ACICLOVIR (injection)

ay-sye-kloe-veer

What does it do?

Aciclovir is used to treat and prevent viral infections such as herpes and shingles.

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have kidney problems, or have ever had a seizure.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

How is it given?

Aciclovir is given as an infusion into a vein.

What if you forget a dose?

The missed dose should be given as soon as possible and treatment should continue as directed. *Aciclovir* is usually given to you by a health professional. If you miss a dose, contact your health professional as soon as possible.

Can you take other medicines?

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

What side effects might you notice?

Side Effects	Recommended action
Seizures Reduced number of blood cells that help your blood to clot - symptoms include: easy or unusual bruising or bleeding	Tell your doctor immediately
Confusion, agitation, tremor Seeing, hearing or feeling things that aren't really there	Tell your doctor
Headache, tiredness or weakness More sensitive to sunlight (sunburn or rash) Nausea, vomiting Irritation or pain at injection site	Tell your doctor if troublesome

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

Other information:

- Drink plenty of fluids while taking *aciclovir*.
- Protect yourself from too much sunlight while being treated with *aciclovir*. Always cover up and apply a thick layer of broad spectrum sunscreen (at least SPF 30) when outside. Do not use sunbeds.