**Zoledronic Acid Hospira 5 mg/100 ml solution for infusion**

**Patient GUIDE**

Patient Name:

Doctor Name:

Telephone:

Date of therapy initiation:

**This card contains important safety information that you need to be aware of before and during treatment with Zoledronic Acid Hospira 5 mg/100 ml solution for infusion.**

**Please read this card carefully before you start using this medicine. Keep it for future reference.**

Follow all instructions given to you by your doctor carefully before you are given Zoledronic Acid Hospira 5 mg/100 ml solution for infusion. If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

* You should not be given Zoledronic Acid Hospira 5 mg/100 ml solution for infusion:
* If you are pregnant. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.
* If you are breast feeding. Tell your doctor if you are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed.
* If you have severe kidney problems. Tell your doctor before you are given Zoledronic Acid Hospira 5 mg/100 ml solution for infusion if you have a kidney problem, or used to have one.
* Calcium is needed for strong bones and Vitamin D is needed by the body to help it absorb calcium. Your doctor may ask you to take supplements of these (for example tablets) if your dietary intake is too low, or you are at risk of deficiency.
* It is important to take calcium and vitamin D supplements (for example tablets) as directed by your doctor. Tell your doctor before you are given Zoledronic Acid Hospira 5 mg/100 ml solution for infusion if you are unable to take daily calcium supplements.
* Factors that can help to maintain healthy bones are a well balanced diet with adequate calcium-rich foods, regular weight bearing exercise, avoiding smoking and keeping alcohol consumption within the recommended limits. If you aren't used to exercising, build up your exercise routine gradually. Talk to your doctor before you start a new exercise routine if you have any concerns.

**Possible Serious Side Effects**

Like all medicines, Zoledronic Acid Hospira 5 mg/100 ml solution for infusion can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. Please tell your doctor if you experience any of the following side effects.

Severe jaw bone problems (osteonecrosis of the jaw) can occur when taking Zoledronic Acid Hospira 5 mg/100 ml solution for infusion. Your doctor may require you to see your dentist before starting treatment. Tell your doctor if you have (or have had) pain, swelling or numbness in your gums, jaw or both, if your jaw feels heavy, or if you have lost a tooth. Before you receive dental treatment or undergo dental surgery, tell your dentist you are receiving treatment with Zoledronic Acid Hospira 5 mg/100 ml solution for infusion.

Other key possible side effects include:

Irregular heart rhythm (atrial fibrillation), severe allergic reaction which may cause difficulty in breathing and swelling of the face and throat. Pain in the mouth, teeth and jaw, numbness or a feeling of heaviness in the jaw, or loosening of a tooth. Kidney disorder (e.g. decreased urine output). Severe bone, joint, or muscle pain. Dehydration secondary to post-dose symptoms such as fever, vomiting and diarrhoea.

This is not a complete list of side effects. Read your patient information leaflet and if you have questions about side effects you should talk to your doctor. If any of the side effects get serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in the leaflet, please tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

**Adverse events should be reported. Reporting forms and information can be found at** <http://medicinesauthority.gov.mt/file.aspx?f=440>**. Adverse events should also be reported to Hospira’s Malta representative – Drugsales Ltd. Telephone: +356 21 419 070/1/2 or Email:** **abusuttil@drugsalesltd.com**