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2. Zemaira

# Zemaira

**Generic name:** [alpha 1-proteinase inhibitor](#) [ *AL-fa-1-PRO-tee-nase-in-HIB-i-tor* ]**Drug class:** [Miscellaneous respiratory agents](#)Medically reviewed by [Philip Thornton, DipPharm](#). Last updated on Aug 23, 2023.[Uses](#)   [Warnings](#)   [Before taking](#)   [Dosage](#)   [Side effects](#)   [Interactions](#)

## What is Zemaira?

Zemaira contain the [protein alpha 1-proteinase](#), also called alpha 1-antitrypsin. This protein occurs naturally in the body and is important for preventing the breakdown of tissues in the lungs.

In people who lack the alpha 1-antitrypsin protein, breakdown of lung tissues can lead to emphysema (damage to the air sacs in the lungs).

Zemaira is used to treat alpha 1-antitrypsin deficiency in people who have symptoms of [emphysema](#).

Alpha 1-antitrypsin deficiency is a genetic (inherited) disorder and Zemaira will not cure this condition.

## Warnings

You should not use Zemaira if you have ever had an allergic reaction to alpha 1-proteinase inhibitor, or if you have an IgA (immunoglobulin A) deficiency or antibody against IgA.

Zemaira must be mixed with a liquid (diluent) before given as an injection. If you are using the injections at home, be sure you understand how to properly prepare and store your medicine.

Call your doctor at once if you have a serious side effect such as fever, chills, body aches, flu symptoms, mouth sores, pain or burning when you urinate, wheezing, chest pain or tightness, trouble breathing, or vision changes. Zemaira is made from human plasma (part of the blood) which may contain viruses and other infectious agents. Donated plasma is tested and treated to reduce the risk of it containing infectious agents, but there is still a small possibility it could transmit disease. Talk with your doctor about the risks and benefits of using this medication.

## Before taking this medicine

You should not use Zemaira if:

- you've had a severe allergic reaction to an alpha 1-proteinase inhibitor; or
- you have an IgA (immunoglobulin A) deficiency or antibody against IgA.

To make sure Zemaira is safe for you, tell your doctor if you have:

- liver disease; or
- [chronic obstructive pulmonary disease \(COPD\)](#), or other breathing disorder.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Zemaira is not approved for use by anyone younger than 18 years old.

Zemaira is made from donated human plasma and may contain viruses or other infectious agents. Donated plasma is tested and treated to reduce the risk of contamination, but there is still a small possibility it could transmit disease. Ask your doctor about any possible risk.

 [Zemaira pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

## How should I use Zemaira?

Take Zemaira exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets.

Zemaira is injected into a vein, usually once per week.

Your first dose may be given in a medical setting where any serious side effects can be quickly treated.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you don't understand how to use an injection.

Be sure you understand how to properly mix the powder form of Zemaira with a liquid (diluent) and how to store the mixture.

Prepare an injection only when you are ready to give it. Call your pharmacist if the medicine looks cloudy, has changed colors, or has particles in it.

Do not reuse a needle or syringe. Place them in a puncture-proof "sharps" container and dispose of it following state or local laws. Keep out of the reach of children and pets.

Doses are based on weight. Your dose may change if you gain or lose weight.

Store Zemaira at cool room temperature, away from moisture and heat. Use within 3 hours after mixing.

Do not freeze Zemaira, and do not use it past the [expiration date](#) on the medicine label.

Throw away a vial (bottle) after one use, even if there is still medicine left inside.

## Dosing information

### Usual Adult Dose for Alpha-1 Proteinase Inhibitor Deficiency:

60 mg/kg intravenously once a week

Comments:

-Dose ranging studies using efficacy endpoints have not been performed.

Use: Chronic augmentation and maintenance therapy in adults with clinical evidence of emphysema due to hereditary deficiency of Alpha 1-Proteinase Inhibitor (alpha 1-antitrypsin deficiency)

 [Detailed Zemaira dosage information](#)

## What happens if I miss a dose?

Call your doctor for instructions if you miss a dose.

## What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

## What should I avoid while taking Zemaira?

Follow your doctor's instructions about any restrictions on food, beverages, or activity.

## Zemaira side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction to Zemaira**: [hives](#), rash; confusion, feeling light-headed; fast heartbeats, chest tightness, difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Your doctor may also prescribe epinephrine (Epi-Pen) to keep with you in case you ever have an allergic reaction to Zemaira.

Stop using Zemaira and call your doctor at once if you have:

- wheezing, chest pain, trouble breathing;
- [dizziness](#), severe [headache](#);
- a seizure; or
- sudden numbness or weakness, slurred speech, problems with vision or balance.

**You may feel faint during the injection.** You may need to rest for a short time afterward.

Common Zemaira side effects may include:

- [cold symptoms](#) such as runny or stuffy nose, sneezing, cough, [sore throat](#);
- headache;
- muscle or joint pain;
- weakness;
- flushing (sudden warmth, redness, or tingly feeling);
- [nausea](#); or
- bruising or bleeding where the medicine was injected.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Zemaira side effects](#) (more detail)

## Related/similar drugs

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Prolastin-C Liquid may be used to replace missing alpha1-proteinase inhibitor (alpha1-PI) levels in ...

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Glassia (alpha 1-proteinase inhibitor) is an injection used to treat Alpha 1 deficiency. Includes ...

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## What other drugs will affect Zemaira?

Other drugs may interact with alpha 1-proteinase inhibitor, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#). Tell your doctor about all other medicines you use.

## Does Zemaira interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

Zemaira

+

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## Patient resources

### Other brands

[Prolastin-C](#), [Prolastin](#), [Aralast](#), [Aralast NP](#), [Glassia](#)

## Professional resources

- [Zemaira prescribing information](#)
- [Alpha-1-Proteinase Inhibitor \(Human\) \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

### Other brands

[Prolastin-C](#), [Aralast NP](#), [Glassia](#)

## Related treatment guides

- [Alpha-1 Proteinase Inhibitor Deficiency](#)

## Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use Zemaira only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

## DRUG STATUS

### Availability

**Rx** Prescription only

### Pregnancy & Lactation

 Risk data available

### CSA Schedule\*

**N/A** Not a controlled drug



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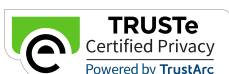
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