

Zoledronate

[Zole-ed-ROW-nate]
Aclasta®

<http://Rheuminfo.com>
your rheumatology resource

How to use this medication

What is it



Zoledronate is a medication used to treat and prevent thinning of the bones (called osteoporosis) and to treat a condition called Paget's disease.

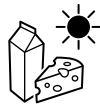
Take it once a year by intravenous (iv)



Zoledronate is given once a year by a 15 minute intravenous (IV) infusion.

What you need to do

Take calcium & vitamin D



To help build your bones you should take calcium & vitamin D while taking zoledronate. Your doctor will tell you the right amount of calcium and vitamin D for you.

Don't get pregnant or breastfeed



Do not take zoledronate if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.

Pain in the jaw



Medicines like zoledronate have been associated with a very rare problem with the jaw (osteonecrosis). This problem has been seen after dental work. Let your doctor know if you develop sudden pain in the jaw.

Bone mineral density (BMD) testing



Your doctor will monitor your response to zoledronate by testing your BMD. This is usually done every 1 to 3 years. Talk to your doctor.

Side effects & important facts

Fever & flu-like symptoms



After receiving zoledronate, some patients have developed a fever and flu-like symptoms including "feeling out of sorts", chills, fatigue, and weakness. These symptoms are usually mild to moderate and go away after a few days.

Nausea & diarrhea



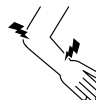
Zoledronate can cause nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea.

Headache & dizziness



Zoledronate can rarely cause a headache or dizziness.

Muscle & bone pain



Zoledronate can cause bone, muscle, or joint pain. This can be severe but is rare.

When should I call my doctor

Please call if you need to stop



- If you feel sick and want to stop
- If you are concerned about any side effects

Other reasons to call your doctor:



Stomach pain or trouble swallowing



Pregnant or Planning Pregnancy



New severe pain in the jaw



If you are having surgery

Other important information

Stopping zoledronate



You can simply stop taking zoledronate. You do not need to wean off it. Please call your doctor if you stop the medication.