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®).
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

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

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