



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS Veterans Health Administration

May 2003

Dear VA Healthcare Provider:

The Department of Veterans Affairs has selected **zolmitriptan (Zomig®)** as its contracted oral 5HT₁ Receptor Agonist (Triptans). **Zolmitriptan** has proven efficacy superior to placebo and displays similar headache recurrence rates to other available agents. In general, there are no differences with regard to tolerability and safety between products for the management of migraine headache.¹ The dose of **zolmitriptan** is 2.5mg, which may be repeated in > 2 hrs to a total of 10 mg daily. Additionally, the initial dose may be increased to 5 mg. In patients with impaired hepatic function, the initial dose should be 2.5 mg with a maximum of 5 mg/24 hours. Zolmitriptan is available as an oral tablet and an orally disintegrating tablet (**Zomig ZMT®**)².

- For a complete discussion of the pharmacologic management of migraine please refer to the following link <http://www.annals.org/issues/v137n10/full/200211190-00014.html>.³
- Because **zolmitriptan** is metabolized through the cytochrome P-450 1A2 (CYP 1A2) system and cimetidine is a specific inhibitor of this isoenzyme, this combination caused a doubling of the half life and AUC of zolmitriptan. The clinical effect of this interaction is undetermined.
- **Zolmitriptan** is contraindicated in patients with symptomatic Wolff-Parkinson-White (WPW) syndrome or arrhythmias associated with other cardiac accessory conduction disorders
- **Zolmitriptan** should be used with caution in patients with severe hepatic impairment. Providers are advised to prescribe ≤ 2.5 mg/dose and a maximum daily dose of 5mg/24 hours.
- All triptans are contraindicated in patients with ischemic heart disease (angina, history of MI, documented silent ischemia), Prinzmetal's variant angina, or other significant cardiovascular disease, coronary artery spasm, or uncontrolled hypertension. They should not be used concurrently (or within 24 hours of) another triptan or ergot alkaloid
- All triptans are contraindicated for the management of hemiplegic or basilar migraine, and in patients with demonstrated hypersensitivity to the drug

➤ If you have any questions or concerns regarding the use of **zolmitriptan**, please contact the pharmacy at your facility.

1. <http://www.vapbm.org/PBM/reviews/triptanclassreview.pdf>

2. Zomig® and Zomig-ZMT™ Product Package Insert. Wilmington, DE: AstraZeneca, LP, 2001

3. Snow V, et al. Pharmacologic Management of Acute Attacks of Migraine and prevention of Migraine headache. Ann Intern Med 2002; 137:840-849. By permission

Sincerely,