

November 2008,



Subject: Packaging and Tablet Image Changes for PrCOZAAR® /PrHYZAAR®

Dear Pharmacist,

Merck Frosst Canada Ltd. would like to inform you of the following changes concerning COZAAR®/HYZAAR®. Please note this will be effective in the weeks to come after depletion of current inventory.

Packaging

As a result of pharmacists' feedback from a recent customer survey, the packaging of all strengths of COZAAR®/HYZAAR® will change from current 28-tablet blister packs to 30-tablet blister packs **and will also be available in 100 ct bottles**. The only exception is COZAAR® 25 mg which will **only** be offered in a 100 ct bottle once the 28-tablet blister pack stock has been depleted.












In hospitals, 50-count Hospital Unit Dose (HUD) packs for COZAAR® will also be depleted and replaced by new 100 ct bottles.

The following information may be useful for pharmacies to facilitate the ordering process:				
Products	Previous Packaging (Will be deleted once new formats are introduced & current ones depleted)		New Packaging	
	UPC Code	Description	UPC Code	Description
COZAAR® 25 mg (losartan potassium)	0 67055 04658 2	28ct blister	0 67055 04737 4	100ct bottle
	0 67055 04659 9	50ct HUD	Same as above	100ct bottle
COZAAR® 50 mg (losartan potassium)	0 67055 04660 5	28ct blister	0 67055 04738 1	30ct blister
	0 67055 04661 2	50ct HUD	0 67055 04739 8	100ct bottle
COZAAR® 100 mg (losartan potassium)	0 67055 04655 1	28ct blister	0 67055 04741 1	30ct blister
	0 67055 04656 8	50ct HUD	0 67055 04742 8	100ct bottle
HYZAAR® 50 mg/12.5 mg (losartan potassium & hydrochlorothiazide)	0 67055 04669 8	28ct blister	0 67055 04744 2	30ct blister
			0 67055 04745 9	100ct bottle
HYZAAR® 100 mg/12.5 mg (losartan potassium & hydrochlorothiazide)	0 67055 04716 9	28ct blister	0 67055 04750 3	30ct blister
			0 67055 04751 0	100ct bottle
HYZAAR® DS 100 mg/25 mg (losartan potassium & hydrochlorothiazide)	0 67055 04666 7	28ct blister	0 67055 04747 3	30ct blister
			0 67055 04748 0	100ct bottle

Tablet image change

To reduce disruptions, the planned change to the new Global pill image for COZAAR®/HYZAAR® will take place at the same time. Tablets of all strengths of COZAAR®/HYZAAR® will change marking, color and/or shape, **with the exception of HYZAAR® 100 mg/12.5 mg which was recently launched.**

The table below summarizes the tablet image changes:

Product	Previous Tablet Image	New Tablet Image
COZAAR® 25 mg	 Light green, teardrop-shaped, unscored, film-coated tablet with code '951' on one side and 'MRK' on the other	 White, oval-shaped, unscored, film-coated tablet with code '951' on one side and plain on the other
COZAAR® 50 mg	 Green, teardrop-shaped, unscored, film-coated tablet with code 'MRK 952' on one side and 'COZAAR' on the other	 White, oval-shaped, film-coated tablet with code '952' on one side and scored on the other**
COZAAR® 100 mg	 Dark green, teardrop-shaped, unscored, film-coated tablet with code '960' on one side and 'MRK' on the other	 White, teardrop-shaped, unscored, film-coated tablet with code '960' on one side and plain on the other
HYZAAR® 50 mg/12.5 mg	 Yellow, teardrop-shaped, film-coated tablet, with code 'MRK 717' on one side and 'HYZAAR' on the other	 Yellow, oval-shaped, film-coated tablet with code '717' on one side and plain on other
HYZAAR® DS 100 mg/25 mg	 Light yellow, teardrop-shaped, film-coated tablet, with code 'MRK 747' on one side and 'HYZAAR' on the other	 Light yellow, oval-shaped, film-coated tablet, with code '747' on one side and plain on the other
Recently launched HYZAAR® 100 mg/12.5 mg	 White to off-white, oval-shaped, film-coated tablet with code '745' on one side and plain on the other	No Change

Tablets shown at actual size

**The splitting of COZAAR® 50 mg tablets is not advised.

In addition, to help identify the product on the shelf, a full size image of the tablet is now illustrated on the carton.

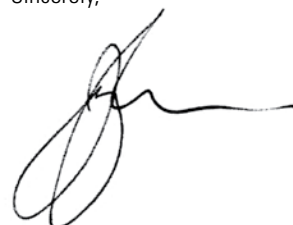
To support your patients during this transition phase, we have developed tear-off pads displaying pictures of the previous and new tablets of COZAAR®/HYZAAR®. Your COZAAR®/HYZAAR® representative will visit you soon and will offer you these pads. Alternatively, you can also order them by contacting our Customer Information Center at: **1-800-567-2594** or e-mail at: servicesmt_customer@merck.com

It is important to note that the cost per tablet has not changed as a result of these modifications.

The revised COZAAR® & HYZAAR® Product Monographs as well as the visual of packaging/tablet image modifications are currently available for download from the Merck Frosst Canada website at: <http://www.merckfrosst.ca/mfcl/en/corporate/products/temp/cozaar.html> for COZAAR® and <http://www.merckfrosst.ca/mfcl/en/corporate/products/temp/hyzaar.html> for HYZAAR®

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your business. Should you have any questions or require additional information concerning our products or packaging changes, please ask your representative or contact our Customer Information Center at 1-800-567-2594.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Spencer
Director, Hypertension Franchise



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