

## ONDANSETRON (Zofran)

### **ACTION: Anti-Emetic**

- Selective antagonism of the serotonin 5-HT<sub>3</sub> receptor resulting in decreased nausea and vomiting

### **INDICATIONS:**

- Severe Nausea and Vomiting

### **CONTRAINDICATIONS:**

- History of hypersensitivity to similar drugs: Dolasetron (Anzemet), Granisetron (Kytril), or Palonosetron (Aloxi) or to ondansetron (Zofran).
- Taking Apomorphine (Apokyn, Ixense, Spontane, Uprima), an injectable drug for Parkinson's Disease, or rarely used for erectile dysfunction.
- Do not give oral tablet or solution to known phenylketonurics (contains phenylalanine).

### **POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS**

- |                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| • Hypotension     | • Dizziness   |
| • Syncope         | • Anaphylaxis |
| • QT prolongation | • Flushing    |
| • Headache        | • Rash        |
| • Diarrhea        |               |

### **ADULT DOSE/ROUTE:**

- ⇒ 4 mg slow IVP/IM or 8mg tablet ODT (dissolved on the tongue).
- ⇒ May repeat in 20min for continued nausea up to 12 mg.

### **PEDIATRIC DOSE/ROUTE:**

- ⇒ **Less than 6 months:** DON'T USE
- ⇒ **6 months – 12 years old or <40kg:** 0.1mg/kg slow IVP/IO (max 4mg)
- ⇒ **Greater than 12 years or >40kg:** 4mg slow IVP/IO. May repeat in 20min for continued nausea up to 12mg.

### **NOTES:**

- Should be administered IV over 2-5 minutes. Rapid administration has been associated with increased incidence of side effects including syncope.
- Oral disintegrating tablets (ODT's) can be placed on tongue and do not need to be chewed. Medication will dissolve and be swallowed with saliva.
- Ondansetron can be used in pregnancy and breast-feeding mothers (pregnancy class B).