

**☒ | Concomitant therapy with Cosopt® and Diamox® is not useful*****The Science behind the Tip***

Although the  $\beta$ -blocker timolol and the topical carbonic anhydrase inhibitor (CAI) dorzolamide both act by decreased aqueous humour production, they are almost completely additive in their effects on aqueous humour flow<sup>1</sup>. Thus, the combination product Cosopt® has a powerful intraocular pressure (IOP) lowering effect of 32.7% at peak moment (i.e. time of maximal drug effect, 2 hours after drug application)<sup>2</sup>. Similar effects on aqueous humour flow and IOP were observed in the 1980s with timolol and the oral CAI acetazolamide (Diamox®) taken together<sup>3</sup>.

When a maximal IOP lowering effect is needed, it can be useful to switch from Cosopt® to [Diamox® + a topical  $\beta$ -blocker]. Diamox® is more effective as a suppressor of aqueous humour flow than dorzolamide<sup>4-6</sup> and dorzolamide has no additive effects in subjects already taking Diamox®<sup>4,7</sup>.

***References***

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