

The Royal Liverpool and
Broadgreen University Hospitals
NHS Trust



*Better
Together*

Patient information:

Ibandronate therapy

Clinical Biochemistry and Metabolic Medicine

Your Consultant/Doctor has advised that you commence a course of treatment with Ibandronate (Bonviva/Ibandronic acid).

What is Ibandronate?

Ibandronate (Bonviva/Ibandronic acid) is a drug that slows the loss of bone. It is given as an infusion via a small tube (cannula) placed in one of your veins. The infusion usually takes around 30 seconds. Ibandronate is given every three months.

What are the benefits of having Ibandronate?

Ibandronate is given to help to prevent the loss of bone within the body by preventing the breakdown of old bone. This helps to make your bones stronger and helps to prevent any breaks from occurring.

What are the risks of having Ibandronate?

As with all medication people who take Ibandronate can experience some side effects.

Some of the common side effects are;

Some people may experience some common side effect associated with Ibandronate. These are flu-like symptoms such as aches and pain, headaches and fever. They are usually mild and occur within the first three days after your infusion.

Some of the uncommon side effects are;

A reduction in the calcium levels within your blood (hypocalcaemia).

Some of the rarer side effects include;

Kidney problems, jaw pain (osteonecrosis of the jaw) and very rarely patients can have an allergic reaction when given Ibandronate. Symptoms of this may include shortness of breath, swelling of the face, hands and tongue.

Are there any alternative treatments available?

There are a number of alternative treatment options available these include; oral medications (Alendronate, Risedronate or Etidronate) and some intravenous medications (Denosumab, Zoledronate, and Pamidronate).

However alternative treatments may not be appropriate for some patients, this can be dependent on your kidney function and blood results and should be discussed with your doctor.

What will happen if I decide not to have treatment?

It is possible that nothing will happen and your bones will not cause you any problems. However, you may be at an increased risk of bone weakness which can leave you at a higher risk of breaking bones particularly the spine, hip and wrist.

Preparing for your appointment

Your doctor may ask you for a 24 hour urine sample and some blood samples to be taken approximately two to three weeks before your appointment. On the day of your appointment the doctor will see you on Ward 9B, where your treatment will be delivered by a member of the ward nursing team.

If you have any concerns regarding your treatment please feel free to speak to your consultant or a member of their team.

Further Information

For further information please feel free to contact ward 9B. Monday to Friday 8am to 9pm

Tel: 0151 706 2396/2398

Text phone number: 18001 0151 706 2396/2398

Alternatively for urgent queries contact your family doctor (GP) or NHS 111 Tel: 111

**National Osteoporosis Society (NOS)
www.nos.org.uk**

**International osteoporosis federation
www.iofbonehealth.org**

**Author: Clinical Biochemistry and Metabolic
Division of Medicine
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All Trust approved information is available on request in alternative formats, including other languages, easy read, large print, audio, Braille, moon and electronically.

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