

What is most important to remember?

- Use this medicine as directed by your doctor
- It is important to continue taking this medicine even if you feel normal. Most people with high cholesterol or triglycerides do not feel sick
- Do not start any new medicines, over-the-counter drugs or herbal remedies without talking to your doctor
- Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists that you are using simvastatin (Zocor®)
- Contact your prescriber right away if you have severe muscle pain or weakness
- Follow the diet and lifestyle changes that you talked about with your doctor in addition to taking your prescribed medicine to get the greatest health benefits

If you have questions:

Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist for more information about simvastatin (Zocor®)

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**Simvastatin
(Zocor®):
Important Patient Information**



MEDICINE of THE HIGHEST ORDER



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What does simvastatin (Zocor®) do?

- It is used to lower the level of bad cholesterol (LDL), raise the level of good cholesterol (HDL), and lower triglycerides (TG) in the body
- It is used to slow the progression of heart disease

How should simvastatin (Zocor®) be used?

- Use this medicine as directed by your doctor
- This medicine is taken one (1) time a day, in the evening at the same time each day
- Take with or without food. Take with food if it causes an upset stomach

What should I do if I forget to take simvastatin (Zocor®)?

- Take the missed dose as soon as you think about it
- If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your normal dose time
- Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses

Who should know I am taking simvastatin (Zocor®)?

- Keep a list of all your medicines (prescription, natural products, supplements, vitamins, over-the-counter) and give it to your healthcare provider (doctor, nurse, nurse practitioner, pharmacist, or physician assistant)

Are there any interactions with other drugs that I need to worry about?

- There are many drug interactions that may increase your risk of side effects
- Do not start new prescription, over-the-counter medicines, or herbal and dietary supplements without telling your doctor

What side effects could occur with simvastatin (Zocor®)?

- Upset stomach, belly pain
- Hard stools (constipation)
- Headache

What are some things that I need to be aware of when taking simvastatin (Zocor®)?

- Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have a "statin" allergy, are allergic to simvastatin, or if you are allergic to any other medicines, foods, or substances
- Before using this medicine, tell your doctor or pharmacist your medical history, especially if you have active liver disease or a rise in liver enzymes
- Before using this medicine, tell your doctor or pharmacist what medication you are taking. There are many medicines that must not be taken with this medicine
- Call your doctor right away if you have very bad muscle pain or weakness, or if your urine turns a muddy brown color
- If you drink grapefruit juice or eat grapefruit often, talk with your doctor before taking this medicine
- Avoid or limit alcohol intake (includes wine, beer, and liquor) to less than 3 drinks per day
- Tell your healthcare provider if you are pregnant, plan on getting pregnant, or if you are breastfeeding. You should not take this medicine while pregnant or breastfeeding
- Use a proper birth control method to prevent pregnancy while taking this medicine, since it is harmful in pregnancy
- You may get sunburned more easily. Avoid sun, sunlamps, and tanning beds. Use sunscreen and wear clothing and eyewear that protect you from the sun
- It is important to continue taking this medicine even if you feel normal. Most people with high cholesterol or triglycerides do not feel sick

If you have any of the following side effects, call your doctor or visit the emergency room immediately:

- Signs of liver problems: dark urine, upset stomach, light-colored stool, yellowing of skin or eyes; throwing up
- Muscle pain or weakness
- Memory problems or loss
- A burning, numbness, or tingling feeling
- Very bad joint pain or swelling
- Any sign of a severe allergic reaction including: rash; hives; red, swollen, blistered or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness of chest or throat; trouble breathing or talking; swelling of face, lips, tongue or throat
- Dizziness