



Acyclovir Treatment

Acyclovir (Zovirax[®]) is an antiviral medication taken by mouth for the treatment of genital herpes.

Allergies

- Tell your health care provider if you have an allergy to any antiviral medication such as:
- Acyclovir (Zovirax[®]) Valacyclovir (Valtrex[®]) or Famciclovir (Famvir[®]).

Pregnancy/Breastfeeding

- Acyclovir may be used with caution during pregnancy. Please consult your physician.
- Acyclovir may be used with caution during breastfeeding. Please consult your physician.

CAUTION

- **You cannot take the following medications at the same time as acyclovir:**
 - **Varicella vaccine** (Varilix[®], Varivax[®])
 - **Antispasmodic:** Tizanidine (Zanaflex[®])

Tell your doctor if you are taking the following medication:

- **Anticonvulsants:** Divalproex (Epival[®]), Phenytoin (Dilantin[®]), Valproic acid (Depakene[®])
- **HIV medication:** Tenofovir (Viread[®]), Zidovudine (Retrovir[®], AZT),
- **Immunosuppressant:** Mycophenolate Mofetil (Cellcept[®])
- **Pain:** Meperidine (Demerol[®])

Side Effects

- You may experience nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, decreased appetite, abdominal pain, headache, lightheadedness or dizziness.

Instructions for Taking

- Acyclovir may be taken with or without food.
- Taking with food may reduce the chance of stomach upset.
- Take with a full glass of water.

Storage Instructions

- Store at room temperature between 15-30°C.
- Protect from light, heat, and moisture.
- All oral medications should be used on or before the printed expiry date.
- Keep away from the reach of children.

Special Instructions

- Use condoms to reduce the risk of transmission.
- Inform sex partners/contacts that you have genital herpes. Transmission can occur at any stage even when lesions are not present, although transmission risk is greatest during an outbreak when there is more virus present on the skin.
- Keep lesions clean and dry.
- Wear loose fitting clothing to prevent irritation.
- Wash hands to prevent transmission.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact your doctor, local health unit, or see contact information below.