Beacon Latanoprost Timolol Patient FAQ's
Latanoprost / Timolol 50mcg/ml + 5mg/ml Eye Drops Solution

What is Beacon Latanoprost Timolol?
Latanoprost/Timolol is a drug combination containing two active substances: latanoprost (a prostaglandin derivative) and timolol maleate (a beta-blocker).

What is Latanoprost Timolol used for?
Latanoprost/Timolol is a medicine for the treatment of increased intraocular pressure (pressure inside the eye). It is used to:
- reduce inner eye pressure in patients with open-angle glaucoma (damage to the optic nerve, caused by excessive pressure within the eye).
- reduce inner eye pressure in patients for whom the effect of beta blockers or prostaglandin derivatives alone is not sufficient.

How are the drops administered?
Always use Latanoprost Timolol exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure. The appropriate dosage and duration of treatment will be established by your doctor.

The usual dose is one drop in the affected eye(s) two times a day, for example in the morning and in the evening. Do not change the dosage of the drug without consulting your doctor. If you must stop treatment, contact your doctor immediately.

Do not allow the tip of the container to touch your eye or areas around your eye. It may become contaminated with bacteria that can cause eye infections leading to serious damage of the eye, even loss of vision. To avoid possible contamination of the container, keep the tip of the container away from contact with any surface.

In order to secure correct dosage - the dropper tip should not be enlarged.

Instructions for use:
It is recommended that you wash your hands before putting in your eye drops. It may be easier to apply your eye drops in front of a mirror.

1. Before using the medication for the first time, be sure that the tamper-proof seal on the bottle neck is unbroken. A gap between the bottle and the cap is normal for an unopened bottle.
2. Take off the cap of the bottle.
3. Tilt your head back and gently pull your lower eyelid down to form a small pocket between your eyelid and your eye.
4. Invert the bottle, and squeeze it until a single drop is dispensed into the eye as directed by your doctor. DO NOT TOUCH YOUR EYE OR EYELID WITH THE DROPPER TIP.
5. Repeat steps 3 & 4 with the other eye if instructed to do so by your doctor.
6. Put the cap back on and close the bottle straight after you have used it.

The bottle may be difficult to squeeze as it is designed to reduce the number of drops that you put into the eye. You will get more skilled at using the bottle as you get used to using it.
There are devices available for patients that find it difficult to use the bottle to put the eye drops in. For further information see the Opticare PDF download.

**Can I use Latanoprost Timolol if I am taking other medicines?**

Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking/using or have recently taken/used any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription. Medicines can affect each other and interactions may occur. You must bear this in mind if you are taking or using any of the following types of medicine:

- **Calcium antagonists** (e.g. in coronary heart disease or for high blood pressure)
- **Guanethidine** (for high blood pressure)
- **Beta-blockers** (for high blood pressure)
- **Antiarrhythmics** (medications that normalise the heart rhythm)
- **Digitalis glycosides** (for heart failure)
- **Parasympathomimetic agents** (e.g. for the treatment of glaucoma).

Taking/using Latanoprost/Timolol together with the above medicines can cause low blood pressure and/or slow down the heart rate.

**Medicines that act in a similar way to Latanoprost/Timolol**

If used at the same time as Latanoprost/Timolol, the effect of other medicines with a similar action to Latanoprost/Timolol may be increased. For this reason, ophthalmic use (i.e. in the eye) of two beta-blockers or two prostaglandin derivatives is not recommended.

- **Clonidine**

  If you are using the active substance clonidine to reduce inner eye pressure together with Latanoprost/Timolol and you suddenly stop using clonidine, your blood pressure may rise. If you are also using beta-blockers at the same time to lower your blood pressure, your blood pressure may - due to this reverse effect - rise even further.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking any medicine.

**Can I take Latanoprost Timolol if I am pregnant or breast-feeding?**

Not enough is known about the risks of using Latanoprost/Timolol during pregnancy. You must therefore not use Latanoprost/Timolol during pregnancy. You must not breastfeed if you are using Latanoprost/Timolol.

**Are there any side effects from taking Latanoprost Timolol?**

Like all medicines, Latanoprost/Timolol can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. Listed below are the known side effects of using eye drops containing the active substances latanoprost and timolol. The most important side effect is the possibility of a gradual, permanent change in your eye colour. It is also possible that eye drops containing the active substances latanoprost and timolol might cause serious changes in the way your heart works. If you notice changes in your heart rate or heart function you should speak to a doctor and tell them you have been using Latanoprost/Timolol. The following are known side effects of using eye drops containing the active substances latanoprost and timolol:

**Very common effects** (likely to affect more than 1 in 10 people):

- A gradual change in your eye colour by increasing the amount of brown pigment in the coloured part of the eye known as the iris. If you have mixed colour eyes (blue-brown, grey-
brown, yellow-brown or green-brown) you are more likely to see this change than if you have eyes of one colour (blue, grey, green or brown eyes). Any changes in your eye colour may take years to develop. The colour change may be permanent and may be more noticeable if you use Latanoprost/Timolol in only one eye. There appears to be no problems associated with the change in eye colour. The eye colour change does not continue after Latanoprost/Timolol treatment is stopped.

Common effects (likely to affect less than 1 in 10 people):
- Eye irritation (a feeling of burning, grittiness, itching, stinging or the sensation of a foreign body in the eye) and eye pain.

Uncommon effects (likely to affect less than 1 in every 100 people):
- Headache.
- Redness of the eye, eye infection (conjunctivitis), blurred vision, watery eyes, inflammation of the eyelids, irritation or disruption of the surface of the eye
- Skin rashes or itching (pruritus)

Other side effects

Immune System Disorders:
- Symptoms of allergic reaction (swelling and redness of the skin and rash).
- Psychiatric Disorders:
- Depression, memory loss, decreased sex drive, inability to sleep, nightmares.

Nervous System Disorders:
- Dizziness, tingling or numbness in the skin, changes in blood flow to the brain, worsening of symptoms of myasthenia gravis (if you already suffer from this condition), sudden fainting or feeling you may faint (syncope).

Eye Disorders:
- Changes to the eyelashes and fine hairs around the eye (increased number, length, thickness and darkening), changes to the direction of eyelash growth, swelling around the eye, swelling of the coloured part of the eye (iritis/uveitus), swelling at the back of the eye (macular oedema), inflammation/irritation of the surface of the eye (keratitis), dry eyes, visual changes/disturbances, double vision, drooping of the upper eyelid and injury to the lining of the back of the eye (a condition known as retinal detachment, but only seen when used following some kinds of eye surgery), fluid filled cyst within the coloured part of the eye (iris cyst).

Ear Disorders:
- Whistling/ringing in the ears (tinnitus).

Heart (Cardiac) Disorders:
- Worsening of angina, awareness of heart rhythm (palpitations), changes in heart rhythm, slowing of the heart, heart failure (cardiac arrest, heart block or congestive heart failure).

Blood flow (Vascular) Disorders:
- Low blood pressure, discolouration/coldness of the fingers and toes (Raynaud’s phenomenon) and coldness of the hands and feet.

Breathing (Respiratory) Disorders:
- Asthma, worsening of asthma, shortness of breath, sudden difficulty to breathe (bronchospasm), cough.
Digestive System (Gastrointestinal) Disorders:
- Feeling sick (nausea), diarrhoea, dyspepsia, dry mouth.

Skin Disorders:
- Darkening of the skin around the eyes, hair loss/baldness (alopecia), itchy rash or worsening of itchy skin conditions.

Muscle and Skeletal Disorders:
- Joint pain, muscle pain

General Disorders:
- Chest pain, fatigue, swelling (oedema)

If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

At what temperature should Beacon Latanoprost Timolol be stored?

Unopened bottles of Latanoprost Timolol eye drops should be stored in a refrigerator at a temperature of 2 to 8°C. After first opening do not store above 25°C.

If you have any further questions please contact Medical Information, (details can be found on the Beacon website).