

ACYCLOVIR

YOU HAVE BEEN PRESCRIBED ACYCLOVIR

WHAT IS IT?

Acyclovir is the most widely prescribed antiviral drug in the world. It treats infections caused by the herpes simplex virus (HSV). Acyclovir is a synthetic compound with a similar molecular structure to purine nucleoside. It has been shown to stop the growth varicella zoster virus (VZV) which causes shingles.

HOW TO USE ACYCLOVIR

Start taking Acyclovir as soon as you get the first signs of infection. A cold sore usually starts with a tingling, itching or burning feeling. For most infections, you should start to feel better after taking acyclovir for a few days.

SIDE EFFECTS MAY INCLUDE

Side effects are uncommon from acyclovir but include nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, headache, fever, confusion, lymphadenopathy, generalized muscle aches, and itchy skin.

Acyclovir should be used with caution in patients with kidney disease.