

## ANEURYSM

### Aortic aneurysms and their impact on driving

An **aneurysm** is the abnormal dilation or enlargement of a portion or an artery caused by weakness in the wall of the blood vessel. **HT is directly associated with aneurysms**, as increased BP constitutes an added risk for this condition.

Given the **difficulties that exist in controlling symptoms** and side effects in patients being treated for HT, if a patient also has an aneurysm, he or she will need **constant medical supervision** and must take precautionary measures if the doctor allows him or her to drive.

### Key information

A doctor must be the one to determine when a patient can drive if:

- >> The patient suffers from **aortic dissection** or large or rapidly evolving aneurysms, which must be completely resolved.
- >> The patient has undergone surgery to resolve aneurysms of any kind. An extensive recovery period is required.

Aneurysms and aortic dissections are serious conditions that must be subject to **constant medical observation and monitoring**. Driving presents a direct risk for these patients and an **indirect risk for all others** using public roadways.

### Three tips for driving with aneurysms fully under control

If your doctor allows you to drive with an aneurysm because that aneurysm is fully under control, take precautions.



#### 1 Bring a medical report

With you in the vehicle, it could be useful at any time.



#### If while driving you experience sudden, intense chest or back pain,

Immediately stop the vehicle, adopting all possible safety and precautionary measures to safely stop the car, and request emergency assistance to get to a hospital.



#### Drive with extreme precaution

Keep in mind that a strong blow to the abdomen or an increase in pressure from the seatbelt caused by a sudden stop could cause a large aneurysm to rupture.