# New Zealand Formulary PATIENT INFORMATION

# RANITIDINE

ra-ni-ti-deen

#### What does it do?

*Ranitidine* is used to treat and prevent various stomach and gut problems, such as indigestion. It reduces the amount of acid produced by the stomach.

#### How should you take it?

Take *ranitidine* regularly as directed. Swallow the tablets whole with a glass of water. Measure the liquid carefully with an oral syringe or measuring spoon.

#### What if you forget a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as possible. If it is close to the time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and carry on as normal. Do not take two doses at the same time.

# Can you take other medicines?

Some medicines available without a prescription may react with *ranitidine* including:

• products containing calcium, iron or magnesium, such as antacids (e.g. Mylanta®) or multivitamins. These products should be taken at least 1 hour before or 1 hour after taking a dose of *ranitidine*.

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about <u>all medicines or treatments</u> that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products (e.g. St John's wort) or recreational drugs.

# What side effects might you notice?

Side Effects	Recommended action
Dizziness, headache, tiredness Stomach upset Cough	Tell your doctor if troublesome

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

# Other information:

- Tell your doctor if you have kidney or liver problems.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.