

# Ranitidine Injection

**PRONUNCIATION:** ra-NI-ti-deen

**BRAND NAME:** Zantac

**PRODUCT DISPENSED:** ranitidine (Zantac)

## This medicine is used for:

Treating certain conditions that cause your body to make too much stomach acid (eg, Zollinger-Ellison syndrome). It is also used to treat ulcers of the small intestine that have not responded to other treatment. It may be used as a short-term alternative to oral ranitidine, in patients who are not able to take medicine by mouth. It may also be used for other conditions as determined by your doctor.

This medicine is an H<sub>2</sub>-receptor blocker. It works by blocking the action of histamine in the stomach. This reduces the amount of acid the stomach makes. Reducing stomach acid helps to reduce heartburn, to heal irritation of the esophagus, and to heal ulcers of the stomach or intestines.

## Do NOT use this medicine if:

- you are allergic to any ingredient in this medicine
- you have a history of porphyria (a blood disease)

Contact your doctor or health care provider right away if any of these apply to you.

## Before using this medicine:

Some medical conditions may interact with this medicine. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have any medical conditions, especially if any of the following apply to you:

- if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or are breast-feeding
- if you are taking any prescription or nonprescription medicine, herbal preparation, or dietary supplement

- if you have allergies to medicines, foods, or other substances
- if you have a history of kidney or liver problems
- if you have abnormal blood electrolyte levels or a history of irregular heartbeat

Some MEDICINES MAY INTERACT with this medicine. However, no specific interactions with this medicine are known at this time.

Ask your health care provider if this medicine may interact with other medicines that you take. Check with your health care provider before you start, stop, or change the dose of any medicine.

## How to use this medicine:

Use this medicine as directed by your doctor. Check the label on the medicine for exact dosing instructions.

- This medicine is usually given as an injection at your doctor's office, hospital, or clinic. If you will be using this medicine at home, a health care provider will teach you how to use it. Be sure you understand how to use this medicine. Follow the procedures you are taught when you use a dose. Contact your health care provider if you have any questions.
- Do not use this medicine if it contains particles, is cloudy or discolored, or if the vial is cracked or damaged.
- Keep this product, as well as syringes and needles, out of the reach of children and pets. Do not reuse needles, syringes, or other materials. Ask your health care provider how to dispose of these materials after use. Follow all local rules for disposal.

- You may take antacids while you are using this medicine if you are directed to do so by your doctor.
- Continue to use this medicine even if you feel well. Do not miss any doses.
- If you miss a dose of this medicine, use it as soon as possible. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular dosing schedule. Do not use 2 doses at once.

Ask your health care provider any questions you may have about how to use this medicine.

### Important safety information about this medicine:

- This medicine may rarely cause drowsiness, dizziness, or blurred vision. These effects may be worse if you take it with alcohol or certain medicines. Use this medicine with caution. Do not drive or perform other possibly unsafe tasks until you know how you react to it.
- This medicine may interfere with certain lab tests, including urine protein tests. Be sure your doctor and lab personnel know you are taking this medicine.
- Lab tests, including liver function, may be performed while you use this medicine. These tests may be used to monitor your condition or check for side effects. Be sure to keep all doctor and lab appointments.
- This medicine should be used with extreme caution in CHILDREN younger than 1 month old; safety and effectiveness in these children have not been confirmed.
- PREGNANCY and BREAST-FEEDING: If you become pregnant, contact your doctor. You will need to discuss the benefits and risks of using this medicine while you are pregnant. This medicine is found in breast milk. Do not breast-feed while taking this medicine.

### Possible side effects of this medicine:

All medicines may cause side effects, but many people have no, or minor, side effects. Check with your doctor if any of these most COMMON side effects persist or become bothersome:

- Constipation; diarrhea; headache; nausea; stomach upset.

Seek medical attention right away if any of these SEVERE side effects occur:

- Severe allergic reactions (rash; hives; itching; difficulty breathing; tightness in the chest; swelling of the mouth, face, lips, or tongue; unusual hoarseness); confusion; dark urine; fast, slow, or irregular heartbeat; fever, chills, or sore throat; hallucinations; severe or persistent headache or stomach pain; unusual bruising or bleeding; yellowing of the eyes or skin.

This is not a complete list of all side effects that may occur. If you have questions or need medical advice about side effects, contact your doctor or health care provider. You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 (1-800-332-1088) or at <http://www.fda.gov/medwatch>.

### If OVERDOSE is suspected:

Contact 1-800-222-1222 (the American Association of Poison Control Centers), your local poison control center (<http://www.aapcc.org/findyour.htm>), or emergency room immediately. Symptoms may include dizziness; trouble walking.

### Proper storage of this medicine:

This medicine is usually handled and stored by a health care provider. If you are using this medicine at home, store this medicine as directed by your pharmacist or health care provider. Keep this medicine out of the reach of children and away from pets.

### General information:

- If you have any questions about this medicine, please talk with your doctor, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- This medicine is to be used only by the patient for whom it is prescribed. Do not share it with other people.
- If your symptoms do not improve or if they become worse, check with your doctor.

This information is a summary only. It does not contain all information about this medicine. If you have questions about the medicine you are taking or would like more information, check with your doctor, pharmacist, or other health care provider.