

# Ondansetron (Zofran®)

Ondansetron is a medicine that prevents and treats nausea (upset stomach) and vomiting (throwing up) caused by chemotherapy or radiation.

## How Is It Given?

- tablet or liquid by mouth
- rapidly disintegrating (dissolving) tablet by mouth
- clear liquid by IV (intravenous).

## What Side Effects May Occur?

This is a partial list of the side effects you may have with this medicine. You may have some, all or none of those listed, or you may have other side effects not listed. Most side effects last only a short time.

### Common:

- headache
- fatigue (tiredness)
- constipation or diarrhea
- dizziness
- drowsiness.

### Less common:

- hiccups
- muscle spasms, especially in the face, neck or back
- allergic reaction (itching or hives, swelling in your face or hands, swelling or tingling in your mouth or throat, tightness in your chest, and breathing problems).

## Special Notes

- Ondansetron is most effective during the first 24 to 48 hours after receiving chemotherapy or radiation.
- If you are taking Zofran ODT® oral disintegrating tablets:
  - This medicine is a tablet you place under your tongue to dissolve.
  - Take this medicine 30 to 60 minutes before you have chemotherapy or radiation.
  - Use this medicine every 8 hours as needed for nausea and vomiting.
- Tell your doctor if you have phenylketonuria (PKU). Zofran ODT oral disintegrating tablets contain phenylalanine.
- Discuss birth control measures with your doctor. You should not get pregnant or father a child while taking this medicine. Do not breastfeed while taking this medicine.

## When To Call Your Doctor

You should call your doctor if you have:

- shortness of breath
- swelling in your face or hands
- chest tightness
- swelling in your mouth or throat
- nausea that is not controlled by this medicine.

Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you want more complete medicine information or if you have questions.