

# New Zealand Consumer Medicine Information

## INVANZ®

### Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) summary

The [full CMI](#) on the next page has more details. If you are worried about using this medicine, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

#### 1. Why am I being given INVANZ?

INVANZ contains the active ingredient Ertapenem. INVANZ is used to treat infections caused by bacteria (germs). These infections include: infections within the abdomen (stomach), pelvic infections, complicated skin infections including diabetic foot infections in patients, community acquired pneumonia, complicated urinary tract infections and bacterial septicaemia. Invanz may also be used to prevent site infections after colorectal surgery.

For more information, see Section [1. Why am I being given INVANZ?](#) in the full CMI.

#### 2. What should I know before I am given INVANZ?

You should not be given INVANZ if you have ever had an allergic reaction to INVANZ or any of the ingredients listed at the end of the CMI.

**Talk to your doctor if you have any other medical conditions, take any other medicines, or are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding.**

For more information, see Section [2. What should I know before I am given INVANZ?](#) in the full CMI.

#### 3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with INVANZ and affect how it works.

A list of these medicines is in Section [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#) in the full CMI.

#### 4. How will I be given INVANZ?

INVANZ can be given in two ways:

- as a slow injection into a vein, known as an intravenous infusion
- as a deep injection into a large muscle, known as an intramuscular injection.

INVANZ must only be given by a doctor or nurse.

More instructions can be found in Section [4. How will I be given INVANZ?](#) in the full CMI.

#### 5. What should I know while being given INVANZ?

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Things you should do        | <b>Call your doctor straight away if you:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop severe diarrhoea</li><li>• Develop a severe skin reaction such as painful red areas, fluid filled bumps, large blisters, or peeling layers of skin whilst being given INVANZ</li></ul> |
| Looking after your medicine | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• INVANZ will usually be stored in the pharmacy or on the ward.</li></ul>  |

For more information, see Section [5. What should I know while being given INVANZ?](#) in the full CMI.

#### 6. Are there any side effects?

Common side effects of INVANZ include diarrhoea, inflammation of the vein, nausea, and headache.

For more information, including what to do if you have any side effects, see Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#) in the full CMI.

# INVANZ

Active ingredient: *Ertapenem*

## Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

This leaflet provides important information about using INVANZ. You should also speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like further information or if you have any concerns or questions about using INVANZ.

Where to find information in this leaflet:

- [1. Why am I being given INVANZ?](#)
- [2. What should I know before I am given INVANZ?](#)
- [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#)
- [4. How will I be given INVANZ?](#)
- [5. What should I know while being given INVANZ?](#)
- [6. Are there any side effects?](#)
- [7. Product details](#)

## 1. Why am I being given INVANZ?

INVANZ contains the active ingredient Ertapenem.

INVANZ belongs to a class of antibiotics called carbapenems. It works by killing the bacteria causing your infection.

**INVANZ is used to treat infections caused by bacteria (germs). These infections include:**

- infections within the abdomen (stomach)
- pelvic infections
- complicated skin infections including diabetic foot infections in patients
- community acquired pneumonia
- complicated urinary tract infections including kidney infection
- bacterial septicaemia

INVANZ may also be used in patients not responding to, or unable to tolerate, other antibiotics.

Invanz is also used to prevent site infections after colorectal surgery.

Your doctor may have prescribed INVANZ for another reason.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why INVANZ has been prescribed for you.

## 2. What should I know before I am given INVANZ?

### Warnings

**INVANZ should not be given if:**

- you are allergic to Ertapenem, or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet. Always

check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.

- you have an allergy to other antibiotics in the same class as INVANZ
- you have had a serious allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to beta-lactam antibiotics, including penicillins or cephalosporins
- the vial cap shows signs of tampering
- the expiry date printed on the pack has passed.

**INVANZ should not be given by injection into a muscle if:**

- **you have an allergy to amide-type local anaesthetics, particularly lidocaine (lignocaine)**
- **you are in severe shock**
- **you have heart block**

**Check with your doctor if you:**

- **have or have had any medical conditions, especially the following:**
  - seizures or fits, or a predisposition to seizures (eg brain scarring)
  - kidney disease, or are undergoing dialysis
  - bowel problems while using antibiotics or after finishing them, including severe abdominal or stomach cramps, or watery and severe diarrhoea
- **have allergies to other antibiotics, in particular penicillins and cephalosporins.**
  - If you are allergic to any of them you may be allergic to INVANZ.
- **are pregnant or intend to become pregnant**
- **are breast-feeding or intend to breast-feed**
- **have any allergies to any other medicines or any other substances, such as foods, preservatives or dyes**
- **are taking a medicine containing valproic acid**

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you are given INVANZ.

During treatment, you may be at risk of developing certain side effects. It is important you understand these risks and how to monitor for them. See additional information under Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#)

### Pregnancy

Check with your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.

Like most medicines, INVANZ is generally not recommended during pregnancy. However, if there is a need to consider using INVANZ during pregnancy, your doctor will discuss the possible risks and benefits to you and your unborn baby.

## Breastfeeding

Talk to your doctor if you are breastfeeding or intend to breastfeed.

Like most medicines, the use of INVANZ is generally not recommended while breast-feeding. INVANZ is secreted into human milk.

## Children

Do not use INVANZ in children under 3 months of age.

The safety and effectiveness in children younger than 3 months of age have not been established.

## Elderly

The recommended dose of INVANZ should be administered unless you have any renal impairment.

## 3. What if I am taking other medicines?

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

Some medicines and INVANZ may interfere with each other. These include:

- **Sodium valproate**, used to control different types of epilepsy and mania

These medicines may be affected by INVANZ, or may affect how well it works. You may need different amounts of your medicine, or you may need to take different medicines. Your doctor will decide whether you should use INVANZ in combination with this medicine.

**Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about what medicines, vitamins or supplements you are taking and if these affect INVANZ.**

## 4. How will I be given INVANZ?

### How is it given

INVANZ can be given in two ways:

- as a slow injection into a vein, known as an intravenous infusion
- as a deep injection into a large muscle, known as an intramuscular injection.

INVANZ will be prepared and given to you by a doctor or other healthcare professional.

### When is it given

- Your doctor will decide what dose and how long you will receive INVANZ. This depends on your condition and other factors, such as your kidney function. No dose adjustment is necessary if you are elderly.

## If you are given too much INVANZ

As this product is administered by a doctor or healthcare professional, it is unlikely you will be given too much INVANZ.

**However, if you have any concerns you should immediately:**

- **contact a healthcare professional, your doctor, or**
- **phone the Poisons Information Centre (by calling 13 11 26), or**
- **go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital.**

**You should do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.**

## 5. What should I know while being given INVANZ?

### Things you should do

**Call your doctor straight away if you:**

- Develop severe diarrhoea

Do this even if it occurs several weeks after INVANZ has been stopped.

Diarrhoea may mean that you have a serious condition affecting your bowel. You may need urgent medical care.

This is because antibiotics such as INVANZ can change the type of bacteria in the bowel. As a result, this allows bacteria, normally present in the bowel and normally harmless, to multiply and cause the above symptoms.

Do not take any diarrhoea medicine without first checking with your doctor.

- develop a severe skin reaction such as painful red areas, fluid filled bumps, large blisters, or peeling layers of skin whilst being given INVANZ. You may need urgent medical care.

Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using INVANZ.

### Looking after your medicine

It is unlikely that you will be asked to store INVANZ yourself. It will usually be stored in the pharmacy or on the ward.

### Getting rid of any unwanted medicine

A doctor, nurse or pharmacist will dispose of any unused INVANZ.

## 6. Are there any side effects?

All medicines can have side effects. If you do experience any side effects, most of them are not serious. However, some side effects may need medical attention.



## Very Rare side effects

| Very Rare side effects   | What to do   |
|--|--|
| <p>A few people may be allergic to some medicines. Tell your doctor or nurse immediately if you notice any of the following. These are examples of acute allergy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>throat or chest tightness, difficulty breathing</li><li>swelling of the mouth, lips, eyes or face</li><li>vomiting</li></ul> | <p><b>Call your doctor straight away, or go straight to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of these very rare serious side effects.</b></p> |

If you have these, you may have had a serious allergic reaction to INVANZ. You may need urgent medical attention. These side effects are very rare.

## Rare side effects after finishing INVANZ

| Rare side effects   | What to do   |
|---|--|
| <p>Tell your doctor immediately if you notice any of the following side effects, particularly if they occur several weeks after stopping treatment with INVANZ:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>severe abdominal cramps or stomach cramps</li><li>watery and severe diarrhoea, which may also be bloody</li><li>fever, in combination with one or both of the above</li></ul> | <p><b>Call your doctor straight away, or go straight to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of these serious side effects.</b></p> |

These are rare but serious side effects. You may have a serious condition affecting your bowel.

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that may be making you feel unwell.**

Other side effects not listed here may occur in some people.

## Reporting side effects

After you have received medical advice for any side effects you experience, you can report side effects to the Therapeutic Goods Administration online at [www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems](http://www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems). By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

**Always make sure you speak to your doctor or pharmacist before you decide to stop taking any of your medicines.**

## 7. Product details

This medicine is only available with a doctor's prescription.

### What INVANZ contains

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| <b>Active ingredient (main ingredient)</b> | ertapenem 1 g |
|--|---------------|

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)</b> | sodium bicarbonate<br>sodium hydroxide |
|---|--|

**Do not receive this medicine if you are allergic to any of these ingredients.**

### What INVANZ looks like

INVANZ is a white to off-white powder in a glass vial.

### Who distributes INVANZ

Merck Sharp & Dohme (New Zealand) Limited

P O Box 99 851

Newmarket

Auckland

New Zealand

Tel: 0800 500 673

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