

# ZOVIRAX™

## INTRAVENOUS INFUSION

*aciclovir*

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### Consumer Medicine Information

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#### What is in this leaflet?

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Please read this leaflet carefully before or while Zovirax intravenous infusion is being given to you.

This leaflet answers some common questions about Zovirax intravenous infusion. It does not contain all of the available information.

It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the expected benefits of Zovirax intravenous infusion against the risks this medicine could have for you.

**If you have any concerns about this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

#### **Keep this leaflet.**

You may need to read it again.

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#### What is Zovirax intravenous infusion used for?

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Zovirax belongs to a group of medicines called antivirals. It works by preventing viral multiplication. Zovirax intravenous infusion is used for the treatment of:

- Acute manifestations of *Herpes simplex* virus infections of skin and mucosa and *Varicella*

- zoster virus (chickenpox or shingles) in patients with weak immune responses;
- Severe genital herpes;
- Severe shingles;
- Herpes simplex encephalitis.

Your doctor may have prescribed Zovirax intravenous infusion for another reason.

Zovirax is not addictive.

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#### **Before Zovirax intravenous infusion is given to you**

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#### ***You must not be given Zovirax intravenous infusion if:***

- you have ever had an allergic reaction to aciclovir, valaciclovir or any of the ingredients listed toward the end of this leaflet. (See “Ingredients”)
- **the expiry date (EXP) printed on the pack has passed.**
- **the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering**

#### ***You must tell your doctor if:***

- **you are allergic to foods, dyes, preservatives or any other medicines.**
- **you suffer from:**
  - **A kidney or liver condition, and/or**

- **Irregular electrolyte levels and/or**
- **Hypoxia, and/or**
- **Any condition affecting your nervous system**
- **you are taking any other medicines such as probenecid, cimetidine, mycophenolate mofetil, diuretics (fluid tablets), cyclosporin, or tacrolimus including medicines you buy without a prescription.**
- **you are breastfeeding, pregnant or trying to become pregnant.**

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#### **How is Zovirax intravenous infusion given?**

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Zovirax intravenous infusion is given by, or under the supervision of, a doctor.

Zovirax intravenous infusion is made up with a suitable diluent and given by slow intravenous infusion into your vein.

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#### **While you are being given Zovirax infusions**

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#### ***Things you must do***

**Tell your doctor if you become pregnant.**

**Drink plenty of fluids while on Zovirax infusions.**

***Things to be careful of***

**Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how Zovirax affects you.**

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**What are the side-effects?**

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**Check with your doctor as soon as possible if you think you are experiencing any side effects or allergic reactions due to Zovirax intravenous infusion, even if the problem is not listed below.**

Like other medicines, Zovirax intravenous infusion can cause some side-effects. If they occur, they are most likely to be minor and temporary. However, some may be serious and need medical attention.

The most commonly reported side-effects are:

- local inflammation at injection site
- skin rash
- nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea

**Tell your doctor immediately if you notice any of the following:**

- **confusion, hallucinations, shaking**
- **Wheezing, swelling of the lips/mouth, difficulty in breathing, hayfever, lumpy rash (hives) or fainting. These could be symptoms of an allergic reaction.**

This is not a complete list of all possible side-effects. Others may occur in some people and there may be some side-effects not yet known.

**Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side-effects. You may not experience any of them.**

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**Product description**

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***What Zovirax looks like***

**Zovirax intravenous infusion consists of a dry white powder, which is made up with a suitable diluent before use.**

***Ingredients***

Zovirax intravenous infusion contains the active ingredient aciclovir.

Zovirax intravenous infusion also contains sodium hydroxide.

***Supplier***

**Your Zovirax intravenous infusion is supplied by:**

GlaxoSmithKline Australia Pty Ltd  
1061 Mountain Highway  
Boronia  
Victoria, 3155  
Australia.

***Where to go for further information***

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

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