

PROSCAR[®] Backgrounder

- PROSCAR[®] (finasteride 5 mg) is a specific type-II 5 α -reductase inhibitor, which blocks the enzyme in the prostate primarily responsible for the production of a hormone important for prostate growth.
- Indications:
 - PROSCAR[®] when administered in combination with the alpha-blocker doxazosin is indicated to reduce the risk of symptomatic progression of benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH).
 - PROSCAR[®] is also indicated as a monotherapy for the treatment and control of BPH for the prevention of urologic events to:
 - Reduce the risk of acute urinary retention;
 - Reduce the risk of surgery, including transurethral resection of the prostate (TURP) and prostatectomy.
- The results of the Medical Therapy of Prostatic Symptoms (MTOPS) trial showed that long-term combination therapy with PROSCAR[®] and doxazosin reduced the risk of clinical progression of BPH by 66 per cent compared to 34 per cent with PROSCAR[®] alone and 39 per cent with doxazosin. In the study, the risk of developing acute urinary retention was reduced by 81 per cent with combination therapy and by 68 percent with PROSCAR[®] but not with the alpha-blocker doxazosin. Combination therapy and finasteride alone reduced the long-term risk of acute urinary retention and the need for invasive therapy.¹
- It has been shown that PROSCAR[®] causes regression of the enlarged prostate, improves urinary flow and improves the symptoms associated with BPH, a non-cancerous condition where an enlarged prostate gland often causes symptoms that can have an impact on a patient's quality of life.²
- More than 36,000 patients worldwide have participated in clinical trials involving PROSCAR[®]. Over 20 million prescriptions have been written in over 100 countries since the drug was introduced in 1992.

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¹ McConnell, J. et al. The Long-Term Effect of Doxazosin, Finasteride, and Combination Therapy on the Clinical Progression of Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia, The New England Journal of Medicine, Volume 349, Number 25

² Roehrborn Claus G et al. Efficacy and safety of a dual inhibitor of 5-alpha-reductase types 1 and 2 (dustateride) in men with benign prostatic hyperplasia. Urology 2002; 60(3): 434-440.