

NURSING REFERENCE SCREENS

Zoledronic Acid (Zometa)

Classification:

- Calcium Regulator / Bisphosphonate

Route(s) of Administration:

- IVPB

Nursing Specialties:

- ALL

Dosing

- **Indication for use (inpatient):** Hypercalcemia of Malignancy with an albumin-corrected serum calcium greater than or equal to 12 mg/dL
 - o **Dose:** 4 mg IVPB x 1
 - o The dose should not be repeated sooner than 7 days.
- Avoid therapy if serum creatinine is greater than 4.5 g/dL.

Administration:

- **Caution Hazardous Medication:** Wear a double pair of chemo gloves (plus gown, mask and eye protection, if splash risk). Dispose of per policy.
- Patients must be adequately hydrated before administration of zoledronic acid.
- Infuse over at least 15 minutes

Monitoring:

- Serum calcium
- Albumin corrected serum calcium
- Electrolytes (magnesium, phosphorus)
- BUN / creatinine

Additional Information:

- There have been reports of bronchoconstriction in aspirin-sensitive patients receiving zoledronic acid; use with caution.
- An acute phase reaction occurring three days after zoledronic acid administration has been reported in patients. Symptoms include pyrexia, fatigue, bone pain and/or arthralgias, myalgias, chills, and influenza-like illness. These symptoms usually resolve within a few days.
- Common Adverse Effects: anemia, arthralgia, fatigue, dyspnea, fever, abdominal pain, nausea, dizziness, and insomnia:
 - o Severe and occasionally incapacitating bone, joint, and/or muscle pain has been reported with bisphosphonate use.
- See PolicyStat: *Zoledronic Acid Restrictions/Criteria for Use*, for further information.