

Carvedilol

Pruritus and skin disorders: case report

A 57-year-old woman experienced an acute dermatological reaction after she took her first dose of carvedilol 3.125mg to treat congestive heart failure.

The patient noted pruritus on her wrists, legs and face approximately 7 hours after she ingested carvedilol. Over the next 12 hours, the intensity of her pruritus worsened and a macular rash appeared on the dorsum of both her wrists and the inner aspects of both thighs. She had non-pitting oedema covering her wrist and dorsum of the hand and digits.

The patient was advised to take diphenhydramine every 4–6 hours as required and her rash and pruritus resolved approximately 72 hours after they had first appeared.

Author comment: *'Given the rapid onset of symptoms experienced by the present patient after only a single, small dose, clinicians should be aware of the potential adverse reactions to carvedilol.'*

Simpson SH, et al. Possible adverse skin reactions to carvedilol. Canadian Journal of Cardiology 14: 1277-1279, Oct 1998 - Canada 800725469

» **Editorial comment:** A search of AdisBase and Medline revealed 1 other published case report of skin disorders associated with carvedilol. In this case, the patient developed Stevens Johnson syndrome [see Reactions 670: 6, 27 Sep 1997; 800613663].