

Hypertension Patient Case - Jillian
Image



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everywhere**

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Meet Jillian*

Age: 52

BMI: 31

Medical History:

- Hypertension diagnosed 1 year ago
- Obstructive sleep apnoea (on CPAP)
- Family history of cardiovascular disease
- Pre-diabetes

Current antihypertensive medications:

- DIOVAN (valsartan 160 mg)

At current clinic visit:

- **BP:** 156/98 mmHg

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Background:

- Works as a night-shift nurse
- Reports fatigue and poor sleep due to shift work, compounded by sleep apnoea
- Struggles with diet and consistent physical exercise due to her work schedule
- Sometimes misses evening medication dose, particularly while working night shift, or when her routine is disrupted
- Expresses that she is “trying her best” and is frustrated that her BP remains uncontrolled

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Jillian* is experiencing both clinical and practical challenges to achieving BP control

Her current profile meets several indicators for therapy escalation:¹

- **Persistent high BP** (>140/90 mmHg) despite periods of adherence to monotherapy
- **Multiple cardiovascular risk factors** including obesity, pre-diabetes and family history
- **Target organ involvement risk**, with sleep apnoea potentially contributing to BP dysregulation
- **Suboptimal adherence** related to work lifestyle and dosing complexity, undermining control
- **Lifestyle limitations** preventing reliable self-management, making simplicity of treatment an important consideration

**Jillian's* treatment was escalated to EXFORGE (amlodipine/valsartan)
— a once-daily, single-pill combination.**

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EXFORGE addresses Jillian's* challenges to BP control

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Proven efficacy^{2,3}

Clinical data shows people like
Jillian* achieving BP control[†]
at 16 weeks^{‡#a2,3}

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Dual mechanism of action^{2,3}

Targets both vascular resistance
and RAAS pathway, improving
BP control^{‡#} in people like Jillian*
where monotherapy has failed^{a2,3}

Image



Once-daily dosing²

Supports simplified regimens for
people like Jillian* with adherence
and lifestyle challenges

[†]BP control: <140/90 mmHg or <130/80 mmHg for diabetics³

[‡]72.7% of patients on EXFORGE 5/160 mg (\pm HCTZ) (95% CI 68.6–76.9)³

[#]74.8% of patients on EXFORGE 10/160 mg (\pm HCTZ) (95% CI 70.8–78.9)³

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Generally well tolerated with lower incidences of oedema.^{\$b4}

^{\$}Of the 863 patients with oedema at baseline, 73.2% had mild oedema, 25.0% had moderate oedema, and 1.7% had severe oedema.⁴
After 12 weeks of treatment, 89.9% of oedema cases were considered mild, 8.8% were moderate, and 1.3% were severe.⁴

Footnotes and References

DIOVAN: In placebo-controlled trials in patients with hypertension (n=2,542) treated with DIOVAN (10–320 mg), the overall incidence of AEs was comparable with that of placebo.⁵ AEs with an incidence of $\geq 1\%$ irrespective of causal association with DIOVAN: headache, dizziness, viral infection, upper respiratory tract infection, coughing, rhinitis, sinusitis, pharyngitis, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, nausea, fatigue, back pain, arthralgia.⁵

EXFORGE: In five controlled clinical studies including patients (n=2,613) treated with

EXFORGE, AEs with an incidence of $\geq 1\%$ were: nasopharyngitis, influenza, headache, oedema, pitting oedema, facial oedema, oedema peripheral, fatigue, flushing, asthenia, hot flush.²

^a EX-FAST: Randomised, double-blind, multicentre study in patients with BP uncontrolled on monotherapy who were switched directly to amlodipine/valsartan 5/160 mg (n=443) or 10/160 mg (n=451). If BP was uncontrolled at week 8 (BP $\geq 140/90$ mmHg or $\geq 130/80$ mmHg in diabetics), open-label HCTZ 12.5 mg was added.³ If BP remained uncontrolled at week 12, HCTZ dose was increased to 25 mg (patients with controlled BP at week 8 but not at week 12 received HCTZ 12.5 mg).³ Primary efficacy endpoint was the proportion of patients with BP control (mean BP $< 140/90$ mmHg in non-diabetic patients and $< 130/80$ mmHg in diabetic patients) at the study endpoint (week 16). Peripheral oedema was the most frequent drug-related AE and led to discontinuation in 10 patients (2.3%) in the EXFORGE 5/160 mg group and in 41 patients (9.1%) treated with amlodipine/valsartan 10/160 mg.³

^b Prospective, open-label, post-marketing surveillance study evaluating efficacy and safety of single-pill combination of amlodipine and valsartan in adults (n=8,336) with arterial hypertension (systolic BP > 140 mmHg and/or diastolic BP > 90 mmHg) in realworld clinical practice.⁴ Single-pill combination (SPC) amlodipine/valsartan 5/80, 5/160, or 10/160 mg once daily was prescribed and patients were observed over a 3-month period (12 weeks).⁴ The reason for prescription of SPC amlodipine/valsartan was specified for 8,287 patients: 43.4% were non-responders to previous monotherapy, 42.9% were non-responders to previous combination therapy, 9.6% could not tolerate previous therapy.⁴

Abbreviations: **BP**, blood pressure; **CPAP**, continuous positive airway pressure; **HCTZ**, hydrochlorothiazide; **RAAS**, Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System; **SPC**, single pill combination.

References

1. McEvoy JW et al. Eur Heart J. 2024; 45(38): 3912-4018.
2. EXFORGE (amlodipine/valsartan) Australian approved Product Information.
3. Allemann Y et al. J Clin Hypertens (Greenwich). 2008; 10(3):185-94.
4. Karpov Y et al. Adv Ther 2012; 29: 134-147.
5. DIOVAN (valsartan) Australian approved Product Information.

DIOVAN PBS Information: General benefit. This product is listed on the PBS as an angiotensin II antagonist.

EXFORGE PBS Information: Restricted benefit. Hypertension in a patient who is not adequately controlled with either an angiotensin II antagonist OR a dihydropyridine calcium channel blocker.

For DIOVAN prescribing information, please [click here](#).

For EXFORGE prescribing information, please [click here](#).

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