauce, then take it right away.
- Do not eat grapefruit or drink grapefruit juice while taking Kerendia[®].



After 4 weeks of treatment, your healthcare professional will perform tests to see how your body is responding to and tolerating Kerendia[®]. Depending on the results, your dose of Kerendia[®] may be increased, decreased, or stay the same.

What if I miss a dose of Kerendia[®]?

Do not take two tablets on the same day to make up for a missed dose. If you forget to take your dose and it is still the same day, take the tablet as soon as you remember. If it is the next day, skip the missed dose and take your next dose as scheduled.

For more information about chronic kidney disease, scan this QR code to visit the Kidney Foundation of Canada.



Is there anything I should tell my doctor before taking Kerendia® (finerenone)?

To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional about any health conditions or problems you may have, prior to taking Kerendia®. This includes if you:

- have or have had a high level of potassium in your blood (hyperkalemia)
- have severe loss of kidney function (severe renal impairment) or end-stage renal disease (kidney failure)
- have moderate or severe liver damage (moderate or severe hepatic impairment or Child-Pugh B or C)
- have one of the following rare hereditary diseases, because Kerendia® contains lactose: galactose intolerance; Lapp lactase deficiency; glucose-galactose malabsorption
- are pregnant, think you are pregnant, or are planning to become pregnant
- are breastfeeding or are planning to breastfeed, as you should not breastfeed while taking Kerendia®

Kerendia® may harm your unborn baby. If you become pregnant while taking Kerendia®, tell your healthcare professional **right away**. Kerendia® should not be taken during pregnancy unless you and your healthcare professional have decided you should. If you are of child-bearing potential, use a reliable method of birth control.



Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take, including any drugs, vitamins, minerals, natural supplements, or alternative medicines. Kerendia® may affect the way other medications work, and other medications may affect how Kerendia® works. Please refer to the Patient Medication Information leaflet for more information about drug interactions.

What are the potential side effects of Kerendia®?

You may experience side effects when taking Kerendia®. One possible side effect is **itchy skin**. Some people may experience serious side effects.

Talk to your healthcare professional if you experience any of the following serious side effects:

Very Common:

- **Hyperkalemia** (high level of potassium in the blood): weakness or tiredness, feeling sick (nausea), numbness in the hands and lips, muscle cramps, decreased pulse rate

Common:

- **Anemia** (decreased number of red blood cells): looking pale, weakness, tiredness, loss of energy, light-headedness, shortness of breath, unusually fast heartbeat, chest pain
- **Decrease in how well the kidneys work:** urinating more or less often than usual, fatigue, muscle cramps, feeling sick (nausea) or vomiting, loss of appetite
- **Hyperuricemia** (high level of uric acid in the blood): pain, stiffness and/or swelling and redness in the joints
- **Hyponatremia** (low level of sodium in the blood): feeling sick (nausea), tiredness, headache, confusion, muscle weakness, spasms, or cramps
- **Hypotension** (low blood pressure): dizziness, light-headedness, fainting, blurred vision, feeling sick (nausea), vomiting, fatigue (may occur when you go from lying or sitting to standing up)

These are not all the possible side effects. If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, tell your healthcare professional.



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PP-KER-CA-0148-1
KE0034E



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