

Beta-blockers:

Acebutolol
Atenolol
Betaxolol
Bisoprolol
Blocadren
Carteolol
Cartrol
Carvedilol
Coreg
Corgard
Corzide
Inderal
Inderide
InnoPran XL
Kerlone
Labetalol
Levatol
Lopressor
Metoprolol
Nadolol
Normodyne
Penbutolol
Pindolol
Propranolol
Sectral
Senormin
Tenoretic
Tenormin
Timolide
Timolol
Toprol XL
Trandate
Trandide
Visken
Zebeta
Ziac

Information:

You are receiving these materials because our medical or billing records indicate that you were recently discharged from the hospital for treatment of a heart attack. If you have any questions about this letter, or believe this information about your medical history to be incorrect, please call:

XXX.XXX.XXXX

Dear _____;

When you were discharged from the hospital after your recent heart attack, you were prescribed a beta-blocker medicine (see list of beta-blocker names on the back of this letter). To lower your chance of having another heart attack, and to help you live longer, it's important that you keep taking your beta-blocker medicine. Don't stop unless your doctor tells you to do so. Remember to refill your prescription before you run out of pills.

To the right are some answers to questions that people commonly ask after a heart attack. If you have any other questions, please discuss them with your doctor. A wallet-sized card is enclosed to remind you of questions you may want to ask at your next doctor visit. There is a place on the card to record all your medicines and questions.

We at XXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX are committed to providing you the highest quality medical care so that you can feel better and live longer.

Sincerely,

X. XXXXXXX, MD

Q: *How long do I need to take a beta-blocker?*

A: Most people who have had a heart attack should keep taking a beta-blocker for life. If you are no longer taking a beta-blocker, talk to your doctor about why you stopped and see if you should start again.

Q: *What about side effects?*

A: While most people do not have side effects from beta-blockers, some may feel tired or have other side effects. If you think you have a side effect, do not stop taking the medication—talk to your doctor. The symptoms may be due to something else. If the symptoms are due to the beta-blocker, changing the dose or type of beta-blocker often helps.

Q: *What do beta-blockers do?*

A: Beta-blockers help ease the strain of the heart's work. Research has shown that taking a beta-blocker can both reduce your chance of having another heart attack and help you live longer, but long term use is key.