

## ZYTOMIL

### SCHEDULING STATUS [5S]

#### 1. NAME OF THE MEDICINE

**ZYTOMIL 5 mg**, coated tablet  
**ZYTOMIL 10 mg**, coated tablet  
**ZYTOMIL 15 mg**, coated tablet  
**ZYTOMIL 20 mg**, coated tablet

#### 2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

**ZYTOMIL 5 mg:** Each coated tablet contains escitalopram oxalate equivalent to 5 mg escitalopram.  
**ZYTOMIL 10 mg:** Each coated tablet contains escitalopram oxalate equivalent to 10 mg escitalopram.  
**ZYTOMIL 15 mg:** Each coated tablet contains escitalopram oxalate equivalent to 15 mg escitalopram.  
**ZYTOMIL 20 mg:** Each coated tablet contains escitalopram oxalate equivalent to 20 mg escitalopram.  
For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1  
ZYTOMIL tablets are sugar free.

#### 3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Coated tablet  
ZYTOMIL 5 mg: White, oval, coated tablet, debossed with "E" and "C" on one side and nothing on the other side.  
ZYTOMIL 10 mg: White, oval, coated tablet, debossed with "E" and "C" divided by a score on one side and "10" on the other side.  
ZYTOMIL 15 mg: White, oval, coated tablet, debossed with "E" and "C" on one side and nothing on the other side.  
ZYTOMIL 20 mg: White, oval, coated tablet, debossed with "E" and "C" divided by a score on one side and "20" on the other side.

#### 4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

##### 4.1 Therapeutic indications

ZYTOMIL is indicated for the treatment of:

- Major depressive episodes
- Panic disorder with or without agoraphobia
- Social anxiety disorder (social phobia)
- Generalised anxiety disorder
- Obsessive-compulsive disorder.

##### 4.2 Posology and method of administration

###### Adults

**Major depressive episodes:**  
ZYTOMIL should be administered as a single oral dose of 10 mg daily in otherwise healthy adults. Depending on individual patient response, the dose may be increased to a maximum of 20 mg daily. Usually 2 – 4 weeks are necessary for an antidepressant response.

###### Panic disorder with or without agoraphobia:

A single oral dose of 5 mg is recommended for the first week before increasing the dose to 10 mg daily. The dose may be further increased, up to a maximum of 20 mg daily depending on individual patient response. Maximum effectiveness is reached after about 3 months. The treatment lasts several months.

###### Social anxiety disorder:

Usual dosage is 10 mg once daily. The dose may be increased to a maximum of 20 mg daily depending on individual patient response. Usually 2 – 4 weeks are necessary to obtain symptom relief. Treatment for 3 months is recommended to consolidate response. Long term treatment of responders for 6 months has been shown to prevent relapse and can be considered on an individual basis. Treatment benefits should be re-evaluated at regular intervals.

###### Generalised anxiety disorder:

Recommended dosage is 10 mg once daily. Depending on individual patient response, the dose may be increased to a maximum of 20 mg daily. Long term treatment of responders has been studied for at least 6 months and can be considered on an individual basis to prevent relapse.

###### Obsessive-compulsive disorder:

Usual dosage is 10 mg once daily. Depending on individual patient response, the dose may be increased to 20 mg daily. Long term treatment of patients responding to a 16-week open treatment phase has been studied for at least 24 weeks in patients receiving 10 or 20 mg/day. As OCD is a chronic disease, patients should be treated for a sufficient period to ensure that they are symptom free. This period may be several months or even longer.

###### Special populations

###### Elderly patients (> 65 years of age):

A longer half-life and a decreased clearance have been demonstrated in the elderly therefore, a lower initial and maximum dose should be considered.

###### Reduced hepatic function:

Dosages should be halved to the lower end of the dose range in patients with hepatic insufficiency (see section 4.4).

###### Reduced renal function:

Dosage adjustment is not necessary in patients with mild or moderate renal impairment. No information is available on the treatment of patients with severely reduced renal function (creatinine clearance < 30 ml/min).

###### Paediatric population

###### Children and adolescents (< 18 years of age):

ZYTOMIL should not be used in the treatment of children and adolescents under the age of 18 years (see section 4.3).

###### Method of administration

ZYTOMIL is administered as a single daily dose.  
ZYTOMIL may be taken with or without food in the morning or evening.

###### Missed dose:

Doctors should advise patients who forget to take ZYTOMIL to take a dose as soon as possible and then continue with the normal dose. Patients should not take a double dose to compensate for the missed dose.

###### Discontinuation symptoms when stopping treatment:

When stopping ZYTOMIL therapy, gradual dose reduction over a period of one to two weeks should be considered in order to reduce the risk of discontinuation symptoms (see section 4.4).

#### 4.3 Contraindications

- Hypersensitivity to escitalopram or to any of the ingredients of ZYTOMIL.
- Children under 18 years of age (see section 4.4).
- Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors: Cases of serious reactions have been reported in patients receiving an SSRI in combination with a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI), and in patients who have recently discontinued an SSRI and are taking a MAOI (see section 4.5). Some cases presented with features resembling serotonin syndrome (see section 4.4).
- ZYTOMIL should not be used in combination with a MAOI. ZYTOMIL may be started 14 days after discontinuing treatment with a MAOI. At least 7 days should elapse after discontinuing ZYTOMIL treatment before starting a MAOI (see section 4.5).
- ZYTOMIL is contraindicated in patients with known QT interval prolongation or congenital long QT syndrome.
- ZYTOMIL is contraindicated together with medicines that are known to prolong the QT interval (see section 4.5).
- Concomitant treatment with pimozide as the combination may lead to clinically significant QTc prolongation (see section 4.5).
- Concomitant treatment with linezolid (see section 4.5).
- Porphyria (see section 4.4).
- Pregnancy and lactation (see section 4.6).

#### 4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

##### Suicidality or clinical worsening

Patients with major depressive disorder, both adults and children, may experience worsening of their depression and the emergence of suicidal ideation and behaviour, whether or not they are taking antidepressant medicines. This risk may persist until significant remission occurs. A causal role, however, for antidepressant medicine in inducing such behaviour has not been established. Patients being treated with ZYTOMIL should, nevertheless, be observed closely for clinical worsening and suicidality, especially at the beginning of a course of therapy or at any time of dose changes, either increases or decreases. Because of the possibility of co-morbidity between major depressive disorder and other psychiatric and non-psychiatric disorders, the same precautions observed when treating patients with major depressive disorders should be observed when treating patients with other psychiatric and non-psychiatric disorders.

The following symptoms have been reported in patients being treated with antidepressants for major depressive disorder as well as for other indications, both psychiatric and non-psychiatric: anxiety, agitation, panic attacks, insomnia, irritability, hostility (aggressiveness), impulsivity, akathisia, hypomania, and mania.

Although a causal link between the emergence of suicidal impulses has not been established, consideration should be given to changing the therapeutic regimen, including possibly discontinuing ZYTOMIL, in patients for whom such symptoms are severe, abrupt in onset, or were not part of the patient's presenting symptoms. If the decision is made to discontinue treatment, ZYTOMIL should be tapered (see section 4.2).

##### QT interval prolongation

Escitalopram has been found to cause a dose-dependent prolongation of the QT interval. Cases of QT interval prolongation and ventricular dysrhythmia including *torsade de pointes* have been reported, predominantly in patients of female gender, with hypokalaemia, or with pre-existing QT interval prolongation or other cardiac diseases (see sections 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5).

Patients with significant bradycardia, or patients with recent acute myocardial infarction or uncompensated heart failure must be treated with ZYTOMIL with caution.

Hypokalaemia and hypomagnesaemia increase the risk for malignant dysrhythmias and therefore all electrolyte disturbances should be corrected before treatment with ZYTOMIL is initiated. If patients with stable cardiac disease are treated, an ECG review should be considered before treatment is started. If signs of cardiac dysrhythmia occur during treatment with escitalopram, the treatment should be withdrawn and an ECG should be performed.

##### Withdrawal

Abrupt discontinuation of ZYTOMIL can lead to discontinuation effects. In general, withdrawal reactions tend to occur within 3 days of stopping treatment (see section 4.2). The most common reported reactions are dizziness, sensory disturbances (including paraesthesia and electric shock sensations), sleep disturbances (including insomnia and intense dreams), agitation or anxiety, nausea and/or vomiting, tremor, confusion, sweating, headache, diarrhoea, palpitations, emotional instability, irritability and visual disturbances. These events are mild to moderate and are self-limiting, however, in some patients they may be severe and/or prolonged. It is therefore advised that when ZYTOMIL treatment is no longer required, gradual discontinuation by dose tapering should be carried out (see section 4.2).

##### Elderly patients (> 65 years of age)

A longer half-life (about 50 %) and decreased clearance values have been demonstrated in the elderly due to a reduced rate of metabolism. A lower initial and maximum dose should be considered.

##### Hepatic impairment

Clearance of ZYTOMIL is reduced. Dosages should be halved to the lower end of the dosage range in patients with hepatic insufficiency (see section 4.2). When stopping ZYTOMIL therapy, gradual dose reduction should be considered.

##### Seizures or history thereof

There is an increased risk of seizures. ZYTOMIL should be discontinued in any patient who develops seizures for the first time. ZYTOMIL should be avoided in patients with unstable epilepsy and in patients with controlled epilepsy should be carefully monitored. ZYTOMIL should be discontinued if there is an increase in seizure frequency.

##### ECT (electroconvulsive therapy)

There is limited published clinical experience of concurrent administration of ZYTOMIL and ECT, therefore caution is advised in patients receiving electroconvulsive therapy.

##### Mania or history of mania

Condition may be re-activated. ZYTOMIL should be discontinued in any patient entering a manic phase. ZYTOMIL should be used with caution in patients with a history of mania/hypomania.

##### Cardiac Conditions

ZYTOMIL may cause a reduction in heart rate. Caution is advised in patients with pre-existing slow heart rates.

##### Diabetes mellitus

Occurrences of hypoglycaemia have been reported. In patients with diabetes mellitus treatment with ZYTOMIL may alter glycaemic control, possibly due to improvement of depressive symptoms. The doses of insulin and/or oral hypoglycaemic medications may need to be adjusted.

##### Paradoxical anxiety

Some patients with panic disorder may experience increased anxiety symptoms at the start of treatment with ZYTOMIL. This paradoxical reaction usually subsides within two weeks of continued treatment. A low starting dose is advised to reduce the likelihood of a paradoxical anxiogenic effect.

##### Akathisia/psychomotor restlessness

The use of SSRIs such as ZYTOMIL has been associated with the development of akathisia, characterised by a subjectively unpleasant or distressing restlessness and need to move often accompanied by an inability to sit or stand still. This is most likely to occur within the first few weeks of treatment. In patients who develop these symptoms, increasing the dose may be detrimental.

##### Hyponaatraemia

Hyponaatraemia, probably due to inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion (SIADH), has been reported and may resolve on discontinuation of therapy. Caution should be exercised in patients at risk, such as the elderly, or patients with cirrhosis, or if ZYTOMIL is used in combination with other medicines which may cause hyponaatraemia.

##### Haemorrhage

There have been reports of cutaneous bleeding abnormalities, such as ecchymosis and purpura, with ZYTOMIL. Caution is advised in patients taking ZYTOMIL, particularly in concomitant use with medicines known to affect platelet function, e.g. atypical antipsychotics and phenothiazines, most tricyclic antidepressants, aspirin and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), as well as in patients with a history of bleeding disorders (see section 4.5).

##### Postpartum haemorrhage

SSRIs, such as ZYTOMIL, may increase the risk of postpartum haemorrhage (see sections 4.6 and 4.8).

##### Risk of serotonin syndrome

Co-administration with MAO inhibitors may cause serotonin syndrome. Co-administration with other serotonergic medicines (e.g. tramadol, sumatriptan, other triptans and tryptophan) as well as other antidepressants with serotonergic properties may lead to an enhancement of serotonin associated effects, e.g. the serotonin syndrome.

There have been reports of enhanced effects when ZYTOMIL has been given with lithium or tryptophan and therefore concomitant use of ZYTOMIL with these medicines should be undertaken with caution (see section 4.5).

##### Angle-closure Glaucoma

SSRIs, including ZYTOMIL, may have an effect on pupil size resulting in mydriasis. This mydriatic effect has the potential to narrow the eye angle resulting in increased intraocular pressure and angle-closure glaucoma, especially in patients pre-disposed. ZYTOMIL should therefore be used with caution in patients with angle-closure glaucoma or history of glaucoma.

##### Concomitant medicines

ZYTOMIL should not be used with monoamine oxidase inhibitors, imipramine, other serotonergic medicines, moclobemide, alcohol, warfarin, and cimetidine (see section 4.3).

##### St. John's Wort

Concomitant use of ZYTOMIL with herbal remedies containing St. John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) may result in an increased incidence of adverse reactions (see section 4.5).

##### Bone fractures

An increased risk of bone fractures has been observed in patients aged 50 years or older taking ZYTOMIL. The mechanism leading to this risk is unknown.

##### Paediatric population

Safety and efficacy in children under 18 years of age have not been established. In clinical trials in Major Depressive Disorder, there were increased reports of hostility and suicide-related adverse events such as suicidal ideation and self-harm (see section 4.3).

##### 4.5 Interaction with other medicines and other forms of interaction

Escitalopram, as in ZYTOMIL, has a low potential clinically significant medicine interactions. *In vitro* studies have shown that the biotransformation of escitalopram to its demethylated metabolites depends on cytochrome pathways (cytochrome P450 (CYP) 2C19, 3A4 and 2D6). Escitalopram, as in ZYTOMIL, is a weak inhibitor of isoenzyme CYP1A2, 2C9, 2C19, 2E1, and 3A, and weak inhibitor of 2D6.

##### Ritonavir:

The pharmacokinetics of single doses of ZYTOMIL are not changed by co-administration with a single dose of ritonavir (CYP3A4 inhibitor).

##### Ketoconazole:

Co-administration with ketoconazole (potent CYP3A4 inhibitor) has no effect on the pharmacokinetics of ZYTOMIL.

##### Combinations contraindicated:

- **Monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs):** Concurrent use is contraindicated. Serious and potentially fatal reactions have occurred such as: hyperthermia, rigidity, myoclonus, autonomic instability with rapid fluctuation of vital signs and mental status changes including extreme agitation progressing to delirium and coma (see section 4.3). Cases of serious reactions have been reported in patients receiving an SSRI in combination with a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI), and in patients who have recently discontinued SSRI treatment and have been started on such MAOI treatment (see section 4.3). In some cases, the patient developed serotonin syndrome (see section 4.4).
- ZYTOMIL should not be used in combination with MAOIs. ZYTOMIL may be started 14 days after discontinuing treatment with a MAOI. At least 7 days should elapse after discontinuing ZYTOMIL treatment, before starting a MAOI.
- **Moclobemide:** Due to the risk of serotonin syndrome, the combination of ZYTOMIL with a MAO-A inhibitor such as moclobemide is contraindicated (see section 4.3). If the combination proves necessary, it should be started at the minimum recommended dosage and clinical monitoring should be restricted.
- **Linezolid:** The antibiotic linezolid is a MAO inhibitor and is contraindicated in patients treated with ZYTOMIL (see section 4.3).
- **MAO-B inhibitor (Selegiline):** Racemic citalopram increased the AUC of selegiline by 29 %. The combination with selegiline is contraindicated due to the risk of developing serotonin syndrome (see section 4.3).
- **Medicines that prolong the QT interval:** Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic studies of escitalopram combined with other medicines that prolong the QT interval have not been performed. An additive effect of escitalopram and these medicines cannot be excluded. Therefore, co-administration of escitalopram with medicines that prolong the QT interval, such as Class IA and III antiarrhythmics, antipsychotics (e.g. phenothiazine derivatives, pimozide, haloperidol), tricyclic antidepressants, certain antimicrobial agents (e.g. sparfloxacin, moxifloxacin, erythromycin IV, pentamidine, antimalarial treatment particularly halofantrine), certain antihistamines (e.g. astemizole, mizolastine) is contraindicated (see section 4.3).

##### Causes of QT interval prolongation and ventricular arrhythmia including torsade de pointes have been reported during the post-marketing period, predominantly in patients of female gender, with hypokalaemia, or with pre-existing QT interval prolongation or other cardiac disease (see sections 4.3, 4.4, 4.8 and 4.9).

##### Pimozide:

Co-administration of a single dose of pimozide 2 mg to subjects treated with racemic citalopram 40 mg/day for 11 days caused an increase in AUC and  $C_{max}$  of pimozide. The co-administration of pimozide and citalopram results in a mean increase in the QTc interval of approximately 10 msec. Due to the interaction noted at a low dose of pimozide, concomitant administration of citalopram and pimozide is contraindicated.

##### Combinations requiring precautions for use:

• **Cimetidine:** Co-administration of racemic citalopram with cimetidine (potent CYP2D6, 3A4 and 1A2 inhibitor) results in increased plasma concentrations of the racemate (43 % increase in AUC, 39 % increase in  $C_{max}$ ). Thus, caution should be exercised at the upper end of the dose range of ZYTOMIL when used concomitantly with high doses of cimetidine.

• **Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOIs), Sumatriptan and Tramadol:** Co-administration with a MAOI may cause serotonin syndrome. Co-administration with other serotonergic medicines (e.g. tramadol, sumatriptan and other triptans) as well as other antidepressants with serotonergic properties may lead to an enhancement of serotonin associated effects, e.g. the serotonin syndrome.

There have been reports of enhanced effects when ZYTOMIL has been given with lithium or tryptophan and therefore concomitant use of ZYTOMIL with these medicines should be undertaken with caution (see section 4.4).

• **Medicines lowering the seizure threshold:** SSRIs, such as ZYTOMIL, can lower the seizure threshold. Caution is advised when concomitantly using other medicines capable of lowering the seizure threshold (e.g. other antidepressants (tricyclics, SSRIs), neuroleptics (phenothiazines, thioxanthenes and butyrophenones), meprobene, bupropion and tramadol).

• **Desipramine:** Co-administration with a single dose of desipramine (a CYP2D6 substrate) results in a two-fold increase in plasma levels of desipramine. Therefore, caution is advised when ZYTOMIL and desipramine are co-administered. A similar increase in plasma levels of desipramine, after administration of imipramine, is seen when given together with racemic citalopram.

• **Metoprolol:** Co-administration with a single dose of metoprolol 100 mg (a CYP2D6 substrate) results in a two-fold increase in the  $C_{max}$  and a 52 % increase of the AUC of metoprolol. However, the combination has no clinically significant effects on blood pressure and heart rate.

• **St. John's Wort:** Concomitant use of SSRIs, such as ZYTOMIL, and herbal remedies containing St. John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) may result in an increased incidence of adverse reactions (see section 4.4).

• **Alcohol:** Alcohol may increase the CNS side effects of ZYTOMIL. The combination with alcohol is not advisable (see section 4.8).

• **Medicines inducing hypokalaemia/hypomagnesaemia:** Caution is warranted for concomitant use of hypokalaemia/hypomagnesaemia inducing medicines as these conditions increase the risk of malignant dysrhythmias (see section 4.4).

• **Other:** Pharmacokinetic interaction studies with racemic citalopram have demonstrated no clinically important interactions with carbamazepine (CYP3A4 substrate), triazolam (CYP3A4 substrate), theophylline (CYP1A2 substrate) (single dose), warfarin (CYP3A4 and CYP2C9 substrate), levomepromazine (CYP2C8 inhibitor) and diphen. However, prothrombin time was slightly increased after a single dose of 25 mg warfarin. The International Normalised Ratio (INR) needs to be carefully monitored in patients on the combination. Concomitant use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as aspirin and other medicines affecting coagulation may increase bleeding tendency (see section 4.4).

Caution is to be exercised during concomitant use of the following: flucanazole, propofenone, domipramine, nortriptyline, risperidone, thioridazine and haloperidol due to lowering of the seizure threshold.

#### 4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

##### Pregnancy

ZYTOMIL is contraindicated in pregnancy (see section 4.3). Safety and efficacy in pregnancy have not been established.

Observational data indicate an increased risk (less than 2-fold) of postpartum haemorrhage following SSRI/SSRN exposure within the month prior to birth (see sections 4.4, 4.8).

##### Breastfeeding

ZYTOMIL is contraindicated during lactation (see section 4.3). Safety and efficacy during lactation have not been established. ZYTOMIL is excreted into the breast milk. Consequently, breastfeeding is not recommended during treatment.

Neonates should be observed if maternal use of ZYTOMIL continues into the later stages of pregnancy, particularly in the third trimester.

##### 4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines:

ZYTOMIL may impair performance of skilled tasks. Patients who are depressed and require treatment may have an impaired ability to drive or operate machinery. Patients should be warned of this possibility and advised to avoid such tasks if so affected (see section 4.8).

##### 4.8 Undesirable effects

**a) Summary of the safety profile**  
Adverse reactions observed with ZYTOMIL are most frequent during the first one or two weeks of treatment and may decrease in intensity and frequency with continued treatment. After prolonged administration, abrupt cessation of ZYTOMIL may produce withdrawal reactions in some patients.

**b) Tabulated summary of adverse reactions**

System Organ Class	Frequency	Side effects
<b>Blood and lymphatic system disorders</b>	<i>Frequency unknown</i>	Thrombocytopenia
<b>Immune system disorders</b>	<i>Less frequent</i>	Angioedema, anaphylactoid reactions
<b>Endocrine disorders</b>	<i>Frequency unknown</i>	Inappropriate antidiuretic hormone (ADH) secretion
<b>Metabolism and nutrition disorders</b>	<i>Frequent</i>	Decreased appetite, increased appetite, weight increased
	<i>Less frequent</i>	Weight decreased
	<i>Frequency unknown</i>	Hyponaatraemia, anorexia
<b>Psychiatric disorders</b>	<i>Frequent</i>	Anxiety, restlessness, abnormal dreams, libido decreased
	<i>Less frequent</i>	Bruxism, agitation, nervousness, panic attack, confusional state, aggression, depersonalisation, hallucination
	<i>Frequency unknown</i>	Mania, hostility, suicidal ideation and self-harm have been reported in children
<b>Nervous system disorders</b>	<i>Frequent</i>	Sleep disturbances, somnolence, dizziness, insomnia, drowsiness, paraesthesia, tremor
	<i>Less frequent</i>	Taste disturbances, sleep disorder, syncope, serotonin syndrome (typically characterised by a rapid onset of changes in mental state, with confusion, mania, agitation, hyperactivity, shivering, fever, tremor, ocular movements, myoclonus, hyperreflexia and inco-ordination)
	<i>Frequency unknown</i>	Headache, impaired concentration, malaise, dyskinesia, seizures, movement disorders

<b>Eye disorders</b>	<i>Less frequent</i> <i>Frequency unknown</i>	Mydriasis Accommodation disturbances, abnormal vision
<b>Ear and labyrinth disorders</b>	<i>Less frequent</i>	Tinnitus
<b>Cardiac disorders</b>	<i>Less frequent</i> <i>Frequency unknown</i>	Tachycardia, bradycardia Palpitations, tremor, electrocardiogram QT prolonged ventricular dysrhythmia including <i>torsade de pointes</i>
<b>Vascular disorders</b>	<i>Frequency unknown</i>	Postural hypotension
<b>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</b>	<i>Frequent</i> <i>Less frequent</i>	Sinusitis, yawning Nasal congestion, rhinitis, influenza-like symptoms, epistaxis
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>	<i>Frequent</i> <i>Less frequent</i> <i>Frequency unknown</i>	Nausea, constipation, diarrhoea, dry mouth, vomiting, indigestion Abdominal pain, gastrointestinal haemorrhages (including rectal haemorrhage) Salivation
<b>Hepato-biliary disorders</b>	<i>Frequency unknown</i>	Hepatitis, abnormal liver function tests
<b>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</b>	<i>Frequent</i> <i>Less frequent</i> <i>Frequency unknown</i>	Increased sweating Urticaria, alopecia, rash, pruritus Ecchymosis
<b>Musculoskeletal, connective tissue and bone disorders</b>	<i>Frequent</i> <i>Frequency unknown</i>	Arthralgia, myalgia Asthenia
<b>Renal and urinary disorders</b>	<i>Frequency unknown</i>	Urinary retention
<b>Reproductive system and breast disorders</b>	<i>Frequent</i> <i>Less frequent</i> <i>Frequency unknown</i>	Sexual dysfunction including ejaculation disorder and impotence (male), abnormal orgasm (female), decreased libido Anorgasmia, metrorrhagia, menorrhagia Galactorrhoea, priapism, postpartum haemorrhage
<b>General disorders and administrative site conditions</b>	<i>Frequent</i> <i>Less frequent</i>	Fatigue, pyrexia Oedema

**Reporting of suspected adverse reactions**  
Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicine is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicine. Healthcare providers are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions to SAHPRA via the "6.04 Adverse Drug Reaction Reporting Form", found on SAHPRA's website: [www.sahpra.org.za](http://www.sahpra.org.za) under "online services"

#### 4.9 OVERDOSE

**Signs and symptoms:** Symptoms mainly related to the central nervous system (ranging from dizziness, tremor and agitation to rare cases of serotonin syndrome, convulsion and coma), the gastrointestinal system (nausea/vomiting), and the cardiovascular system (hypotension, tachycardia, QT interval prolongation and dysrhythmia) and electrolyte/fluid balance conditions (hypokalaemia, hyponatraemia).

**Management of overdose:** There is no specific antidote. Treatment is supportive and symptomatic. The stomach should be emptied as soon as possible by emesis.

Establish and maintain an airway, ensure adequate oxygenation and respiratory function. Gastric lavage and the use of activated charcoal should be carried out as soon as possible after oral ingestion. Monitoring of cardiac and vital signs are necessary and medical surveillance is advisable for about 24 hours, along with general symptomatic supportive measures. ECG monitoring is advised in case of overdose in patients with congestive heart failure/brady-dysrhythmias. In patients using concomitant medicines that prolong the QT interval, or in patients with altered metabolism, e.g. liver impairment (see section 4.8).

**5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES**

##### 5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Antidepressants, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors  
ATC code: N 06 AB 10  
Pharmacological classification: A 1.2 Psychoanalectics (antidepressants)

##### Mechanism of action

Escitalopram is the (S)-enantiomer of citalopram, a bicyclic phthalane derivative with antidepressant effect. Escitalopram is a selective inhibitor of serotonin (5-HT) re-uptake. Escitalopram blocks 5-HT re-uptake, leading to potentiation of serotonergic activity in the central nervous system (CNS).

Escitalopram has minimal effect on norepinephrine (noradrenaline, NA), dopamine (DA) and gamma aminobutyric acid (GABA) re-uptake. Escitalopram also has little or no antidepressant, antiadrenergic, antiserotonergic, antihistaminergic or anticholinergic properties. Escitalopram has no or very low affinity for a series of receptors including 5-HT<sub>1A</sub>, 5-HT<sub>2</sub>, DA, D<sub>1</sub> and D<sub>2</sub> receptors,  $\alpha_1$ ,  $\alpha_2$ ,  $\beta_1$ -adrenoceptors, histamine H<sub>1</sub>, muscarinic receptors, benzodiazepine and opioid receptors.

##### 5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

**Absorption:** The mean  $T_{max}$  is 4 hours after oral absorption. Absorption is independent of food intake. The area under the plasma or serum concentration time curve

## PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

### SCHEDULING STATUS SS

**ZYTOMIL 5 mg**, coated tablet
**ZYTOMIL 10 mg**, coated tablet
**ZYTOMIL 15 mg**, coated tablet
**ZYTOMIL 20 mg**, coated tablet
Escitalopram
ZYTOMIL is sugar-free

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking ZYTOMIL**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you need further advice from your doctor, pharmacist, nurse or other healthcare provider.
- ZYTOMIL has been prescribed for you personally and you should not share your medicine with other people. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.

#### What is in this leaflet

- What ZYTOMIL is and what it is used for
- What you need to know before you use ZYTOMIL
- How to use ZYTOMIL
- Possible side effects
- How to store ZYTOMIL
- Contents of the pack and other information

**1. What ZYTOMIL is and what it is used for**
ZYTOMIL is an antidepressant which belongs to the SSRI group (selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors).

ZYTOMIL is used to treat:

- Major depression
- Panic disorder with or without agoraphobia (e.g. fear of leaving the house, entering shops, being in crowds and in public places)
- Social anxiety disorder (social phobia)
- Generalised anxiety disorder
- Obsessive-compulsive disorder.

#### Do not take you need to know before you take ZYTOMIL

- Do not take ZYTOMIL:**
  - if you are hypersensitive (allergic) to escitalopram, or to any of the ingredients of ZYTOMIL (see section 6).
  - If you are under the age of 18 years (see Take special care with ZYTOMIL).
  - If you are taking any other medicines for depression such as monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOI). At least 14 days should pass between stopping such medication and starting with ZYTOMIL (see Other medicines with ZYTOMIL).
  - If you are taking other MAO inhibitors such as selegiline (used in the treatment of Parkinson's disease), moclobemide (used in the treatment of depression) and linezolid (an antibiotic).
  - If you are taking the antibiotic linezolid, as your dosage may need to be adjusted.
  - If you are taking pimozide (an antipsychotic medicine), as it may lead to heart problems.
  - If you were born with or have had an episode of abnormal heart rhythm (as determined by an ECG: a test performed to check for problems with your heart), or if you take medicines for heart rhythm problems or that may affect the heart's rhythm (see Other medicines with ZYTOMIL).
  - If you are pregnant or breastfeeding your baby (see Pregnancy and breastfeeding).
  - If you have a condition called porphyria (a rare blood disorder with symptoms such as severe abdominal pain, pain in your chest, back or legs, vomiting or a rapid heartbeat).

#### Warnings and precautions

##### Take special care with ZYTOMIL:

- ZYTOMIL should not be used by children and adolescents under 18 years (see Do not take ZYTOMIL). Patients under 18 are more likely to experience side effects such as suicide attempt, suicidal thoughts and hostility (mainly aggression, oppositional behaviour and anger) when they take ZYTOMIL. The long-term safety effects concerning growth and development of ZYTOMIL. In this age group have not yet been studied.
- If you are depressed and/or have anxiety disorders, you can sometimes have thoughts of harming or killing yourself. These may be increased when first starting antidepressants, since these medicines take time to work (usually about two weeks but sometimes longer).
- If you have previously had thoughts about killing or harming yourself.
- Your doctor will monitor your treatment and your progress carefully for the first few weeks. If you have any thoughts of harming or killing yourself at any time, contact your doctor immediately or go to a hospital straight away.
- You may find it helpful to tell a relative or close friend that you are depressed or have an anxiety disorder, and ask them to read this leaflet. You might ask them to tell you if they think your depression or anxiety is getting worse, or if they are worried about changes in your behaviour.
- If you suffer or have suffered from heart problems or have recently had a heart attack.
- If your treatment is to be discontinued. Do not stop taking ZYTOMIL without talking to your doctor. If you stop taking your ZYTOMIL tablets suddenly, you may experience withdrawal effects (see If you stop taking ZYTOMIL).
- If you are an elderly patient (over 65 years).
- If you have liver or kidney impairment (see Other medicines with ZYTOMIL).
- If you get seizures (epilepsy) during treatment with ZYTOMIL, or have a history of epilepsy and there is an increase in seizure frequency your treatment will need to be gradually discontinued.
- If you are receiving electroconvulsive treatment for your depression.
- If you have episodes of mania (overactive behaviour or thoughts).
- If you have pre-existing slow heart rate.
- If you are a diabetic (high blood sugar) as your dose of diabetic medicine may need to be adjusted.
- If your anxiety increases during treatment. Some patients with panic disorder may experience increased anxiety symptoms at the start of treatment with ZYTOMIL. This reaction usually disappears within two weeks of continued treatment. Your doctor will start you on a lower dose in order to reduce the likelihood of increased anxiety attacks.
- If you experience a feeling of restlessness, usually within the first few weeks of treatment (see Possible side effects).
- If you have a decreased level of sodium in the blood as a result of severe diarrhoea and vomiting or use of diuretics.

- If you are taking other similar medicines for a mental condition, anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) or aspirin and have a history of bleeding disorders as ZYTOMIL may increase the risk of bleeding.
- If you are pregnant and your doctor has prescribed ZYTOMIL for you in the month before your baby is due, there is a risk of excessive bleeding after childbirth
- If you are taking medicine to prevent the clotting of blood (e.g. warfarin) or are prone to bleed easily as ZYTOMIL may increase the risk of bleeding.
- If you take medicines to treat pain (e.g. tramadol), or migraine (e.g. sumatriptan) as you may be at risk of serotonin toxicity in condition with symptoms such as agitation or restlessness, dilated pupils and heavy sweating).
- If you take medicines containing lithium or tryptophan as the effects of ZYTOMIL may be increased (see Other medicines with ZYTOMIL).
- If you suffer from glaucoma (an eye condition that can result in the damage of the optic nerve).
- ZYTOMIL should not be used with monoamine oxidase inhibitors, imipramine, other medicines that increase serotonin levels, moclobemide, alcohol, warfarin or cinnoline (see Other medicines with ZYTOMIL and ZYTOMIL with food and drink).
- If you are taking St. John's Wort (a herbal medicine) as this may result in unwanted side effects (see Other medicines with ZYTOMIL).
- If you are 50 years or older. An increased risk of bone fractures has been observed in patients aged 50 years or older taking ZYTOMIL.

#### Other medicines and ZYTOMIL

Always tell your healthcare provider if you are taking any other medicines. (This includes complementary or traditional medicines.)

- Do not take any other medicines to treat depression (for example monoamine oxidase inhibitors, imipramine, other antidepressant medicines) as this may affect the release of serotonin, a type of hormone, linezolid and moclobemide) without consulting your doctor as they may interact with ZYTOMIL (see Do not take ZYTOMIL).
- Do not take ZYTOMIL if you are medicines that may affect the heart's rhythm such as pimozide (see Do not take ZYTOMIL).

Tell your doctor if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- Selegiline (used to treat Parkinson's disease) increases the risk of side effects.
- Medicines that prolong or affect the heart rhythm (phenothiazide derivatives, pimozide, haloperidol), anti-arrhythmic medicines (anti-arrhythmic medicines (sotalolol, moxifloxacin, erythromycin N, pentamidine, antimalarial treatment particularly halofantrine), certain medicines to treat allergies (mizolastine), as they may affect the way ZYTOMIL works (see Do not take ZYTOMIL).
- Medicines used to treat heart burn or stomach ulcer such as cimetidine interact with the breakdown of escitalopram, and the dose of ZYTOMIL may need to be changed.
- Sumatriptan and similar medicines (used to treat migraine) and tramadol (used against severe pain). These may increase the risk of side effects (see Take special care with ZYTOMIL).
- Lithium (used in the treatment of manic-depressive disorder) and tryptophan (used by the body to generate serotonin) may affect your mood and sleep).
- Neuroleptics (medicines used to treat schizophrenia and other severe mental problems e.g. phenothiazines, thioxanthenes and butyrophenones), mifepristone (an anti-nausea medicine) and prapron (an antidepressant medicine) and tramadol (medicine used to treat moderate to severe pain) and antidepressants (tricyclics, SSRI) due to a possible risk of a lowered threshold for serotonin toxicity.
- Flecainide, propafenone, and metoprolol (used in cardiovascular disease); desipramine, clomipramine, and nortriptyline (antidepressants); and risperidone, thioridazine, and haloperidol (antipsychotics). The dosage of ZYTOMIL may need to be adjusted.
- St. John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) - a herbal remedy used for depression (see Take special care with ZYTOMIL side).
- Do not use alcohol while taking ZYTOMIL.
- Medicines which lower potassium or magnesium levels in the blood as they may result in unwanted side effects.
- Pimozide, an antipsychotic medicine, as it may affect the heart's rhythm (see Do not take ZYTOMIL).
- Aspirin and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (medicines used for pain relief or to thin the blood) may increase the risk of bleeding.
- Warfarin (medicine used to thin the blood). Your doctor may check the coagulation time of your blood when starting and discontinuing ZYTOMIL in order to verify that your dose of anti-coagulant is still adequate.

#### ZYTOMIL with food and drink

ZYTOMIL can be taken with or without food. Avoid consuming alcohol whilst taking ZYTOMIL (see Other medicines with ZYTOMIL).

#### Pregnancy, breastfeeding and fertility

If you are pregnant or breastfeeding your baby, please consult your doctor, pharmacist or other healthcare professional for advice before using ZYTOMIL.

If you take ZYTOMIL near the end of your pregnancy there may be an increased risk of heavy neonatal bleeding shortly after birth, especially if you have a history of bleeding disorders. Your doctor or midwife should be aware that you are taking ZYTOMIL, so they can advise you.

Do not take ZYTOMIL if you are pregnant or breastfeeding (see Do not take ZYTOMIL).

#### Driving and using machines:

ZYTOMIL may impair your ability to drive and use machinery. Take care if you feel dizzy, tired or drowsy while using ZYTOMIL. It is not always possible to predict what extent ZYTOMIL may interfere with the daily activities of a patient. Patients should ensure that they do not engage in the above activities until they are aware of the measure to which ZYTOMIL affects them.

#### 3. How to take ZYTOMIL

Do not share medicines prescribed for you with any other person. Always use ZYTOMIL exactly as your doctor has instructed. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are unsure.

#### Major depression:

The usual dose of ZYTOMIL is 10 mg taken as one daily dose. The dose can be increased by your doctor to a maximum of 20 mg per day, depending on your response to treatment.

**Panic disorders, with or without agoraphobia:**
The starting dose of ZYTOMIL is 5 mg as one daily dose for the first week before increasing the dose to 10 mg per day. The dose may be further increased by your doctor to a maximum of 20 mg per day, depending on your response to treatment.

#### Social anxiety disorder (social phobia):

The usual dose of ZYTOMIL is 10 mg taken as one daily dose. Depending on your response to the treatment, your doctor may increase the dose to a maximum of 20 mg daily.

#### Generalised anxiety disorder:

The usual dose of ZYTOMIL is 10 mg taken as one daily dose. The dose may be increased by your doctor to a maximum of 20 mg per day, depending on your response to treatment.

#### Obsessive-compulsive Disorder (OCD):

The usual dose of ZYTOMIL is 10 mg taken as one daily dose. The dose may be increased by your doctor to a maximum of 20 mg daily, depending on your response to treatment.

**Children and adolescents (below 18 years of age):**
ZYTOMIL should not be given to children and adolescents under the age of 18 (see Do not take ZYTOMIL).

Your doctor will tell you how long your treatment with ZYTOMIL will last. Do not stop treatment early because you may experience unwanted side effects.

If you have the impression that the effect of ZYTOMIL is too strong or too weak, tell your doctor or pharmacist.

#### If you take more ZYTOMIL than you should:

In the event of overdose, consult your doctor or pharmacist. If neither is available, contact the nearest hospital or poison control centre.

Take the least and any remaining tablets with you so that your doctor may know what you have taken. In the event of overdose, your doctor will treat the symptoms.

#### Symptoms of overdose may include:

- Increasing tiredness, weakness, dizziness, agitation, tremor, nausea, sleepiness, drowsiness and increase heart rate.

#### If you forget to take ZYTOMIL:

Take the missed dose as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, continue to take the next tablet at the usual time. **Do not take a double dose to make up for forgotten individual doses.**

**If you stop taking ZYTOMIL**
Do not stop taking your medicine abruptly as this may result unwanted side effects. Your doctor will prescribe the gradual lowering of the dose.

The most common reported reactions are dizziness, tingling (pins and needles), numbness, sleep disturbances (including insomnia and nightmares), agitation or anxiety, nausea and/or vomiting, tremor (shaking), confusion, sweating, headache, dizziness, palpitations (rapid heartbeat), emotional instability, irritability and visual disturbances. These events are mild to moderate however, in some patients they may be severe.

#### 4. Possible side effects

ZYTOMIL can have side effects.

Not all side effects reported for ZYTOMIL are included in this leaflet. Should your general health worsen, or if you experience any untoward effects while using ZYTOMIL, please consult your healthcare provider for advice.

If any of the following happens, stop using ZYTOMIL and tell your doctor immediately or go to the casualty department at your nearest hospital.

- swelling of the hands, feet, ankles, face, lips, mouth or throat, which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing
- rash or itching

These are all very serious side effects. If you have them, you may have had a serious allergic reaction to ZYTOMIL. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation.

Tell your doctor immediately or go to the casualty department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of the following:

- Easy or excessive bruising, superficial bleeding or prolonged bleeding from cuts, nose, gums or blood in urine or stools
- Chronic pain and/or tremors
- Having the feeling of great excitement or euphoria, delusions, overactivity, hostility, suicidal thoughts (thinking of killing yourself) and suicidal behaviour, having hallucinations (strange visions or sounds)
- Seizures (fits), shivering, rapid or slow heartbeat, increased sweating, confusion, mood swings, fever, tremor, involuntary eye movements, spasmodic jerky contraction of groups of muscles, difficulty moving, abnormal coordination or balance (known as serotonin syndrome, due to too much serotonin in the brain)
- Fast, irregular heartbeat, fainting which could be symptoms of a life-threatening condition known as *torsades de pointes*, chest pain
- Gastrointestinal bleeding, symptoms which may include vomiting red blood, vomiting black blood, bloody stool or black stools
- Yellowing of the skin and the whites of the eyes (jaundice)
- Difficulty urinating, inability to completely empty the bladder.

These are all serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention.

Tell your doctor if you notice any of the following:

##### Frequent side effects:

- Increased or decreased appetite, weight gain
- Feeling anxious, restless or need to keep moving, abnormal dreams, decrease in libido
- Sleep disturbance, sleepiness, dizziness, drowsiness, inability to sleep, sensations of tingling, burning, prickling (pins and needles), or numbness
- Sinusitis, yawning
- Nausea, constipation, diarrhoea, dry mouth, vomiting, indigestion
- Increased sweating
- Muscle or joint pain
- Sexual disturbances (delayed ejaculation, problem with erection, decreased sexual drive and women may experience difficulties achieving orgasm)
- Extreme tiredness, raised body temperature (fever).

#### Less frequent side effects:

- Weight loss
- Involuntary habitual grinding of the teeth (typically during sleeping), feeling agitated, nervousness, panic attacks, feeling confused, aggressiveness, disorientation, feeling in a state in which one's thoughts and feelings seem unreal or not to belong to oneself
- Taste disturbances, sleep disorder, fainting
- Dilation of the pupil of the eye
- Ringing or buzzing in the ears
- Heartbeat that is faster or slower than normal
- Nasal congestion (stuffy nose), hay fever, flu like symptoms, bleeding from the nose
- Abdominal pain
- Loss of hair, discolouration of the skin resulting from bleeding under the skin, typically caused by bruising, rash or red welts on the hands, feet, face or genitals, itives, itching of the skin
- Bleeding from the uterus (womb) that is not associated with menstruation, abnormally heavy or extended menstrual flow
- Fluid retention.

The following side effects have been reported but the frequency for them to occur is not known:

- Heavy vaginal bleeding shortly after birth (postpartum haemorrhage); see section 2 for more information
- Low levels of sodium in the blood (which may result in confusion, seizures, fatigue and low levels of consciousness), loss of appetite
- Headaches, difficulty concentrating, feeling of discomfort, illness or unease, difficulty controlling movement, twitching or abnormal uncontrolled movements
- Blurred or abnormal vision
- Low blood pressure (feeling lightheaded or dizzy when standing up)
- Salivation
- Inflammation of the liver
- Abnormal physical weakness or lack of energy
- Excessive or inappropriate production of milk, persistent and painful erection of the penis.
- If you notice any side effects not mentioned in this leaflet, please inform your doctor or pharmacist.

#### Reporting of side effects

If you get side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects to SAHPRA via the Medicines and Drug Reporting Form<sup>®</sup> found on SAHPRA's website: www.sahpra.org.za under "online services". By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of ZYTOMIL.

#### 5. How to store ZYTOMIL

Store all medicines out of reach of children. Store at or below 25 °C. Protect from light. Keep children in outer carton until required for use. Keep bottles tightly closed. Do not use after the expiry date stated on the carton. Return all unused medicine to your pharmacist. Do not dispose of unused medicine in drains or sewerage systems (e.g. toilets).

#### 6. Contents of the pack and other information

##### What ZYTOMIL contains

ZYTOMIL 5 mg: Each coated tablet contains escitalopram oxalate equivalent to 5 mg escitalopram.

ZYTOMIL 10 mg: Each coated tablet contains escitalopram oxalate equivalent to 10 mg escitalopram.

ZYTOMIL 15 mg: Each coated tablet contains escitalopram oxalate equivalent to 15 mg escitalopram.

ZYTOMIL 20 mg: Each coated tablet contains escitalopram oxalate equivalent to 20 mg escitalopram.

##### The other ingredients are:

Colloidal silicon dioxide, croscarmellose sodium,

hydroxypropyl methyl-cellulose, magnesium stearate,

microcrystalline cellulose, polyethylene glycol, talc, titanium

dioxide

**What ZYTOMIL looks like and contents of the pack**
ZYTOMIL 5 mg: White, oval, coated tablet, debossed with "E" and "C" on one side and nothing on the other side.

ZYTOMIL 10 mg: White, oval, coated tablet, debossed with "E" and "C", divided by a score on one side and "10" on the other side.

ZYTOMIL 15 mg: White, oval, coated tablet, debossed with "E" and "C" on one side and nothing on the other side.

ZYTOMIL 20 mg: White, oval, coated tablet, debossed with "E" and "C", divided by a score on one side and "20" on the other side.

ZYTOMIL is packed into hard, silver-coloured aluminium foil/clear PVC/PVDC or PVC/PE/PVDC film blister strips of 3 x 10 tablets each inside an outer cardboard box. ZYTOMIL is also packed into white, HDPE bottles with a desiccant, polyester pharmacol and a white PP screw cap with 30 tablets inside.

#### Holder of Certificate of Registration

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#### Registration numbers

ZYTOMIL 5 mg\*: A421/2/0911

ZYTOMIL 10 mg\*: A421/2/0912

ZYTOMIL 15 mg\*: A421/2/0913

ZYTOMIL 20 mg\*: A421/2/0914

\*Not marketed in South Africa

<b>NAMIBIA:</b>
ZYTOMIL 10 mg: NAMI <span><span>NS3</span></span> 10/1.2/0479
ZYTOMIL 20 mg: NAMI <span><span>NS3</span></span> 10/1.2/0481

<b>MOZAMBIQUE:</b>
ZYTOMIL 10: NS935
ZYTOMIL 20: NS936

13061

## PASIENTINLIINGSBLAD

### SKEDULERINGSSTATUS: SS

**ZYTOMIL 5 mg**, bedekte tablet
**ZYTOMIL 10 mg**, bedekte tablet
**ZYTOMIL 15 mg**, bedekte tablet
**ZYTOMIL 20 mg**, bedekte tablet
Escitalopram
ZYTOMIL is sukervry

**Lees hierdie inligtingsblad deeglik deur, voordat u begin om ZYTOMIL te gebruik.**

- Hou hierdie inligtingsblad. Dit mag nodig wees vir u om dit weer te lees.
- Indien u verduie vrse het, va asseblief u dokter, apteker, verpleepkundige, of ander gesondheidsverskaffer.
- ZYTOMIL is vir u persoonlik voorgeskryf en u moet nie u medisyne met ander mense deel nie. Dit mag skadelik wees vir hulle, selfs al is hulle simptome dieselfde as u se.

#### Wat hierdie inligtingsblad bevat:

- Wat ZYTOMIL is en waarvoor dit gebruik word
- Wat u nodig het om te weet, voordat u ZYTOMIL gebruik
- How om ZYTOMIL te gebruik
- Moontlike newe-effekte
- How om ZYTOMIL te bewaar
- Verpakkingsinhoud en ander inligting

**1. Wat ZYTOMIL is en waarvoor dit gebruik word**
ZYTOMIL is 'n antidepressant, wat aan die SSRI groep (selektiewe serotonien heropname inhibiteurs), behoort.

ZYTOMIL word gebruik om die volgende te behandel:

- Major depressie
- Paniekversteuring, met of sonder agorafobie (bv. wees om die huis te verlaat, winkels binne te gaan, in skaars en publieke plekke teenwoordig te wees)
- Sosiale angersversteuring (sosiale fobie)
- Algemene angersversteuring
- Obsessief-kompulsiewe versteuring

**2. Wat u nodig het om te weet, voordat u ZYTOMIL gebruik**
**Moet nie ZYTOMIL neem:**

- Indien u hipersensitief (allergies) is vir essitalopram, of vir enige van die ander bestanddele van ZYTOMIL (nie kyk afdeling 6).
- Indien u jonger as 18 jaar oud is nie kyk Neem spesiale sorg met ZYTOMIL.
- Indien u enige ander medisyne vir depressie, soos mono-amienskiedse inhibiteurs (MAOI), neem nie. Daar moet 'n tussenpose van ten minste 14 dae wees, tussen die staking van 'n medisyne en die aanvang van ZYTOMIL (kyk Die neem van ander medisyne saam met ZYTOMIL).
- Indien u ander MAO inhibiteurs, soos selegiline (gebruik vir die behandeling van Parkinson se siekte), moclobemide (gebruik vir die behandeling van depressie) en linezolid ('n antibiotikum), neem nie.
- Indien u die antibiotikum linezolid neem en aangesien dit nodig mag wees vir u dosis om aanpass te word.
- Indien u pimozid neem ('n antiopsigetiese medisyne), aangesien dit mag tot hartritmeprobleme veroorsaak.
- Indien u getre wees met, of 'n greef van abnormale hartritme gehad het nie (soos vasgestel deur 'n EKG: 'n toets wat uitgewer word, om probleme met u hart, te bepaal).
- Indien u medisyne vir hartritmeprobleme, of wat die hartritme beïnvloed, neem nie (kyk Ander medisyne en ZYTOMIL).
- Indien u swanger is, of u 'n baba borsvoed nie (kyk Swangerskap en borsvoeding).
- Indien u aan 'n toestel met 'n ranteleer gebruik word, ly nie ('n skaars bloedversteuring, met simptome soos erge abnormale nyl, pyn in u bors, rug, of bene, braking, of 'n vinnige hartklop).

#### Waarskuwings en voorsorgmaatreëls

**Neem spesiale sorg met ZYTOMIL:**

- ZYTOMIL moet nie deur kinders en adollesente jonger as 18 jaar oud, gebruik word nie (kyk Moet nie ZYTOMIL neem).
- Pasiënte jonger as 18 jaar, is meer geneig om newe-effekte, soos selfmoordgeding, selfmoordgeding en vryandigheid (hoofsaaklik aggressie, opposisionele optrede en woede), te ervaar, wanneer hulle ZYTOMIL neem. Die langtermyn veiligheid van ZYTOMIL in hierdie oudergroepe, onderhou aan groei en ontwikkeling. Dit mag nodig wees vir u om ZYTOMIL te gebruik.
- Indien u depressief is, en/of angersversteurings het, mag u somtyds daaraan dink om u teeser te bekeer, of selfmoord te pleeg. Hierdie gedagtes mag bieroen, wanneer antidepressante vir die eerste keer begin word, aangesien dit 'n tipiese reaksie vir hierdie medisyne is om te begin werk (gewoonlik ongeveer twee weke, maar somtyds langer).
- Indien u voorthes daaraan gedink het om selfmoord te pleeg, of u dit te bekeer.
- U dokter sal u behandeling en voeding neurokeur monitor, tydens die eerste paar weke. Indien u enigins daaraan dink om uself te bekeer, of selfmoord te pleeg, kontak u dokter onmiddellik, of besoek dadelik u nasate hospitaal.
- U mag dit behuissam vind om 'n nasasbestande, of rabye vriend te verlei dat u depressief is, of 'n angersversteuring het in hulle vra om hierdie inligtingsblad te lees. U mag hulle ook vra om te vertel, indien hulle dink dat u depressie of angersghed vererger, of indien hulle bekommerd is, omtrent veranderinge in u optrede.
- Indien u 'n tipe, of voorthes aan hartprobleme gely het, of ontang 'n hartaanval gehad het.
- Indien u behandeling onttrek gaan word. Moet nie die gebruik van ZYTOMIL skielik staak, sonder om dit met u dokter te bespreek nie. Indien u skielik ophou om ZYTOMIL tablette te neem, mag u ontbakkingsimptome ervaar (kyk Indien behandeling met ZYTOMIL gestaak word).
- Indien u 'n bejarde persoon is (ouer as 65 jaar).
- Indien u lever- of nierbelemmering het.
- Indien u aanvalle (epilepsie) ervaar, tydens die behandeling met ZYTOMIL, of 'n siekiedenis van epilepsie het en daar 'n verhoging in aanval-frekwensie is. U aanging behoort geleidelik onttrek te word.
- Indien u elektro-konulsiewe behandeling vir u depressie ontvang.
- Indien u maniese episodes ervaar (oortekwete optrede, of gedagtes).
- Indien u 'n voorasbestande, stadige hartemp het.
- Indien u 'n diabetes is (hoë bloedsuiker het), aangesien dit nodig mag wees vir u diabetesmedisyndosis, om aanpass te word.
- Indien u angsigshied bieroen tydens behandeling. Sommige pasiënte met paniekversteuring, met 'n verhoging in angsigtemptome ervaar, tydens die aanvang van behandeling met ZYTOMIL. Hierdie reaksie verhoeg gewoonlik binne twee weke van volgehoue behandeling.

U dokter sal u op 'n laer dosis begin behandel, om die moontlikheid van 'n toename in angansvalle, te vermindre.

- Indien u 'n gevoel van rueloosheid of gewaontik binne die eerste paar weke van behandeling (kyk Moontlike newe-effekte).
- Indien u 'n verlaagde vlak van sodium in die bloed het, as gevolg van erge diarree en braking, of weens die gebruik van diuretika.

- Indien u ander soortgelyke medisyne vir 'n geestesbestand neem, anti-inflammatoriese middels (NSAIDs), of aspirien en u geskiedenis van bloedingsversteurings het, aangesien ZYTOMIL die risiko vir bloeding, mag verhoed.
- Indien u swanger is en u dokter ZYTOMIL tydens die maand voordat u 'n baba u geboort, voorgeskryf het, aangesien daar 'n risiko vir ultramatige bloeding na kindergeboorte mag wees.
- Indien u medisyne om bloedingstil te verhoed (bv. warfarin), of 'n neiging tot vir maklike bloeding, aangesien ZYTOMIL die risiko vir bloeding, mag verhoed.
- Indien u medisyne om pyn (bv. tramadol), of migraine (bv. sumatriptan) te behandel neem, aangesien u 'n risiko vir serotonien-sindroom ('n toestand met simptome soos agitasie of rueloosheid, verbypte pyn en erge sweet), mag ervaar.
- Indien u medisyne wat litium of tryptofaan bevat neem, aangesien die werking van ZYTOMIL versterk mag word (kyk Ander medisyne en ZYT