

**READ THIS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF YOUR MEDICINE  
PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION**

Pr **AZOPT\***  
**Brinzolamide Ophthalmic Suspension**

Read this carefully before you start taking **AZOPT\*** and each time you get a refill. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about this drug. Talk to your healthcare professional about your medical condition and treatment and ask if there is any new information about **AZOPT\***.

**What is AZOPT\* used for?**

**AZOPT\*** is used to treat high pressure in the eyes (*ocular hypertension*) in adults with ocular hypertension or open-angle glaucoma. If this high pressure is not reduced, it could eventually damage your eyes.

**How does AZOPT\* work?**

**High pressure in the eye(s):** Your eyes contain a clear, watery liquid, which feeds the inside of the eye. Liquid is always emptying out of the eye, and more liquid is always being produced. If the liquid fills up faster than it empties, the pressure inside the eye builds up. If the pressure gets too high, it can damage your eyesight.

**AZOPT\*** contains brinzolamide, a carbonic anhydrase inhibitor. It works by reducing the production of liquid in the eyes, which lowers the pressure in the eyes.

**What are the ingredients in AZOPT\*?**

Medicinal ingredients: brinzolamide, 0.1% w/v

Non-medicinal ingredients: benzalkonium chloride as a preservative, carbomer 974P, edetate disodium, mannitol, sodium chloride, tyloxapol, and purified water. Tiny amounts of hydrochloric acid or sodium hydroxide are added to maintain proper pH balance.

**AZOPT\* comes in the following dosage forms:**

Liquid (eye drops) supplied in a 5 mL plastic bottle

**Do not use AZOPT\* if you:**

- Allergic (*hypersensitive*) to brinzolamide or any of the other ingredients in **AZOPT\*** (see **What are the ingredients in AZOPT\*?**).
- Allergic to a group of medicines called sulfonamides (used to treat diabetes and infections).
- Have severe kidney problems.
- Have too much acidity in your blood (a condition called hyperchloremic acidosis).

**To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take AZOPT\*. Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if you:**

- Have mild to moderate kidney problems.
- Have liver problems.
- Have dry eyes or problems with your cornea.
- Have a type of glaucoma known as acute angle-closure glaucoma.
- Are taking other carbonic anhydrase inhibitors.
- Are pregnant, may be pregnant or planning to become pregnant.
- Are breastfeeding or planning to breast-feed.

**Other warnings you should know about:**

AZOPT\* should not be used by children under 18 years of age.

**If you wear contact lenses:** AZOPT\* contains benzalkonium chloride as a preservative; it may stain soft contact lenses. Do not use AZOPT\* while wearing contact lenses. If you wear contact lenses, remove them before applying AZOPT\* and wait at least 15 minutes after using the drops before putting your contact lenses back in.

**Driving and using machines:** You may find your vision is blurred for a short time just after using AZOPT\*. Do not drive or use machines until your vision is clear.

**Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take, including any drugs, vitamins, minerals, natural supplements or alternative medicines.**

Drug interaction studies have not been done with AZOPT\*.

**The following may interact with AZOPT\*:**

- Other carbonic anhydrase inhibitors.
- Antivirals, antifungals and antibiotics, such as ketoconazole, itraconazole, clotrimazole, ritonavir, and troleandomycin.
- Salicylates, such as acetylsalicylic acid.

**How to take AZOPT\*:**

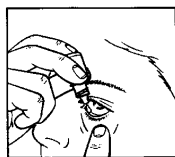
Always use AZOPT\* exactly as your doctor has told you.

**Usual adult dose:**

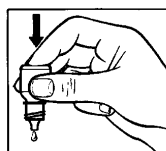
1 drop in the eye(s) twice a day.

If needed after 4 weeks, dosing can be increased to 1 drop in the eye(s) 3 times a day.

## How to use:



1



2



3

- Get the AZOPT\* bottle and a mirror (if needed).
- Wash your hands.
- Shake well before use.
- Twist off the cap. If the security snap collar is loose after removing the cap, remove the snap collar before using AZOPT\*.
- Hold the bottle, pointing down, between your thumb and fingers.
- Tilt your head back. Pull down your eyelid with a clean finger, until there is a 'pocket' between the eyelid and your eye. The drop will go in here (picture 1).
- Bring the bottle tip close to the eye. Use the mirror if it helps.
- Don't touch your eye or eyelid, surrounding areas or other surfaces with the dropper. It could contaminate the drops, cause an eye infection and damage the eyes.
- Gently press on the base of the bottle to release one drop of AZOPT\* at a time (picture 2). Do not squeeze the bottle: it is designed so that a gentle press on the bottom of the bottle is all that it needs.
- After using AZOPT\*, press a finger into the corner of your eye, by the nose for 2 minutes (picture 3). This helps to stop AZOPT\* from getting into the rest of the body.
- If you miss, wipe up and try again.
- If you take drops in both eyes, repeat the steps for your other eye.
- Close the bottle cap firmly immediately after use.

If you are using other eye drops, wait at least 10 minutes between putting in AZOPT\* and the other drops.

### Overdose:

If you use more AZOPT\* than you should, rinse your eye(s) with warm water. Do not apply any more drops until it is time for your next regular dose.

If you think you have taken too much AZOPT\*, contact your healthcare professional, hospital emergency department or regional Poison Control Centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

### Missed Dose:

If you forget to use AZOPT\*, apply a single drop as soon as you remember. If it is close to your next regular dose, skip the missed dose. Do not use a double dose to make up the missed dose.

### What are possible side effects from using AZOPT\*?

These are not all the possible side effects you may feel when taking AZOPT\*.

If you experience any side effects not listed here:

- Talkt your healthcare professional.
- See the Warnings and Precautions section of this document.

The most common eye side effects are:

- Blurred vision.
- Eye discomfort.
- A feeling that something is in the eye.
- Dry eye.
- Red eyes.
- Eye pain.
- Headache.
- A bad taste in the mouth.

Less common side effects in the eyes include:

- Abnormal or reduced vision.
- Eyelid itching.
- Discharge.
- Fatigue.
- Crusty eyelids.
- Increased tearing..
- Damage to the eye surface (cornea).
- A sticky feeling.
- Allergy.
- Double vision.
- Numbness.
- Swelling.
- Sensitivity to light.
- Flashes of light.

Less common side effects in the rest of the body include:

- Dry mouth.
- Indigestion.
- Nausea.
- Dizziness.
- A tingling sensation.
- Depression.
- Cough.
- Difficulty breathing.
- Sore throat or throat irritation.
- Itchy or runny nose.
- Hair loss.
- Red or itchy skin, skin rash or hives.
- Irregular heart rate.

- Ringing in the ears.
- Upset stomach.
- Diarrhea.
- Lack of energy or feeling tired (fatigue).
- Feeling jittery or irritable.
- Memory loss.
- Sleepiness or inability to sleep.
- Nasal or sinus congestion.
- Dry nose.
- Loss of appetite.
- Joint pain.
- Numbness.
- Decreased blood pressure.

<b>Serious side effects and what to do about them</b>			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
<b><u>UNKNOWN</u></b> Heart disease (angina pectoris): feeling of pain and/or pressure in the chest			✓

If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, talk to your healthcare professional.

<p><b>Reporting Side Effects</b></p> <p>You can help improve the safe use of health products for Canadians by reporting serious and unexpected side effects to Health Canada. Your report may help to identify new side effects and change the product safety information.</p> <p><b>3 ways to report:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online at MedEffect;</li> <li>• By calling 1-866-234-2345 (toll-free);</li> <li>• By completing a Consumer Side Effect Reporting Form and sending it by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fax to 1-866-678-6789 (toll-free), or</li> <li>- Mail to: Canada Vigilance Program Health Canada, Postal Locator 0701E Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Postage paid labels and the Consumer Side Effect Reporting Form are available at MedEffect.</p> <p><i>NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.</i></p>
---

**Storage:**

Store at 4-30°C. Keep bottle tightly closed when not using.

Keep out of reach and sight of children.

**If you want more information about AZOPT\*:**

- Talk to your healthcare professional
- Find the full product monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals and includes this Patient Medication Information by visiting the [Health Canada website](#); the manufacturer's website [www.novartis.ca](http://www.novartis.ca), or by calling 1-800-363-8883.

This leaflet was prepared by Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc.

Last Revised February-15-2017