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2. Brimonidine/timolol

## Brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic

**Generic name:** brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic [ *bri-MOE-ni-deen-and-TIM-oh-lol-off-THAL-mik* ]

**Brand name:** [Combigan](#)

**Dosage form:** ophthalmic solution (0.2%-0.5%)

**Drug class:** [Ophthalmic glaucoma agents](#)



[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on May 13, 2024. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).

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### What is brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic?

[Brimonidine](#) reduces the amount of fluid in the eye, which decreases pressure inside the eye.

Timolol is a beta-blocker that also reduces pressure inside the eye.

Brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic (for the eyes) is used to treat open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension (high pressure inside the eye).

Brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

### Brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have any of these **signs of an allergic reaction**: hives; difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

**Brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic may cause serious side effects. Call your doctor at once if you have:**

- slow or uneven heart rate;
- pounding heartbeats or fluttering in your chest;
- shallow breathing, feeling like you might pass out;
- severe swelling, redness, or discomfort in or around your eye;
- eye pain or increased watering; or
- numbness or tingly feeling in your hands or feet.

**Common side effects of brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic may include:**

- drowsiness, tired feeling;
- mild itching, redness, or irritation of your eyes; or

- mild stinging or burning when using the eye drops.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Brimonidine / timolol ophthalmic side effects](#) (more detail)

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## Warnings

You should not use brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic if you have a history of asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), or a serious heart condition such as "AV block," severe [heart failure](#), or slow heartbeats that have caused you to faint.

Brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic should not be given to a child younger than 2 years old.

## Before taking this medicine

You should not use brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic if you are allergic to it, or if you have:

- a history of asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD); or
- a serious heart condition such as "AV block," severe heart failure, or slow heartbeats that have caused you to faint.

To make sure brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic is safe for you, tell your doctor if you have:

- congestive heart failure, [coronary artery disease](#), history of stroke or blood clot;
- high or [low blood pressure](#), circulation problems (such as [Raynaud's syndrome](#));
- depression;
- diabetes (using brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic may make it harder for you to tell when you have [low blood sugar](#));
- a thyroid disorder;
- any allergies;
- [myasthenia gravis](#); or
- a history of glaucoma or increased pressure inside your eye.

FDA [pregnancy category](#) C. It is not known whether brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic will harm an unborn baby. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant while using this medication.

Timolol ophthalmic can pass into breast milk and may harm a nursing baby. You should not breast-feed while using brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic.

Do not give this medicine to a child without medical advice.

## How should I take brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic?

Follow all directions on your prescription label. Do not use this medicine in larger or smaller amounts or for longer than recommended.

**Do not use this medication while wearing contact lenses.** Brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic may contain a preservative that can discolor soft contact lenses. Wait at least 15 minutes after using this medicine before putting in your contact lenses.

Wash your hands before using the eye drops.

To apply the **eye drops**:

- Tilt your head back slightly and pull down your lower eyelid to create a small pocket. Hold the dropper above the eye with the tip down. Look up and away from the dropper and squeeze out a drop.
- Close your eyes for 2 or 3 minutes with your head tipped down, without blinking or squinting. Gently press your finger to the inside corner of the eye for about 1 minute, to keep the liquid from draining into your tear duct.
- Use only the number of drops your doctor has prescribed. If you use more than one drop, wait about 5 minutes between drops.
- Wait at least 10 minutes before using any other eye drops your doctor has prescribed.

Do not touch the tip of the eye dropper or place it directly on your eye. A contaminated dropper can infect your eye, which could lead to serious vision problems.

**Do not use the eye drops if the liquid has changed colors or has particles in it.** Call your pharmacist for new medicine.

Tell your doctor right away if you have any eye injury or infection, or if you need to have any type of surgery, especially eye surgery.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat. Do not freeze. Keep the bottle tightly closed when not in use.

## Brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic dosing information

### Usual Adult Dose for Glaucoma:

1 drop in the affected eye(s) twice per day, approximately 12 hours apart

### Comments:

-If more than one topical ophthalmic drug is being used, the different drugs should be instilled at least 5 minutes apart.

Use: To lower elevated intraocular pressure (IOP) in patients with glaucoma or ocular hypertension who require adjunctive or replacement therapy due to inadequately controlled IOP

**Usual Adult Dose for Intraocular Hypertension:**

1 drop in the affected eye(s) twice per day, approximately 12 hours apart

Comments:

-If more than one topical ophthalmic drug is being used, the different drugs should be instilled at least 5 minutes apart.

Use: To lower elevated intraocular pressure (IOP) in patients with glaucoma or ocular hypertension who require adjunctive or replacement therapy due to inadequately controlled IOP

**Usual Pediatric Dose for Glaucoma:**

2 years or older:

1 drop in the affected eye(s) twice per day, approximately 12 hours apart

Comments:

-If more than one topical ophthalmic drug is being used, the different drugs should be instilled at least 5 minutes apart.

Use: To lower elevated intraocular pressure (IOP) in patients with glaucoma or ocular hypertension who require adjunctive or replacement therapy due to inadequately controlled IOP

**Usual Pediatric Dose for Intraocular Hypertension:**

2 years or older:

1 drop in the affected eye(s) twice per day, approximately 12 hours apart

Comments:

-If more than one topical ophthalmic drug is being used, the different drugs should be instilled at least 5 minutes apart.

Use: To lower elevated intraocular pressure (IOP) in patients with glaucoma or ocular hypertension who require adjunctive or replacement therapy due to inadequately controlled IOP

 [Detailed Brimonidine / timolol ophthalmic dosage information](#)

## What happens if I miss a dose?

Use the missed dose as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next scheduled dose.

**Do not** use extra medicine to make up the missed dose.

## What happens if I overdose?

An overdose of brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic is not expected to be dangerous. Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222 if anyone has accidentally swallowed the medication.

## What should I avoid while taking brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic?

This medication may impair your thinking or reactions. Be careful if you drive or do anything that requires you to be alert.

Do not use other eye medications unless your doctor tells you to.

## What other drugs will affect brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic?

Using brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic with other drugs that make you sleepy or slow your breathing can increase these effects. Ask your doctor before using brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic with a sleeping pill, narcotic pain medicine, muscle relaxer, or medicine for anxiety, depression, or seizures.

Tell your doctor about all medicines you use, and those you start or stop using during your treatment with brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic, especially:

- digoxin, digitalis;
- reserpine;
- an antidepressant--[amitriptyline](#), bupropion, [clomipramine](#), [desipramine](#), doxepin, duloxetine, fluoxetine, imipramine, [nortriptyline](#), paroxetine;
- an MAO inhibitor--[isocarboxazid](#), linezolid, phenelzine, rasagiline, selegiline, [tranlycypromine](#);
- a beta blocker--atenolol, [carvedilol](#), labetalol, metoprolol, nadolol, nebivolol, [propranolol](#), sotalol, and others; or
- heart or blood pressure medicine--[amlodipine](#), diltiazem, methyldopa, nifedipine, quinidine, verapamil, and others.

This list is not complete. Other drugs may interact with brimonidine and timolol ophthalmic, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and [herbal products](#). Not all possible interactions are listed in this medication guide.

 [Brimonidine / timolol ophthalmic drug interactions](#) (more detail)

## Does brimonidine/timolol ophthalmic interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

brimonidine/timolol ophthalmic

+

Enter a drug name

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## Patient resources

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- [Brimonidine, Timolol Eye Drops prescribing information](#)

## Other brands

[Combigan](#)

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## Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

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### DRUG STATUS

#### Availability

**Rx** Prescription only

#### [Pregnancy & Lactation](#)

 Risk data available

**CSA Schedule\***



N/A Not a controlled drug

### Approval History

📅 Drug history at FDA



### WADA Class

🏆 Anti-Doping Classification



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5.3 / 10

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