Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start to use this medicine and save it for future reference. If you have any further questions, please ask your doctor or pharmacist.

1. What Actonel Once a Week is and what it is used for

Actonel Once a Week is used to treat:

- Men who are at high risk of spinal and hip fractures.
- Postmenopausal women and men.

2. What you need to know before you take Actonel Once a Week

1. This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
2. Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to risedronate sodium or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
3. Actonel Once a Week contains a small amount of lactose.
4. Possible side effects

- If you have had or have pain, swelling or numbness of the jaw or a “heavy jaw feeling” or difficulty in swallowing;
- If you have been told by your doctor that you have Barrett’s oesophagus (a condition associated with the lining of your oesophagus becoming thickened and rigid) and/or a history of stomach ulcers;
- If you have had or have had pain or difficulty in swallowing a food or you have previously been told that you have Barrett’s oesophagus (see section 2, “Do not take Actonel Once a Week”);
- If you have kidney problems;
- If you have liver problems;
- If you are unable to stay in an upright position;
- If you have had or have pain, swelling or numbness of the jaw or a “heavy jaw feeling” or difficulty in swallowing;
- If you have been told by your doctor that you have Barrett’s oesophagus (a condition associated with the lining of your oesophagus becoming thickened and rigid) and/or a history of stomach ulcers;
- If you have had or have had pain or difficulty in swallowing a food or you have previously been told that you have Barrett’s oesophagus (see section 2, “Do not take Actonel Once a Week”);
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- If you have had or have had pain or difficulty in swallowing a food or you have previously been told that you have Barrett’s oesophagus (see section 2, “Do not take Actonel Once a Week”);
- If you have kidney problems;
- If you have liver problems;
- If you are unable to stay in an upright position;
- If you have had or have pain, swelling or numbness of the jaw or a “heavy jaw feeling” or difficulty in swallowing;
Tell your doctor promptly if you experience the following adverse effects:

- Eye inflammation, usually with pain, redness and - lid swelling.

- Changes in taste.

- Tongue changes (including possible changes in taste, associated with delayed healing and infection, after taking risedronic acid in low dose). This may occur rarely. Contact your doctor if you experience pain, swelling, difficulty in swallowing or discomfort in your throat, lip, tongue or mouth. For more information, contact a pharmacist or an ophthalmologist for information on the safety of this medicine.

- Rarely, at the beginning of treatment, a patient's blood calcium and phosphate levels may fall. These changes are usually small and cause no symptoms.

- Headache.

- Indigestion, feeling sick, stomach ache, stomach cramps or discomfort, constipation, feelings of fullness, bloating, diarrhoea.

- Cramps or discomfort in the thigh, hip, calf muscle or foot. This is a rare side effect, and there is no known treatment. Stop taking your tablets and contact your doctor if you experience any side effects that concern you.

- Rare side effects

- Inflammation of the tongue, pharynx and mouth.

- Inflammation or ulcer of the oesophagus (the tube that connects your mouth with your stomach).

- Changes in liver tests, including liver failure.

- Nausea and vomiting.

- Decreased appetite, weight loss and tiredness.

- Loss of hair.

- Changes in sex hormones.

- Blood disorders, some cases were severe.

- Skin disorders, including possible changes in skin appearance, including possible skin cancer.

- Abnormal liver tests have been reported. These can only be diagnosed by a specialist blood test.

- Very rare (may affect up to 1 in 10,000 people)

- Blood disorders, including possible changes in skin appearance, including possible skin cancer.

- Nausea and vomiting.

- Changes in liver tests, including liver failure.

- Low blood pressure.

- Eczema.

- Eyelash growth.

- Hair loss.

- Loss of smell.

- Loss of taste.

- Inflammation of the nose.

- Inflammation or ulcer of the oesophagus (the tube that connects your mouth with your stomach).

- Inflammation of the gums (red painful eyes with a possible change in vision).

- Changes in sex hormones.

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