

**COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE DOSAGE
FORMS AND STRENGTHS**

- Tablets in 150mg and 300mg.
- Effervescent tablets in 150mg.
- Syrup in 150mg per 10mL.

Your hospital pharmacy will advise you if they manufacture any additional dosage forms to the above.

IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS CONTACT

Your child's doctor

OR



Pharmacy Department
Royal Children's Hospital
9345 5492

*IN CASE OF OVERDOSE OR POISONING
CONTACT*

POISONS INFORMATION CENTRE ON

13 11 26

About your medication

RANITIDINE
(Zantac[®] , Rani2[®])

WHAT IS RANITIDINE?

Ranitidine is from a group of medications known as histamine H₂-receptor antagonists.

WHAT IS IT FOR?

It is used to treat gastric ulcers, duodenal ulcers, gastrinoma (Zollinger-Ellison syndrome), reflux oesophagitis and gastro-oesophageal reflux (discomfort mainly in infants and children caused when stomach contents are brought up continually after feeding).

HOW TO TAKE THIS MEDICATION

It is important that this medication is taken only as directed and not given to other people.

If your child takes one dose a day, give at bedtime. If your child takes two doses a day, give in the morning and at bedtime.

Measure the syrup accurately with a dropper, syringe or measuring glass/metric spoon.

Effervescent tablets should be placed in at least half a glass of water (about 75mL). Allow the tablets to dissolve before giving the liquid. Swirl the glass if necessary. The solution can then be kept for 24 hours at room temperature if giving an aliquot of this solution. The taste may change and not be as pleasant.

Effervescent tablet may be dissolved in 15mL if for **immediate use only**. Discard remaining solution. Do not break these tablets.

Ranitidine can be taken either with food or on an empty stomach.

WHAT TO DO IF A DOSE IS MISSED

If you miss a dose of the medication it can be taken as soon as you remember. Do not take the missed dose if it is close to the next one; just take

the next dose as normal. Do not double up on any doses.

STORING THE MEDICATION

It is important to keep ranitidine locked away out of the reach of children.

Do not keep the tablets or syrup in the bathroom, near the kitchen sink or in other damp, warm places because this may make them less effective.

USE OF OTHER MEDICATION

Ranitidine can usually be taken with other medications. However, check with your doctor or pharmacist before giving any other medicine including medicines you buy without a prescription from the pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Do not take:

- antacids within 1 hour before or 1 hour after taking ranitidine
- sucralfate within 2 hours after taking ranitidine

POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS

Ranitidine has been in use for many years and has proved to be well tolerated, with very few side effects. Mild side effects may occur and disappear during treatment. See your doctor if these become troublesome or persistent. Rarely, more serious side effects may occur requiring you to check with your doctor.

Some mild side effects include:

- diarrhoea
- nausea
- constipation
- drowsiness or dizziness
- headache

Contact your doctor as soon as possible if any of the following side effects occur:

- **irregular heartbeat**
- **unexplained sore throat, fever, chills or malaise**
- **abnormal bleeding or easy bruising**
- **allergic reactions with swelling of lips, face, throat, wheezy breathing or skin rash**

If you are worried about any of these side effects or any others effects please contact your child's doctor.