

Diltiazem Dosing Regimes

Diltiazem is a Calcium Channel Blocker licensed to treat angina and hypertension. Various preparations are marketed in the UK with dosages from 60mg to a usual maximum 360mg each day. Different versions of modified-release preparations containing more than 60 mg may not have the same clinical effect. To avoid confusion, and ensure consistency for the patient, prescribers should specify the **BRAND** to be dispensed.

Decision flow chart:
Diltiazem dosing regimes

Decide **STRENGTH**
(Read down Column 1)

Decide **FREQUENCY**
(TDS, BD or OD)
(Read over to Column 2)

Decide best **BRAND** (on basis of cost, availability, and tablet or capsule)

Prices listed from lowest to highest, top to bottom.

Prescribe by chosen **BRAND** in GP prescribing system

Column 1	Column 2	
diltiazem 60mg	if TDS (three times a day)	
	not a 'true' prolonged or modified release formulation Tildiem 60mg modified-release tabs £7.96/90 <i>DO NOT prescribe generically - huge price increase if generic (compare with £41.59/84)</i>	
	BD dosing (SR formulations)	OR OD dosing (XL formulations)
diltiazem 60mg	if BD (twice a day)	(no OD dosing available)
	true modified release formulation Dilcardia SR caps £6.03/56 Kenzem SR caps £10.00/56	
diltiazem 90mg	if BD (twice a day)	
	Angitil SR caps £7.03/56 Tildiem Retard tabs £7.27/56 Adizem SR caps £8.50/56 Dilcardia SR caps £9.61/56 Kemzen SR caps £11.35/56	
diltiazem 120mg	if BD (twice a day)	if OD (once a day)
	Angitil SR caps £6.91/56 Tildiem Retard tabs £7.15/56 Adizem SR caps £9.45/56 Dilcardia SR £10.69/56 Kenzem SR £14.00/56	Zemtard XL caps £6.10/28 Viazem XL caps £6.60/28 Slozem 120 caps £7.00/28 Uard 120XL caps £7.31/28 Dilzem XL caps £7.78/28 Adizem XL caps £9.14/28
diltiazem 180mg	if BD (twice a day)	if OD (once a day)
	Angitil SR caps £13.27/56 Adizem SR caps £14.15/56	Zemtard XL caps £6.20/28 Zemret XL caps £7.00/28 Viazem XL caps £7.36/28 Slozem 180 caps £7.80/28 Uard 180XL caps £8.30/28 Adizem XL caps £10.37/28 Dilzem XL caps £11.55/28
diltiazem 200mg	(no BD dosing available)	if OD (once a day)
		Tildiem LA caps £6.29/28 Adizem XL caps £6.30/28
diltiazem 240mg		if OD (once a day)
		Zemtard XL caps £6.30/28 Zemret XL caps £7.00/28 Viazem XL caps £7.74/28 Slozem caps £8.20/28 Uard XL caps £9.22/28 Dilzem XL caps £11.03/28 Adizem XL caps £11.52/28
diltiazem 300mg		if OD (once a day)
		Angitil XL caps £6.98/28 Zemtard XL caps £6.70/28 Zemret XL caps £7.00/28 Uard XL caps £7.21/28 Viazem XL caps £8.03/28 Slozem caps £8.50/28 Tildiem LA caps £9.01/28 Adizem XL caps £9.14/28
diltiazem 360mg		if OD (once a day)
		Viazem XL £13.85/28

*Prices as per BNF [Accessed online September 2018]

**Known supply issues with certain brands – check with local pharmacy if necessary.