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Patient Information

ACTONEL[®] (AK-toh-nel) Tablets

ACTONEL (risedronate sodium tablets) 5 mg,
ACTONEL (risedronate sodium tablets) 35 mg, and
ACTONEL (risedronate sodium tablets) 75 mg
for Osteoporosis

Read this information carefully before you start to use your medicine. Read the information you get every time you get more medicine. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking with your health care provider about your medical condition or your treatment. If you have any questions or are not sure about something, ask your health care provider or pharmacist.

What is the most important information I should know about ACTONEL?

ACTONEL may cause problems in your stomach and esophagus (the tube that connects the mouth and the stomach), such as trouble swallowing (dysphagia), heartburn (esophagitis), and ulcers. You might feel pain in your bones, joints, or muscles (See [“What are the Possible Side Effects of ACTONEL?”](#)).

You must follow the instructions exactly for ACTONEL to work and to lower the chance of serious side effects. (See [“How should I take ACTONEL?”](#)).

What is ACTONEL?

ACTONEL is a prescription medicine used:

- to prevent and treat osteoporosis in postmenopausal women (See [“What is Osteoporosis?”](#)).
- to increase bone mass in men with osteoporosis
- to prevent and treat osteoporosis in men and women that is caused by treatment with steroid medicines such as prednisone.
- to treat Paget's disease of bone in men and women. The treatment for Paget's disease is very different than for osteoporosis and uses a different type of ACTONEL. This leaflet does not cover using ACTONEL for Paget's disease. If you have Paget's disease, ask your health care provider how to use ACTONEL.

ACTONEL may reverse bone loss by stopping more loss of bone and increasing bone strength in most people who take it, even though they won't be able to see or feel a difference. ACTONEL helps lower the risk of breaking bones (fractures). Your health care provider may measure the thickness (density) of your bones or do other tests to check your progress.