

Drug Information Table

Serotonin antagonists – ondansetron (Zofran)

Therapeutic Use	Administration	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nausea, vomiting from chemotherapy, radiation therapy, postoperative recovery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give orally or IV. • When treating chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting, give the drug IV slowly (over 15 min) starting 30 min before chemotherapy administration, and then 4 and 8 hr later. • When treating anesthesia-induced nausea and vomiting, give the drug 1 hr before anesthesia induction. • When treating radiation-induced nausea and vomiting, give the drug 1 to 2 hrs before therapy, and then every 8 hrs as needed. 	
Side/Adverse Effects	Interventions	Patient Instructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headache 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor for persistent headache. • Administer analgesics for pain relief. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report headache. • Take over-the-counter analgesics to relieve headache if taking the drug at home.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dizziness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor for dizziness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report dizziness. • Do not engage in dangerous activities if dizziness occurs or tends to recur. • Lie down and change positions slowly when feeling dizzy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diarrhea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor for severe diarrhea and dehydration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report diarrhea. • Drink plenty of clear fluids.
Contraindications	Precautions	Interactions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children younger than 4 yr 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liver dysfunction • Phenylketonuria • QT prolongation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rifampin (Rifadin) decreases drug levels.