

## Zotimus® 4 mg Powder for solution for infusion Zoledronic acid

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine.

Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.

If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

This medicine has been prescribed for you. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.

If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

### In this leaflet:

1. What Zotimus 4 mg is and what it is used for

2. Before you take Zotimus 4 mg

3. How you take Zotimus 4 mg

4. Possible side effects

5. How to store Zotimus 4 mg

6. Further information

1. What Zotimus 4 mg is and what it is used for?

Pharmacotherapeutic group:

The active substance in Zotimus 4 mg is zoledronic acid, which belongs to a group of substances called bisphosphonates. Zoledronic acid works by attaching itself to the bone and slowing down the rate of bone change.

Therapeutic indications:

It is used:

To prevent bone complications, e.g. fractures, in adult patients with bone metastases (spread of cancer from primary site to the bones).

To reduce the amount of calcium in the blood in adult patients where it is too high due to the presence of a tumour. Tumours can accelerate normal bone change in such a way that the release of calcium from bone is increased. This condition is known as tumourinduced hypercalcaemia (TH).

2. Before you take Zotimus 4 mg:

Follow carefully all instructions given to you by your doctor.

Your doctor will carry out blood tests before you start treatment with Zotimus 4 mg and will check your response to treatment at regular intervals.

a- Do not use Zotimus 4 mg

if you are breast-feeding.

if you are allergic to zoledronic acid, another bisphosphonate (the group of substances to which Zotimus 4 mg belongs), or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).

b- Take special care with Zotimus 4 mg: Talk to your doctor before you are given Zotimus 4 mg:

if you have or have had a kidney problem.

if you have or have had pain, swelling or numbness of the jaw, a feeling of heaviness in the jaw or loosening of a tooth. Your doctor may recommend a dental examination before you start treatment with zotimus 4 mg.

if you are having dental treatment or are due to undergo dental surgery, tell your dentist that you are being treated with Zotimus 4 mg and inform your doctor about your dental treatment.

While being treated with Zotimus 4 mg, you should maintain good oral hygiene (including regular teeth brushing) and receive routine dental check-ups.

Contact your doctor and dentist immediately if you experience any problems with your mouth or teeth such as loose teeth, pain or swelling, or non-healing of sores or discharge, as these could be signs of a condition called osteonecrosis of the jaw.

Patients who are undergoing chemotherapy and/or radiotherapy, who are taking steroids, who are undergoing dental surgery, who do not receive routine dental care, who have gum disease, who are smokers, or who were previously treated with a bisphosphonate (used to treat or prevent bone disorders) may have a higher risk of developing osteonecrosis of the jaw.

Reduced levels of calcium in the blood (hypocalcaemia), sometimes leading to muscle cramps, dry skin, burning sensation, have been reported in patients treated with Zotimus 4 mg. Irregular heart beat (cardiac arrhythmia), seizures, spasm and twitching (tetany) have been reported as secondary to severe hypocalcaemia. In some instances the hypocalcaemia may be life-threatening. If any of these apply to you, tell your doctor straight away. If you have pre-existing hypocalcaemia, it must be corrected before initiating the first dose of Zotimus 4 mg. You will be given adequate calcium and vitamin D supplements.

Patients aged 65 years and over

Zotimus 4 mg can be given to people aged 65 years and over. There is no evidence to suggest that any extra precautions are needed.

Children and adolescents

Zotimus 4 mg is not recommended for use in adolescents and children below the age of 18 years.

c. Using other medicines and Zotimus 4 mg

It is especially important that you tell your doctor if you are also taking:

Antimycobacterials (medicines used to treat severe infections), calcitonin (a type of medicine used to treat post-menopausal osteoporosis and hypercalcaemia), loop diuretics (a type of medicine to treat high blood pressure or oedema) or other calcium-lowering medicines, since the combination of these with bisphosphonates may cause the calcium level in the blood to become too low.

Thalidomide (a medicine used to treat a certain type of blood cancer involving the bone) or any other medicines which may harm your kidneys.

Acidic medicines that also contain zoledronic acid and is used to treat osteoporosis and other non-cancer diseases of the bone), or any other bisphosphonate, since the combined effects of these medicines taken together with Zotimus 4 mg are unknown.

Anti-angiogenic medicines (used to treat cancer), since the combination of these with Zotimus 4 mg has been associated with an increased risk of osteonecrosis of the jaw (ONJ).

Please tell your doctor, health care provider or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.

a. Pregnancy and breast-feeding

You should not be given Zotimus 4 mg if you are pregnant. Tell your doctor if you are or think that you may be pregnant.

You must not be given Zotimus 4 mg if you are breast-feeding.

Ask your doctor, health care provider or pharmacist for advice before taking any medicine while you are pregnant or breast-feeding.

d. Driving and using machines

There have been very rare cases of drowsiness and sleepiness with the use of Zotimus 4 mg. You should therefore be careful when driving, using machinery or performing other tasks that need full attention.

3. How you take Zotimus 4 mg

Zotimus 4 mg must only be given by healthcare professionals trained in administering bisphosphonates intravenously, i.e. through a vein.

Your doctor will recommend that you drink enough water before each treatment to help prevent dehydration.

• Carefully follow all the other instructions given to you by your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

How much Zotimus 4 mg is given

- The usual single dose given is 4 mg.

- If you have a kidney problem, your doctor will give you a lower dose depending on the severity of your kidney problem.

How often Zotimus 4 mg is given

- If you are being treated for the prevention of bone complications due to bone metastases, you will be given one infusion of Zotimus 4 mg every three to four weeks.

- If you are being treated to reduce the amount of calcium in your blood, you will normally only be given one infusion of Zotimus 4 mg.

How Zotimus 4 mg is given

- Zotimus 4 mg is given as a drip (infusion) into a vein which should take at least 15 minutes and should be administered as a single intravenous solution in a separate infusion line.

Patients whose blood calcium levels are not too high will also be prescribed calcium and vitamin D supplements to be taken each day.

a- If you are given more Zotimus 4 mg than you should be

- If you have received doses higher than those recommended, you must be carefully monitored by your doctor. This is because you may develop serum electrolyte abnormalities (e.g. abnormal levels of calcium, phosphorus and magnesium) and/or changes in kidney function, including severe kidney impairment.

If your level of calcium falls too low, you may have to be given, supplementally calcium by infusion.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. The most common ones are usually mild and will probably disappear after a short time.

Tell your doctor about any of the following serious side effects straight away:

• Severe kidney impairment (will normally be determined by your doctor with certain specific blood tests).

• Low level of calcium in the blood.

• Pain in the neck, teeth and/or jaw, swelling or sores inside the mouth, numbness or a feeling of heaviness in the jaw, or loosening of a tooth. These could be signs of bone damage in the jaw (osteonecrosis). Tell your doctor and dentist immediately if you experience such symptoms while being treated with Zotimus 4 mg or after stopping treatment.

• Irregular heart rhythm (atrial fibrillation) has been seen in patients receiving zoledronic acid for postmenopausal osteoporosis. It is currently unclear whether zoledronic acid causes this irregular heart rhythm but you should report it to your doctor if you experience such symptoms after you have received zoledronic acid.

• Severe allergic reactions: shortness of breath, swelling mainly of the face and throat.

Rare (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people):

• As a consequence of low calcium values: irregular heart beat (cardiac arrhythmia; secondary to hypocalcaemia).

Very rare (may affect up to 1 in 10,000 people):

• As a consequence of low calcium values: irregular heart beat (cardiac arrhythmia; secondary to hypocalcaemia), seizures, numbness and numbness (secondary to hypocalcaemia).

Talk to your doctor if you have ear pain, discharge from the ear, and/or an infection. These could be signs of bone damage in the ear.

Tell your doctor about any of the following side effects as soon as possible:

Very common (may affect more than 1 in 10 people):

• Low level of phosphate in the blood.

Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 10 people):

• Headache and a flu-like syndrome consisting of fever, fatigue, weakness, drowsiness, chills and bone, joint and/or muscle ache. In most cases no specific treatment is required and the symptoms disappear after a short time (couple of hours or days).

• Gastrointestinal reactions such as nausea and vomiting as well as loss of appetite.

• Conjunctivitis.

• Low level of red blood cells (anaemia).

• Hypersensitivity reactions.

• Low blood pressure.

• Chest pain.

• Skin reactions (redness and swelling) at the infusion site, rash, itching.

• High blood pressure shortness of breath, dizziness, anxiety, sleep disturbances, tingling or numbness of the hands or feet, diarrhoea.

• Sudden coldness with fainting, lightheadedness.

• Low counts of white blood cells and blood platelets.

• Low level of magnesium and potassium in the blood. Your doctor will monitor this and take any necessary measures.

• Weight increase

• Increased sweating

• Sleepiness, blurred vision, tearing of the eye, eye sensitivity to light.

• Sudden coldness with fainting, lightheadedness.

• Difficulty in breathing with wheezing or coughing.

• Urticaria.

Rare (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people):

• Slow heart beat.

• Confusion.

• Unusual fracture of the thigh bone particularly in patients on long-term treatment for osteoporosis may occur rarely. Contact your doctor if you experience pain, weakness or discomfort in your thigh, hip or groin as this may be an early indication of a possible fracture of the thigh bone.

• Interstitial lung disease (inflammation of the tissue around the air sacs of the lungs).

• Flu-like symptoms including arthritis and joint swelling.

• Painful redness and/or swelling of the eye.

Very rare (may affect up to 1 in 10,000 people):

• Fainting due to low blood pressure.

• Severe bone, joint and/or muscle pain, occasionally incapacitating.

If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor, health care provider or pharmacist.

5. How to store Zotimus 4 mg

Keep Zotimus 4 mg out of the reach and sight of children.

- Do not use Zotimus 4 mg after the expiry date stated on the pack.

- Store below 30°C

- The unopened vial does not require any specific storage conditions.

- The diluted Zotimus 4 mg infusion solution should be used immediately in order to avoid microbial contamination.

(see section INFORMATION FOR THE HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL)

- Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Further information

a- What Zotimus 4 mg contains:

The active ingredient of Zotimus 4mg is zoledronic acid. One vial contains 4 mg zoledronic acid, corresponding to 4.264 mg zoledronic acid monohydrate.

• The other ingredients are: mannitol, tricitrate sodium.

b- What Zotimus 4 mg looks like and contents of the pack:

Zotimus 4mg, powder for solution for infusion is a white hydrophilic compact mass. Zotimus 4mg, powder for solution for infusion is available in one presentation.

It is presented in a type I glass vial. 1 unit pack containing 1 vial.

c- Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer:  
LES LABORATOIRES MEDIS- S.A.  
Rode de Tunis - KM7 - BP 206 - 8000 Nabeul - Tunisie

Tel: (216) 72 23 50 06 Fax: (216) 72 23 51 06

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For any information about this medicinal product, please contact the local representative of the Marketing Authorisation Holder: Sables Trading Establishment (Medical equipment & pharmaceuticals) PO Box: 991, Riyadh 11421- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Tel: 00 966 14 46 955 Fax: 00 966 14 46 34 362

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e- To report any side effects(s):

• Saudi Arabia:

• The National Pharmacovigilance and Drug Safety Centre (NPC)

• Fax: +966-11-205-7662

• Call NPC at +966-11-2038222. Exts: 2317-2356-2353-2354-2334-2340.

• Toll free phone: 8002490000

• E-mail: npc.drug@sfd.a.gov.sa

• Website: www.sfd.a.gov.sa/npc

• Other GCC states:

Please contact the relevant competent authority.

f- Council of Arab Health Ministers

This is a Medicament

Medicament is a product which affects your health and its consumption contrary to instructions is dangerous for you.

- Follow strictly the doctor's prescription, the method of use and the instructions of the pharmacist who sold the medicament.

- The doctor and the pharmacist are experts in medicine its benefits and risks.

- Do not by yourself interrupt the period of treatment prescribed for you.

- Do not repeat the same prescription without consulting your doctor.

- Keep all medicaments out of reach of children

Council of Arab Health Ministers

Union of Arab Pharmacists

INFORMATION FOR THE HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL

How to prepare and administer Zotimus

- To prepare an infusion solution containing 4 mg zoledronic acid, add 5 ml of water for

injections to the vial containing the Zotimus powder under aseptic conditions. Shake the vial gently to dissolve the powder.

- Further dilute the Zolimus solution (5 ml) with 100 ml of calcium-free or other divalent cation-free infusion solution. If a lower dose of Zotimus is required, first withdraw the appropriate volume of the reconstituted solution (4 mg/5 ml) as indicated below and then dilute it further with 100 ml of infusion solution. To avoid potential incompatibilities, the infusion solution used for dilution must be either 0.9% w/v sodium chloride or 5% w/v glucose solution.

Do not mix Zotimus reconstituted solution with calcium-containing or other divalent cation-containing solutions such as lactated Ringer's solution.

Instructions for preparing reduced doses of Zotimus:

Withdraw the appropriate volume of the reconstituted solution (4 mg/5 ml), as follows:

- 4.4 ml for 3.5 mg dose

- 4.1 ml for 3 mg dose

- 3.8 ml for 3.0 mg dose

- For single use only. Any unused solution should be discarded. Only clear solution free from particles and discoloration should be used. Aseptic techniques must be followed during the preparation of the infusion.

- From a microbiological point of view, the reconstituted and diluted Zotimus for infusion should be used immediately. If not used immediately, in-use storage times and conditions prior to use are the responsibility of the user and would normally not be longer than 24 hours at 2°C - 8°C. The refrigerated solution should then be equilibrated to room temperature prior to administration.

- The solution containing zoledronic acid is given as a single 15-minute intravenous infusion in a separate infusion line. The hydration status of patients must be assessed prior to and following administration of Zotimus to assure that they are adequately hydrated.

- Studies with several types of infusion lines made from polyvinylchloride, polyethylene and polypropylene showed no incompatibility with Zotimus.

- Since no data are available on the compatibility of Zotimus with other intravenously administered substances, Zotimus must not be mixed with other medications/substances and should always be given through a separate infusion line.

