

# ZOVIRAX DISPERSIBLE TABLETS

Aciclovir (200 mg)

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## What Zovirax is used for

Zovirax can be used to:

- treat chicken-pox and shingles
- help reduce the nerve pain that can exist after the shingles rash has cleared
- treat cold sores, genital herpes and other herpes simplex infections
- stop cold sores, genital herpes and other herpes virus infections from coming back after you have had them
- prevent herpes virus infections in people whose immune systems work less well, which means their bodies are less able to fight infections.

## How Zovirax works

Zovirax contains a medicine called aciclovir. This belongs to a group of medicines called antivirals. It works by stopping the growth of certain viruses.

## Before you use Zovirax

### - When you must not use it

Do not use Zovirax if:

- you are allergic (hypersensitive) to

acyclovir, valaciclovir or any other ingredients of this medicine.

### - Before you start to use it

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Zovirax if:

- you have had severe skin reactions with Zovirax or valaciclovir
- you have kidney disease
- you are over 65 years old

Check with your doctor if you think any of these may apply to you. Your doctor may lower your dose of Zovirax.

## Conditions you need to look out for

Zovirax can cause severe skin reactions. You must look out for certain symptoms while you are taking Zovirax, to reduce the risk of any problems. If you experience any signs or symptoms of severe skin reactions, stop using Zovirax and contact your doctor immediately (see 'Side Effects').

### *Pregnancy and breast-feeding*

If you are pregnant, or think you could be, or if you are planning to become pregnant, don't take Zovirax without checking with your doctor. Your doctor will consider the benefit to you and the risk of your baby of taking Zovirax while you're pregnant.

The ingredients in Zovirax can pass into breast milk. If you are breast-feeding, you must check with your doctor before you take Zovirax.

*Driving and using machines*

Some side effects such as feeling drowsy or sleepy may impair your ability to concentrate and react. Make sure you are not affected before you drive or operate machinery.

### - Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, if you've taken any recently, or if you start taking new ones. This includes medicines bought without a prescription.

## How to use Zovirax

### - How much to use

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you to. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Your doctor will decide on the correct dose to take, how often and for how long, depending on:

- the type of infection you have
- whether it is to treat the infection or to stop it coming back

### *Taking this medicine*

- Take Zovirax by mouth.
- Dissolve the tablet in a glass of water and stir before drinking.
- If you prefer, the tablet can also be swallowed whole with a little water.

### - When to use it

Use as directed by your doctor or pharmacist.

### - How long to use it

Continue taking Zovirax for as long as your doctor recommends.

- If you forget to take it

Take Zovirax as soon as you remember, however if it is nearly time for your next dose skip the missed dose.

Do not take a double dose to make up for a missed dose.

- If you take too much

If you accidentally take too much Zovirax, contact your doctor or pharmacist for advice. If you have taken too much Zovirax you may:

- feel sick (nausea), have a headache or vomit
- feel confused or agitated
- see or hear things that aren't really there (hallucinations)
- have fits (seizures)
- become unconscious (coma)

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice.

**While you are using it**

- Things you must do

Check with your doctor or pharmacist before taking your medicine and take it as prescribed by your doctor.

- Things you must not do

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

- Things to be careful of

It is important that you drink plenty of water while taking Zovirax.

**Side Effects**

Like all medicines, Zovirax can cause side effects, but not everybody gets them.

**Conditions you need to look out for**

**Severe allergic reactions:**

These are very rare (these may affect up to 1 in 10,000 people) taking Zovirax. Signs include:

- itchy, bumpy rash (hives)
- swelling, sometimes of the face or mouth (angioedema), causing difficulty in breathing
- collapse

**Severe skin reactions:** These are very rare (these may affect up to 1 in 10,000 people) taking Zovirax. Signs include:

- widespread red or scaly rash with blisters (that may contain pus), bumps under the skin or peeling of skin. Flu-like symptoms with a rash, fever, swollen glands, and abnormal blood test results.

Contact a doctor immediately if you get these symptoms. Stop taking Zovirax.

**Common side effects**

These may affect up to 1 in 10 people:

- headache
- dizziness
- feeling sick (nausea) or being sick (vomiting)
- diarrhoea
- stomach pains
- itching, skin reaction after exposure to light (photosensitivity)
- lack of energy (fatigue)
- high temperature (fever)

**Uncommon side effects**

These may affect up to 1 in 100 people:

- itchy, bumpy rash
- hair loss

**Rare side effects**

These may affect up to 1 in 1000 people:

- shortness of breath
- effects on blood and urine tests
- swelling of the face, lips, mouth, tongue or throat
- increases in the enzymes that work in the liver

**Very rare side effects**

These may affect up to 1 in 10,000 people:

- feeling agitated or confused
- feeling shaky, unsteady and a lack of coordination
- difficulty speaking or hoarseness
- seeing or hearing things that are not really there (hallucinations)
- fits
- feeling drowsy or sleepy
- inability to think or judge clearly or concentrate
- disturbances of behaviour, speech and eye movements
- unconsciousness
- yellowing of the skin and whites of the eyes (jaundice), inflammation of the liver (hepatitis)
- pain in the lower back, the kidney area of the back or just above the hip, kidney failure.
- severe skin reactions, such as widespread red or scaly rash with blisters (that may contain pus), bumps under the skin or peeling of skin. Flu-like symptoms with a

rash, fever, swollen glands, and abnormal blood test results. (see 'Conditions you need to look out for')

**Very rare side effects that may show up in blood tests**

These may affect up to 1 in 10,000 people:

- reduced numbers of red blood cells
- reduced numbers of white blood cells
- reduced numbers of blood platelets (cells that help blood to clot)

If you get side effects, tell your doctor or pharmacist if any of the side effects becomes severe or troublesome, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet.

You may report any side effects of adverse drug reactions directly to the National Centre for Adverse Drug Reaction Monitoring by visiting the website [npra.gov.my](http://npra.gov.my) [(Consumers → Reporting Side Effects to Medicines (ConSERF) or Vaccines (AEFI))].

**Storage and Disposal of Zovirax**

- Storage

- Store below 30°C.
- Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
- Do not take Zovirax after the expiry date shown on the pack.
- Keep dry.

- Disposal

Do not throw away any

medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help to protect the environment.

**Product Description**

- What it looks like

200 mg Tablets: White, round, biconvex, film-coated tablets branded GXCF3 on one side and plain on the other side.

- Ingredients

- Active ingredient(s)  
Aciclovir

- Inactive ingredient(s)  
Aluminium Magnesium Silicate Ethanol Anhydrous  
Microcrystalline Cellulose  
Magnesium Stearate  
Purified Water  
Polyethylene Glycol 8000  
Povidone K30  
White colour concentrate Y-1- 7000  
Sodium Starch Glycolate

- MAL number

Zovirax Dispersible Tablet  
200mg

- MAL19962829ARZ

**Manufacturer**

Glaxo Wellcome S.A.  
Avenida de Extremadura 3,  
09400 Aranda de Duero,  
Burgos, Spain

**Product Registration**

**Holder**

GlaxoSmithKline  
Pharmaceutical Sdn. Bhd.  
HZ.01, Horizon Penthouse,  
1 Powerhouse,  
1, Persiaran Bandar

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47800 Petaling Jaya  
Selangor, Malaysia

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