

Medication Information Card

Histamine-2 Receptor Antagonists

Other names for this medication

Cimetidine:	Tagamet [®]
Ranitidine:	Zantac [®]
Famotidine:	Pepcid [®]
Nizatidine:	Axid [®]

There are many other names for this medication.

How this medication is used

This medication decreases the amount of acid produced in the stomach. It is used to treat ulcers, heartburn and other conditions in which the stomach produces too much acid. It may also be used to prevent ulcers from returning.

It may take several days before this medication begins to relieve stomach pain.

How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed by your doctor.

If you take this medication once a day, it may work best to take it at bedtime.

If you miss a dose of this medication take it as soon as possible. However, if it is time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular times. Do not take 2 doses at one time.

please turn over →

How to take this medication (continued)

Smoking may decrease the effect of this medication.

If you need to take an antacid to treat your stomach pain, be sure to leave at least 1 hour between taking the antacid and this medication.

While taking this medication you may notice

- headache
- dizziness
- constipation
- nausea
- tiredness
- swelling or soreness of breasts

To avoid feeling dizzy, get up slowly when you have been sitting or lying down. If you feel dizzy, sit or lie down until you are no longer dizzy, then get up slowly.

To prevent constipation, eat food high in fibre, drink 6 to 8 glasses of liquid each day and exercise regularly. Food high in fibre includes whole grain products, vegetables and fruit.

Contact your doctor if you notice

- rash
- fever
- sore throat
- continued or increasing stomach pain
- signs of bleeding such as easy bruising, nosebleeds, black or bloody stools, red urine
- unusual tiredness or weakness
- restlessness