

Zoledronic Acid Injection solution for infusion is approximately 6.0 – 7.0. Zoledronic Acid Injection is available as a sterile solution in bags for intravenous infusion. One bag with 100 mL solution contains 5.330 mg of zoledronic acid monohydrate, equivalent to 5 mg zoledronic acid on an anhydrous basis.

Inactive Ingredients: 4950 mg of mannitol, USP; and 30 mg of sodium citrate, USP.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Zoledronic Acid Injection is a bisphosphonate and acts primarily on bone. It is an inhibitor of osteoclast-mediated bone resorption.

The selective action of bisphosphonates on bone is based on their high affinity for mineralized bone. Intravenously administered zoledronic acid rapidly partitions to bone and localizes preferentially at sites of high bone turnover. The main molecular target of zoledronic acid in the osteoclast is the enzyme farnesyl pyrophosphate synthase. The relatively long duration of action of zoledronic acid is attributable to its high binding affinity to bone mineral.

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Pharmacokinetic data in patients with Paget's disease of bone are not available.

Distribution: Single or multiple (q 28 days) 5-minute or 15-minute infusions of 2, 4, 8 or 16 mg zoledronic acid were given to 64 patients with cancer and bone metastases. The post-infusion decline of zoledronic acid concentrations in plasma was consistent with a triphasic process showing a rapid decrease from peak concentrations at end-of-infusion to less than 1% of C_{max} 24 hours post infusion with population half-lives of $t_{1/2\alpha}$ 0.24 hour and $t_{1/2\beta}$ 1.87 hours for the early disposition phases of the drug. The terminal elimination phase of zoledronic acid was prolonged, with very low concentrations in plasma between Days 2 and 28 post infusion, and a terminal elimination half-life $t_{1/2\gamma}$ of 146 hours. The area under the plasma concentration versus time curve (AUC_{0-24h}) of zoledronic acid was dose proportional from 2 to 16 mg. The accumulation of zoledronic acid measured over three cycles was low, with mean AUC_{0-24h} ratios for cycles 2 and 3 versus 1 of 1.13 ± 0.30 and 1.16 ± 0.36 , respectively.

In vitro and *ex vivo* studies showed low affinity of zoledronic acid for the cellular components of human blood. *In vitro* mean zoledronic acid protein binding in human plasma ranged from 28% at 200 ng/mL to 53% at 50 ng/mL.

Metabolism: Zoledronic acid does not inhibit human P450 enzymes *in vitro*. Zoledronic acid does not undergo biotransformation *in vivo*. In animal studies, less than 3% of the administered intravenous dose was found in the feces, with the balance either recovered in the urine or taken up by bone, indicating that the drug is eliminated intact via the kidney. Following an intravenous dose of 20 nCi ¹⁴C-zoledronic acid in a patient with cancer and bone metastases, only a single radioactive species with chromatographic properties identical to those of parent drug was recovered in urine, which suggests that zoledronic acid is not metabolized.

Excretion: In 64 patients with cancer and bone metastases on average (\pm SD) 39 \pm 16% of the administered zoledronic acid dose was recovered in the urine within 24 hours, with only trace amounts of drug found in urine post Day 2. The cumulative percent of drug excreted in the urine over 0-24 hours was independent of dose. The balance of drug not recovered in urine over 0-24 hours, representing drug presumably bound to bone, is slowly released back into the systemic circulation, giving rise to the observed prolonged low plasma concentrations. The 0-24 hour renal clearance of zoledronic acid was 3.7 ± 2.0 L/h.

Zoledronic acid clearance was independent of dose but dependent upon the patient's creatinine clearance. In a study in patients with cancer and bone metastases, increasing the infusion time of a 4 mg dose of zoledronic acid from 5 minutes (n=5) to 15 minutes (n=7) resulted in a 34% decrease in the zoledronic acid concentration at the end of the infusion (mean \pm SD) 403 \pm 118 ng/mL vs. 264 \pm 86 ng/mL) and a 10% increase in the total AUC (378 \pm 116 ng x h/mL vs. 420 \pm 218 ng x h/mL). The difference between the AUC means was not statistically significant.

Specific Populations

Pediatrics: Zoledronic Acid Injection is not indicated for use in children [see *Pediatric Use* (8.4)].

Geriatrics: The pharmacokinetics of zoledronic acid was not affected by age in patients with cancer and bone metastases whose age ranged from 38 years to 84 years.

Race: The pharmacokinetics of zoledronic acid was not affected by race in patients with cancer and bone metastases.

Hepatic Impairment: No clinical studies were conducted to evaluate the effect of hepatic impairment on the pharmacokinetics of zoledronic acid.

Renal Impairment: The pharmacokinetic studies conducted in 64 cancer patients represented typical clinical populations with normal to moderately-impaired renal function. Compared to patients with creatinine clearance greater than 80 mL/min (N=37), patients with creatinine clearance = 50-80 mL/min (N=15) showed an average increase in plasma AUC of 15%, whereas patients with creatinine clearance \leq 30-50 mL/min (N=11) showed an average increase in plasma AUC of 43%. No dosage adjustment is required in patients with a creatinine clearance of greater than or equal to 35 mL/min. Zoledronic Acid Injection is contraindicated in patients with creatinine clearance less than 35 mL/min and in those with evidence of acute renal impairment due to an increased risk of renal failure [see *Contraindications* (4), *Warnings and Precautions* (5.3), *Use in Specific Populations* (8.6)].

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Carcinogenesis: Standard lifetime carcinogenicity bioassays were conducted in mice and rats. Mice were given daily oral doses of zoledronic acid of 0.1, 0.5, or 2.0 mg/kg/day. There was an increased incidence of Harderian gland adenomas in males and females in all treatment groups (at doses greater than or equal to 0.02 times the human intravenous dose of 5 mg, based on a mg/m² comparison). Rats were given daily oral doses of zoledronic acid of 0.1, 0.5, or 2.0 mg/kg/day. No increased incidence of tumors was observed (at doses less than or equal to 0.1 times the human intravenous dose of 5 mg, based on a mg/m² comparison).

Mutagenesis: Zoledronic acid was not genotoxic in the Ames bacterial mutagenicity assay, in the Chinese hamster ovary cell assay, or in the Chinese hamster gene mutation assay, with or without metabolic activation. Zoledronic acid was not genotoxic in the *in vivo* rat micronucleus assay.

Impairment of Fertility: Female rats were given daily subcutaneous doses of zoledronic acid of 0.01, 0.03, or 0.1 mg/kg beginning 15 days before mating and continuing through gestation. Effects observed in the high-dose group (equivalent to human systemic exposure following a 5 mg intravenous dose, based on an AUC comparison) included inhibition of ovulation and a decrease in the number of pregnant rats. Effects observed in both the mid-dose group and high-dose group (0.3 to 1 times human systemic exposure following a 5 mg intravenous dose, based on an AUC comparison) included an increase in pre-implantation losses and a decrease in the number of implantations and live fetuses.

13.2 Animal Pharmacology

Bone Safety Studies: Zoledronic acid is a potent inhibitor of osteoclastic bone resorption. In the ovariectomized rat, single IV doses of zoledronic acid of 4-500 µg/kg (less than 0.1 to 3.5 times human exposure at the 5 mg intravenous dose, based on a mg/m² comparison) suppressed bone turnover and protected against trabecular bone loss, cortical thinning and the reduction in vertebral and femoral bone strength in a dose-dependent manner. At a dose equivalent to human exposure at the 5 mg intravenous dose, the effect persisted for 8 months, which corresponds to approximately 8 remodeling cycles or 3 years in humans.

In ovariectomized rats and monkeys, weekly treatment with zoledronic acid dose-dependently suppressed bone turnover and prevented the decrease in cancellous and cortical BMD and bone strength, at yearly cumulative doses up to 3.5 times the intravenous human dose of 5 mg, based on a mg/m² comparison. Bone tissue was normal and there was no evidence of a mineralization defect, no accumulation of osteoid, and no woven bone.

13.3 Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology

In female rats given subcutaneous doses of zoledronic acid of 0.01, 0.03, or 0.1 mg/kg/day beginning 15 days before mating and continuing through gestation, the number of stillbirths was increased and survival of neonates was decreased in the mid- and high-dose groups (greater than or equal to 0.3 times the anticipated human systemic exposure following a 5 mg intravenous dose, based on an AUC comparison). Adverse maternal effects were observed in all dose groups (greater than or equal to 0.1 times the human systemic exposure following a 5 mg intravenous dose, based on an AUC comparison) and included dystocia and periparturient mortality in pregnant rats allowed to deliver. Maternal mortality was considered related to drug-induced inhibition of skeletal calcium mobilization, resulting in periparturient hypocalcemia. This appears to be a bisphosphonate class effect.

In pregnant rats given daily subcutaneous doses of zoledronic acid of 0.1, 0.2, or 0.4 mg/kg during gestation, adverse fetal effects were observed in the mid- and high-dose groups (about 2 and 4 times human systemic exposure following a 5 mg intravenous dose, based on an AUC comparison). These adverse effects included increases in pre- and post-implantation losses, decreases in viable fetuses, and fetal skeletal, visceral, and external malformations. Fetal skeletal effects observed in the high-dose group included unossified or incompletely ossified bones, thickened, curved or shortened bones, wavy ribs, and shortened jaw. Other adverse fetal effects observed in the high-dose group included reduced lens, rudimentary cerebellum, reduction or absence of liver lobes, reduction of lung lobes, vessel dilation, cleft palate, and edema. Skeletal variations were also observed in the low-dose group (about 1.2 times the anticipated human systemic exposure, based on an AUC comparison). Signs of maternal toxicity were observed in the high-dose group and included reduced body weights and food consumption, indicating that maximal exposure levels were achieved in this study.

In pregnant rabbits given subcutaneous doses of zoledronic acid of 0.01, 0.03, or 0.1 mg/kg/day during gestation (at doses less than or equal to 0.4 times the anticipated human systemic exposure following a 5 mg intravenous dose, based on a mg/m² comparison) no adverse fetal effects were observed. Maternal mortality and abortion occurred in all treatment groups (at doses

greater than or equal to 0.04 times the human 5 mg intravenous dose, based on a mg/m² comparison). Adverse maternal effects were associated with, and may have been caused by, drug-induced hypocalcemia.

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

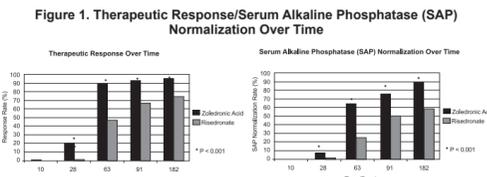
14.5 Treatment of Paget's Disease of Bone

Zoledronic Acid Injection was studied in male and female patients with moderate to severe Paget's disease of bone, defined as serum alkaline phosphatase level at least twice the upper limit of the age-specific normal reference range at the time of study entry. Diagnosis was confirmed by radiographic evidence.

The efficacy of one infusion of 5 mg Zoledronic Acid Injection vs. oral daily doses of 30 mg risedronate for 2 months was demonstrated in two identically designed 6-month randomized, double blind trials. The mean age of patients in the two trials was 70. Ninety-three percent (93%) of patients were Caucasian. Therapeutic response was defined as either normalization of serum alkaline phosphatase (SAP) or a reduction of at least 75% from baseline in total SAP excess at the end of 6 months. SAP excess was defined as the difference between the measured level and midpoint of normal range.

In both trials Zoledronic Acid Injection demonstrated a superior and more rapid therapeutic response compared with risedronate and returned more patients to normal levels of bone turnover, as evidenced by biochemical markers of formation (SAP, serum N-terminal propeptide of type I collagen [P1NP]) and resorption (serum CTX 1 [cross-linked C-telopeptides of type I collagen] and urine α -CTX).

The 6-month combined data from both trials showed that 96% (169/176) of Zoledronic Acid Injection-treated patients achieved a therapeutic response as compared with 74% (127/171) of patients treated with risedronate. Most Zoledronic Acid Injection patients achieved a therapeutic response by the Day 63 visit. In addition, at 6 months, 89% (156/176) of Zoledronic Acid Injection-treated patients achieved normalization of SAP levels, compared to 58% (99/171) of patients treated with risedronate (p<0.0001) (see Figure 1).



The therapeutic response to Zoledronic Acid Injection was similar across demographic and disease-severity groups defined by gender, age, previous bisphosphonate use, and disease severity. At 6 months, the percentage of Zoledronic Acid Injection-treated patients who achieved therapeutic response was 97% and 95%, respectively, in each of the baseline disease severity subgroups (baseline SAP less than 3xULN, greater than or equal to 3xULN) compared to 75% and 74%, respectively, for the same disease severity subgroups of risedronate-treated patients.

In patients who had previously received treatment with oral bisphosphonates, therapeutic response rates were 96% and 55% for Zoledronic Acid Injection and risedronate, respectively. The comparatively low risedronate response was due to the low response rate (7/23, 30%) in patients previously treated with risedronate. In patients naive to previous treatment, a greater therapeutic response was also observed with Zoledronic Acid Injection (98%) relative to risedronate (86%). In patients with symptomatic pain at screening, therapeutic response rates were 94% and 70% for Zoledronic Acid Injection and risedronate respectively. For patients without pain at screening, therapeutic response rates were 100% and 82% for Zoledronic Acid Injection and risedronate respectively.

Bone histology was evaluated in 7 patients with Paget's disease 6 months after being treated with Zoledronic Acid Injection 5 mg. Bone biopsy results showed bone of normal quality with no evidence of impaired bone remodeling and no evidence of mineralization defect.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

Zoledronic Acid Injection is supplied as follows:

NDC	Zoledronic Acid Injection (0.05 mg per mL)	Package Factor
25021-830-82	5 mg per 100 mL ready-to-infuse solution in a flexible plastic container (bag)	1 bag per carton

Handling

After entering the IV administration port, the solution is stable for 24 hours at 2°-8°C (36°-46°F). If refrigerated, allow the refrigerated solution to reach room temperature before administration.

Storage Conditions

Store at 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F); excursions permitted between 15° and 30°C (59° and 86°F). [See USP Controlled Room Temperature.]

Single-use only. Discard unused portion.

Sterile, Nonpyrogenic, Preservative-free, DEHP-free, PVC-free. The container closure is not made with natural rubber latex.

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

See *FDA-Approved Medication Guide*

Information for Patients

Patients should be made aware that Zoledronic Acid Injection contains the same active ingredient (zoledronic acid) found in Zometa®, and that patients being treated with Zometa should not be treated with Zoledronic Acid Injection.

Zoledronic Acid Injection is contraindicated in patients with creatinine clearance less than 35 mL/min [see *Contraindications* (4)].

Before being given Zoledronic Acid Injection, patients should tell their doctor if they have kidney problems and what medications they are taking.

Zoledronic Acid Injection should not be given if the patient is pregnant or plans to become pregnant, or if she is breast-feeding [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.6)].

There have been reports of bronchoconstriction in aspirin-sensitive patients receiving bisphosphonates, including Zoledronic Acid Injection. Before being given Zoledronic Acid Injection, patients should tell their doctor if they are aspirin-sensitive.

If the patient had surgery to remove some or all of the parathyroid glands in their neck, or had sections of their intestine removed, or are unable to take calcium supplements they should tell their doctor.

Zoledronic Acid Injection is given as an infusion into a vein by a nurse or a doctor, and the infusion time must not be less than 15 minutes.

On the day of treatment the patient should eat and drink normally, which includes drinking at least 2 glasses of fluid such as water within a few hours prior to the infusion, as directed by their doctor, before receiving Zoledronic Acid Injection.

After getting Zoledronic Acid Injection it is strongly recommended patients with Paget's disease take calcium in divided doses (for example, 2 to 4 times a day) for a total of 1500 mg calcium a day to prevent low blood calcium levels. This is especially important for the two weeks after getting Zoledronic Acid Injection [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.2)].

Patients should be aware of the most commonly associated side effects of therapy. Patients may experience one or more side effects that could include: fever, flu-like symptoms, myalgia, arthralgia, and headache. Most of these side effects occur within the first 3 days following the dose of Zoledronic Acid Injection. They usually resolve within 3 days of onset but may last for up to 7 to 14 days. Patients should consult their physician if they have questions or if these symptoms persist. The incidence of these symptoms decreased markedly with subsequent doses of Zoledronic Acid Injection.

Administration of acetaminophen following Zoledronic Acid Injection administration may reduce the incidence of these symptoms.

Physicians should inform their patients that there have been reports of persistent pain and/or a non-healing sore of the mouth or jaw, primarily in patients treated with bisphosphonates for other illnesses. If they experience these symptoms, they should inform their physician or dentist.

Severe and occasionally incapacitating bone, joint, and/or muscle pain has been infrequently reported in patients taking bisphosphonates, including Zoledronic Acid Injection. Consider withholding future Zoledronic Acid Injection treatment if severe symptoms develop.

Atypical femur fractures in patients on bisphosphonate therapy have been reported; patients with thigh or groin pain should be evaluated to rule out a femoral fracture.

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MEDICATION GUIDE

Zoledronic Acid (ZOE-le-DRON-ik AS-id) Injection

Read the Medication Guide that comes with Zoledronic Acid Injection before you start taking it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This Medication Guide does not take the place of talking with your doctor about your medical condition or treatment. Talk to your doctor if you have any questions about Zoledronic Acid Injection.

What is the most important information I should know about Zoledronic Acid Injection?

You should not receive Zoledronic Acid Injection if you are already receiving Zometa. Both Zoledronic Acid Injection and Zometa contain zoledronic acid.

Zoledronic Acid Injection can cause serious side effects including:

1. Low calcium levels in your blood (hypocalcemia)
2. Severe kidney problems
3. Severe jaw bone problems (osteonecrosis)
4. Bone, joint or muscle pain
5. Unusual thigh bone fractures

1. Low calcium levels in your blood (hypocalcemia). Zoledronic Acid Injection may lower the calcium levels in your blood. If you have low blood calcium before you start taking Zoledronic Acid Injection, it may get worse during treatment. Your low blood calcium must be treated before you take Zoledronic Acid Injection. Most people with low blood calcium levels do not have symptoms, but some people may have symptoms. Call your doctor right away if you have symptoms of low blood calcium such as:

- Spasms, twitches, or cramps in your muscles
- Numbness or tingling in your fingers, toes, or around your mouth

Your doctor may prescribe calcium and vitamin D to help prevent low calcium levels in your blood, while you take Zoledronic Acid Injection. Take calcium and vitamin D as your doctor tells you to.

2. Severe kidney problems.

Severe kidney problems may happen when you take Zoledronic Acid Injection. Severe kidney problems may lead to hospitalization or kidney dialysis and can be life-threatening. Your risk of kidney problems is higher if you:

- already have kidney problems
- take a diuretic or "water pill"
- do not have enough water in your body (dehydrated) before or after you receive Zoledronic Acid Injection
- are of advanced age since the risk increases as you get older
- take any medicines known to harm your kidneys

You should drink at least 2 glasses of fluid within a few hours before receiving Zoledronic Acid Injection to reduce the risk of kidney problems.

3. Severe jaw bone problems (osteonecrosis).

Severe jaw bone problems may happen when you take Zoledronic Acid Injection. Your doctor should examine your mouth before you start Zoledronic Acid Injection. Your doctor may tell you to see your dentist before you start Zoledronic Acid Injection. It is important for you to practice good mouth care during treatment with Zoledronic Acid Injection.

4. Unusual thigh bone fractures.

Some people have developed unusual fractures in their thigh bone. Symptoms of a fracture may include new or unusual pain in your hip, groin, or thigh.

5. Possible harm to your unborn baby.

Zoledronic Acid Injection should not be used if you are pregnant. Tell your doctor right away if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. Zoledronic Acid Injection may harm your unborn baby.

6. Bone, joint, or muscle pain.

Some people who take bisphosphonates develop severe bone, joint, or muscle pain.

Call your doctor right away if you have any of these side effects.

What is Zoledronic Acid Injection?

Zoledronic Acid Injection is a prescription medicine used to:

- Treat certain men and women who have Paget's disease of the bone.

Zoledronic Acid Injection is not for use in children.

Who should not take Zoledronic Acid Injection?

Do not take Zoledronic Acid Injection if you:

- Have low levels of calcium in your blood
- Have kidney problems
- Are allergic to zoledronic acid or any of its ingredients. A list of ingredients is at the end of this leaflet.

What should I tell my doctor before taking Zoledronic Acid Injection?

Before you start Zoledronic Acid Injection, be sure to talk to your doctor if you:

- Have low blood calcium.
- Have kidney problems.
- Had parathyroid or thyroid surgery (glands in your neck).
- Have been told you have trouble absorbing minerals in your stomach or intestines (malabsorption syndrome) or have had parts of your intestine removed.
- Have asthma (wheezing) from taking aspirin.
- Plan to have dental surgery or teeth removed.
- Are pregnant, or plan to become pregnant. Zoledronic Acid Injection may harm your unborn baby. **Zoledronic Acid Injection should not be used if you are pregnant.**
- Are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if Zoledronic Acid Injection passes into your milk and may harm your baby.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Certain medicines may affect how Zoledronic Acid Injection works.

Especially tell your doctor if you are taking:

- An antibiotic. Certain antibiotic medicines called aminoglycosides may increase the effect of Zoledronic Acid Injection in lowering your blood calcium for a long period of time.
- A diuretic or "water pill".
- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicines (NSAIDs).

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for a list of these medicines, if you are not sure.

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of them and show it to your doctor and pharmacist each time you get a new medicine.

How will I receive Zoledronic Acid Injection?

- Your doctor will tell you how often you will receive Zoledronic Acid Injection.
- Zoledronic Acid Injection is given by infusion into your vein (intravenously). Your infusion should last at least 15 minutes.
- Before you receive Zoledronic Acid Injection, drink at least 2 glasses of fluid (such as water) within a few hours as directed by your doctor.
- You may eat before your treatment with Zoledronic Acid Injection.

What are the possible side effects of Zoledronic Acid Injection?

Zoledronic Acid Injection may cause serious side effects.

- See **"What is the most important information I should know about Zoledronic Acid Injection?"**

The most common side effects of Zoledronic Acid Injection included:

- Fever
- Pain in your bones, joints or muscles
- Pain in your arms and legs
- Headache
- Flu-like illness (fever, chills, bone, joint, or muscle pain, fatigue)
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea

Talk to your doctor about things you can do to help decrease some of these side effects that might happen with a Zoledronic Acid Injection infusion.

You may get allergic reactions, such as hives, swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Tell your doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of Zoledronic Acid Injection. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

General information about safe and effective use of Zoledronic Acid Injection.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. This Medication Guide summarizes the most important information about Zoledronic Acid Injection. If you would like more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your doctor or pharmacist for information about Zoledronic Acid Injection that is written for health professionals.

What are the ingredients in Zoledronic Acid Injection?

Active ingredient: zoledronic acid monohydrate.

Inactive ingredients: mannitol and sodium citrate.

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This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.