Pulmonary hypertension

Pulmonary hypertension (PH) is a rare and life-threatening disease. It is characterised by an abnormally high blood pressure in the pulmonary artery and the right heart. The diagnosis is confirmed if the mean pressure in the pulmonary artery is greater than 25 mmHg. The disease causes serious complaints and results in early death if untreated. Abrupt interruption of the therapy leads to worsening of the PH (rebound effect) with symptomatic deterioration and can be life-threatening.

Symptoms

- Shortness of breath, dyspnea
- Fatigue
- Dizziness
- Fainting spells (syncope)
- Edema
- Chest pain
- Cyanosis

Treatment guidelines

PH is accompanied by systemic hypotension. Intravenous fluid administration to increase blood pressure is not indicated because of acute right heart failure.
Even when serious complications occur (e.g. acute bleeding), please first contact pulmonologist. Often several medications for pulmonary hypertension are prescribed concomitantly.
In case of problems, refer to the product description of all medications to see if they result from medication interaction, side effects or medication effects.

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