



## Treatment & medication

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# (Val)aciclovir

Other names: Zelitrex (= valacyclovir), Zovirax (= acyclovir).

### What is it and how does it work?

A medicine that is given to prevent and/or to treat viral infections, such as those caused by the herpes simplex virus.

### What does it look like and how is it given?

- Valacyclovir is a solution or tablet that is taken by mouth (oral), before or after a meal.
- Acyclovir is a clear liquid that is administered as an infusion into a vein (intravenous).

### Short-term side effects (within 24 hours)

- Inflammation of the vein at the site of administration
- Irritation of the skin (burn-like patches) if the medicine leaks from the blood vessel

### Long-term side effects

- Red skin
- Headache

### Special instructions

If your child vomits within 30 minutes after taking the medicine, please check [prinsesmaximacentrum.nl/regimens](https://prinsesmaximacentrum.nl/regimens)

under the heading 'Medicine' to see what you should do.

### Specifics

The skin is more sensitive to sunburn.

Avoid the sun and use sunscreen with a high sun protection factor (SPF).

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This card lists the most common side effects and specifics of this medicine.  
If you want a complete list, please ask the doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.