



“Last week I felt I needed to buy all of these things.”

Now I want to gain control again.”



This is the story of Anna\* and a lifetime of excessive buying and collecting. When she couldn't sleep, she shopped. Today, with the support of her doctor, treatment team and family, Anna is managing her relapses in bipolar disorder with Zyprexa, and can add a university degree to her collecting.<sup>1</sup>

Knowing where you have been is one measure of how far you have come. Together you can find another way to stay on the road to improvement.

**ZYPREXA\*\* TABLETS (OLANZAPINE) ZYPREXA VELOTABS ZYPREXA INTRAMUSCULAR INJECTION ABBREVIATED PRESCRIBING INFORMATION**  
**REPUBLIC OF IRELAND Presentations Tablets, 2.5mg, 5mg, 7.5mg, 10mg, or 15mg of olanzapine. Also contain lactose. Velotab\* 5mg, 10mg, 15mg, or 20mg orodispersible tablets. Also contain gelatin, aspartame, mannitol, and parahydroxybenzoates. Powder for solution for injection, containing 10mg olanzapine. Uses Tablets and Velotabs:** Schizophrenia, both as initial therapy and for maintenance. Moderate to severe manic episode; prevention of recurrence in bipolar disorder in patients whose manic episode has responded to treatment. **Injection:** Rapid control of agitation and disturbed behaviours in patients with schizophrenia or manic episode, when oral therapy is not appropriate. **Dosage and Administration Tablets and Velotabs:** Schizophrenia: 10mg/day orally. **Manic episode:** 15mg/day in monotherapy; 10mg/day in combination therapy. **Preventing recurrence in bipolar disorder:** 10mg/day, or for patients who have been receiving olanzapine for treatment of manic episode, continue therapy for preventing recurrence at the same dose. May subsequently be adjusted to 5-20mg daily. **Injection:** Intramuscular use only for a maximum of three consecutive days. Initial dose 10mg. A second injection, 5-10 mg, may be administered 2 hours after. Maximum daily dose is 20mg, with not more than 3 injections in any 24-hour period. Treatment with Zyprexa Intramuscular Injection should be discontinued, and oral Zyprexa initiated, as soon as clinically appropriate. Do not administer intravenously or subcutaneously. **Children:** Not recommended (under 18 years). **Elderly patients:** Oral therapy - a lower starting dose (5mg/day) is not routinely indicated but should be considered when clinical factors warrant. **Injection - recommended starting dose is 2.5-5mg. Renal and/or hepatic impairment:** 5mg starting dose in moderate hepatic insufficiency. When more than one factor which might cause slower metabolism, consider a decreased starting dose. **Contra-indications:** Known hypersensitivity to any ingredient. Known risk of narrow-angle glaucoma. **Warnings and Special Precautions:** Olanzapine is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis and/or behavioural disturbances because of an increase in mortality and the risk of CVA. **Injection:** Efficacy not established in patients with agitation and disturbed behaviours related to conditions other than schizophrenia or manic episode. Should not be administered to patients with unstable medical conditions (see Summary of Product Characteristics [SPC]). Safety and efficacy have not been evaluated in patients with alcohol or drug intoxication. Patients should be closely observed for hypotension, including postural hypotension, bradycardia, and/or hypoventilation (see SPC). Simultaneous injection with parenteral benzodiazepine is not recommended. Use to treat drug-induced psychosis with Parkinson's disease is not recommended. Caution in patients: • who receive other medicinal products having haemodynamic properties similar to those of Zyprexa Intramuscular Injection. • with prostatic hypertrophy, or paralytic ileus and related conditions. • with elevated ALT and/or AST, hepatic impairment, limited hepatic functional reserve, and in patients treated with hepatotoxic drugs. If hepatitis is diagnosed (including hepatocellular, cholestatic or mixed liver injury), discontinue Zyprexa. • with low leucocyte and/or neutrophil

counts, bone marrow depression, in patients receiving medicines known to cause neutropenia, and in patients with hypersplenophilic conditions or with myeloproliferative disease. • who have a history of seizures or are subject to factors which may lower the seizure threshold. • using other centrally acting drugs and alcohol. In clinical trials, clinically meaningful QTc prolongations were uncommon in patients treated with olanzapine, with no significant differences in associated cardiac events compared to placebo. As with other antipsychotics, caution should be exercised when olanzapine is prescribed with medicines known to increase QTc interval, especially in the elderly, in patients with congenital long QT syndrome, congestive heart failure, heart hypertrophy, hypokalaemia, or hypomagnesaemia. Discontinue if signs and symptoms indicative of NIMS, or unexplained high fever. If tardive dyskinesia appears, consider dose reduction or discontinuation. Clinical monitoring advisable in diabetic patients and those with risk factors for diabetes. Blood pressure should be measured periodically in patients over 65 years. May antagonise effects of dopamine agonists. Gradual dose reduction should be considered when discontinuing olanzapine. **Phenylethylamine:** Velotabs contain aspartame - a source of phenylethylamine. **Sodium metil parathydroxybenzoate and sodium proyl parathydroxybenzoate:** Contained in Velotabs; known to cause urticaria, contact dermatitis, and, rarely, immediate reactions with bronchospasm. **Interactions:** Metabolism may be affected by substances that can specifically induce (eg, concomitant smoking or carbamazepine) or inhibit (eg, fluvoxamine) the isoenzyme P450-CYP1A2 which metabolises olanzapine. Activated charcoal reduces the bioavailability of oral olanzapine. Olanzapine may antagonise the effects of direct and indirect dopamine agonists. Olanzapine showed no interaction when co-administered with lithium or biperiden. **Zyprexa Intramuscular Injection 5mg, administered 1 hour before lorazepam 2mg, added to the somnolence observed with either drug alone. Pregnancy and Lactation:** There are very rare reports of tremor, hypertonia, lethargy, and sleepiness in infants born to mothers who used olanzapine during the third trimester. Should be used in pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the foetus. Patients should be advised not to breast-feed an infant if they are taking Zyprexa. **Driving, etc:** May cause somnolence or dizziness. Patients should be cautioned about operating hazardous machinery, including motor vehicles. **Undesirable Effects:** Those observed from spontaneous reporting and in placebo-controlled clinical trials at a rate of ≥1%, or where the event is clinically relevant, are: **Clinical Trial Adverse Event Reporting and Investigations With Oral Zyprexa:** Very common (>10%): Weight gain, somnolence, elevated plasma prolactin levels (associated clinical manifestations eg, gynaecomastia, galactorrhoea, breast enlargement were rare). **Common** (1-10%): Eosinophilia, increased appetite, elevated glucose levels (incidence 1.0% for Zyprexa versus 0.9% for placebo for non-fasting levels ≥11mmol/l), elevated triglyceride levels, dizziness, akathisia, parkinsonism, dyskinesia. **Orthostatic hypotension, mild, transient, anticholinergic effects, including constipation and dry mouth; transient, asymptomatic elevations of ALT, AST, ashtenia, oedema Uncommon** (0.1-1%): Bradycardia, with or without hypotension or syncope. In placebo-controlled clinical trials of elderly patients with dementia-related psychosis and/or disturbed behaviours, there was a 2-

fold increase in mortality in olanzapine-treated patients compared to placebo (3.5% versus 1.5%, respectively). In the same clinical trials, there was a 3-fold increase in cerebrovascular adverse events (CVAE, eg, stroke, transient ischaemic attack) in patients treated with olanzapine compared to placebo (1.3% versus 0.4%, respectively). Very common (>10%) undesirable effects in this patient group were abnormal gait and falls; Pneumonia, increased body temperature, lethargy, erythema, visual hallucinations, and urinary incontinence were observed commonly (1-10%). **Post-Marketing Spontaneous Reporting With Oral Zyprexa:** Rare (0.01-0.1%): Leucopenia, seizures, hepatitis. **Very rare** (<0.01%): Thrombocytopenia, neutropenia, allergic reaction, Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome, parkinsonism, dystonia and tardive dyskinesia, hyperglycaemia and/or development or exacerbation of diabetes (occasionally associated with ketoacidosis or coma, including some fatal cases). Hypertriglyceridaemia, hypercholesterolaemia, QTc prolongation, ventricular tachycardia/fibrillation and sudden death, thromboembolism, pancreatitis, rhabdomyolysis and priapism. **Additional Clinical Trial Adverse Event Reporting and Investigations With Zyprexa Intramuscular Injection Common** (1-10%): Bradycardia, with or without hypotension or syncope, tachycardia, injection site discomfort, somnolence, postural hypotension, hypotension **Uncommon** (0.1-1%): Sinus pause. **Post-Marketing Spontaneous Events With Zyprexa Intramuscular Injection:** Temporal association in cases of respiratory depression, hypotension, or bradycardia, and death reported very rarely, mostly with concomitant use of benzodiazepines and/or other antipsychotic drugs, or use of olanzapine in excess of recommended dose. *For full details of these and other side-effects, please see the Summary of Product Characteristics, which is available at <http://www.medicines.ie/>.* **Legal Category:** POM. **Marketing Authorisation Numbers and Holder:** EU/1/96/022/002, EU/1/96/022/004, EU/1/96/022/006, EU/1/96/022/009, EU/1/96/022/010, EU/1/96/022/012, EU/1/96/022/016, EU/1/99/125/001, EU/1/99/125/002, EU/1/99/125/004, EU/1/99/125/003, El Lilly Nederland BV, Grootslag 1-5, 3991 RA Houten, The Netherlands. **Date of Preparation or Last Review:** September 2006. **Full Prescribing Information is Available From:** El Lilly and Company Limited, Lilly House, Priestley Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 9NL, Telephone: Basingstoke (01256) 315 999 or El Lilly and Company (Ireland) Limited, Hyde House, 65 Adelaide Road, Dublin 2, Republic of Ireland. Telephone: Dublin (01) 661 4377. \*ZYPREXA (olanzapine) and VELOTAB are trademarks of El Lilly and Company. **Reference:** 1. Tohen M et al. Olanzapine versus lithium in the maintenance treatment of bipolar disorder: A 12 month, randomised, double-blind controlled clinical trial. *Am J Psychiatry* 2005;162:1281-1290.

\*Case study based on fictional characters

■ Zyprexa is manufactured in Cork.

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