

# ZANTAC<sup>®</sup> INJECTION

50 mg injection

Ranitidine hydrochloride

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## New Zealand Consumer Medicine Information

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### What is in this leaflet?

Please read this leaflet carefully before you start using Zantac injection.

This leaflet does not have all information available about your medicine. If you have any questions about your medicine, you should ask your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have some risks. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you using Zantac injection against the benefits he/she expects it will have for you.

If there is anything you do not understand, ask your doctor or pharmacist. If you want more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

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### What Zantac is used for

The medicine in your Zantac injection is called ranitidine (as hydrochloride). This belongs to a group of medicines called H<sub>2</sub>-antagonists.

Zantac injection is used for short-term. It is used for:

- reflux oesophagitis (also known as reflux)
- stomach and duodenal ulcer disease (also known as peptic ulcer)
- post-operative ulcer
- Zollinger-Ellison disease – where the stomach produces very large

amounts of acid, much more than in ulcers and reflux disease.

These problems are caused, in part, by too much acid in the stomach.

This can lead to pain such as heartburn.

Zantac works by reducing the amount of acid in the stomach. This reduces the pain and also allows the ulcer and reflux to heal.

Zantac is also used to reduce stomach acid in the following situations:

- prevention of bleeding from stress ulcers in seriously ill patients
- prevention of later bleeding in patients with bleeding peptic ulcers
- before general anaesthesia in patients at risk of inhaling their acid, especially pregnant women during labour

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### Before you use Zantac Injection

#### *When you must not use it*

Do not use Zantac if you have an allergy to:

- ranitidine
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet

Symptoms of an allergic reaction include:

- wheezing
- swelling of the lips/mouth
- difficulty in breathing
- hay fever
- lumpy rash ("hives")

- fainting

Do not use Zantac after the expiry date (EXP) printed on the pack has passed.

If you take this medicine after the expiry date it may not work.

If you are not sure whether you should start using Zantac, talk to your doctor.

#### *Before you start to use it*

Tell your doctor:

- the names of all medicines you are already taking including those you have bought from a supermarket or a pharmacy
- if you have had to stop taking this or any other medicine for your ulcer or reflux
- if you have kidney disease
- if you are allergic to any medicine
- if you are prone to irregular heart beat
- if you have a disease known as acute porphyria, an uncommon genetic condition
- if your symptoms (e.g. stomach discomfort) have recently changed
- if you are pregnant, likely to get pregnant or are breast feeding. Your doctor will tell you if you should take this medicine
- if you have stomach cancer
- if you are elderly
- if you have chronic lung disease
- if you have diabetes

- if you have problems with your immune system

### **Taking other medicines with Zantac**

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you get without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.**

Some medicines can affect how Zantac works, or make it more likely that you'll have side effects. Zantac can also affect how some other medicines work. These include:

- procainamide or n-acetylprocainamide (used to treat heart problems)
- warfarin (used to thin the blood)
- triazolam (used to treat insomnia)
- glipizide (used to lower blood glucose)
- midazolam (a sedative that may be given just before an operation)
- ketoconazole (used to treat fungal infections)
- atazanavir or delaviridine (used to treat HIV)
- gefitinib (used to treat lung cancer)
- Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory (NSAID) medicines (used to treat pain and inflammation)

Check with your doctor or your pharmacist if you take any other medicines.

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### **How to use Zantac**

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Zantac injection is given in the following ways:

- a slow injection into the vein over 2 minutes
- by infusion into the vein
- by injection into the muscle

The dosage depends on the disease that you are suffering from. Your

doctor will decide how much Zantac injection to give and how often to use it. Usually the injection is given every six to eight hours.

After using Zantac injections, your doctor may decide to continue your treatment with Zantac tablets.

### **Use in children**

Zantac injection has not been studied in children.

### **If you use too much Zantac (overdose)**

In the event of an overdose you should contact your nearest Poisons Information Centre (0800 POISON or 0800 764 766), doctor or hospital emergency department.

Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

You may need urgent medical attention.

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### **Side-effects**

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Like other medicines, Zantac may cause some side-effects. Most of the side-effects will be minor and temporary, but some may be serious. Your doctor will be able to answer any questions you may have.

Tell your doctor straight away and do not use any more Zantac if you get:

- skin troubles such as rash (red spots), itching, skin lumps or hives
- wheezing, shortness of breath, chest pain or tightness, slower than usual heart beat
- swelling of the eyelids, face or lips
- irregular heart beat, possibly with slow heart beat, feeling faint and confused
- severe stomach pain or a change in the type of pain
- yellow colouring of the skin or eyes (jaundice)

- confusion
- fever, severe chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers – this could be a lack of white blood cells
- tiredness and looking pale
- bleeding or bruising more easily than normal, nose bleeds

These are serious side effects. They are very rare.

Other side effects include:

- nausea
- vomiting
- headache
- joint or muscle pain
- dizziness
- depression
- hallucination
- blurred vision
- hair loss
- constipation
- impotence (reversible)
- breast tenderness and/or breast enlargement
- breast discharge
- changes to liver function that may show up in your blood tests

If you notice any symptoms that concern you or if the injection causes any other side-effects, tell your doctor or pharmacist.

If you think you are having an allergic reaction to Zantac, **TELL YOUR DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY** or go to the casualty department at your nearest hospital. Symptoms usually include some or all of the following:

- wheezing
- swelling of the lips/mouth
- difficulty in breathing
- hay fever
- lumpy rash ("hives")
- fainting

This is not a complete list of side effects that may be experienced while taking Zantac. Do not be alarmed by this list of side effects- you may not experience any of them.

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## After using Zantac

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### Storage

Keep your Zantac injection away from heat (store below 25°C). For example, you should not leave it in the car on hot days.

Please keep your Zantac injection in a place where children cannot reach it for example in a locked cupboard.

You will find an "expiry" (or use by) date printed on the manufacturer's label of the pack. Do not use the injection after this date. Do not use the injection if it is discoloured.

Keep your Zantac injection away from moisture. Do not store medicines in the bathroom or near a sink. Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

Protect from light. Keep it in the box until you need to use it.

### Disposal

If your doctor tells you to stop using Zantac or the injection has passed its expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any injection that is left over.

### Can I let someone else use my Zantac?

Never give this medicine to someone else. The medicine is only for you. It may harm other people even if they seem to have the same symptoms that you have.

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## Product description

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### What it looks like

A clear, colourless to pale yellow liquid in a glass ampoule.

### Ingredients

Zantac injection contains 50 mg of ranitidine in 2 mL. Your injection also contains the following inactive ingredients:

- Disodium hydrogen-orthophosphate AR
- Sodium chloride (salt)
- Potassium dihydrogen orthophosphate anhydrous AR
- Water for injections
- Nitrogen

Zantac injection is free from gluten and lactose.

Pack size available: boxes of five 2 mL ampoules.

### Further information

Zantac injection is only available on prescription.

This is not all the information that is available on Zantac. If you have any more questions or are not sure about anything, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Pharmaceutical companies are not in a position to give people an individual diagnosis or medical advice. Your doctor or pharmacist is the best person to give you advice on the treatment of your condition. You may also be able to find general information about your disease and its treatment from books, for example in public libraries.

### Supplier

Your Zantac injection is supplied by:

GlaxoSmithKline NZ Limited  
Private Bag 106600  
Downtown, Auckland

Ph (09) 367-2900  
Fax (09) 367-2910

Do not throw this leaflet away. You may need to read it again.

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