



# ANASTROZOLE

*an-ass-troe-zole*

## What does it do?

*Anastrozole* is used to treat breast cancer. Some breast cancers need the hormone oestrogen to grow. *Anastrozole* reduces the amount of oestrogen in your body, which slows cancer growth.

## Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have not gone through menopause, or if you have osteoporosis (weak bones).
- *Anastrozole* can weaken your bones. You may need tests to check for this before you start.

## How should you take it?

Take *anastrozole* regularly as directed with a glass of water.

## What if you forget a dose?

If it is nearly time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and take your next dose at the usual time. Otherwise, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Do not take two doses at the same time.

## Can you take other medicines?

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products (e.g. St John's wort) or recreational drugs.

## What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects   | Recommended action              |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Joint, muscle or bone aches and pains<br>Numb or tingling fingers<br>Hot flushing<br>Vaginal dryness<br>Hair loss or thinning<br>Stomach upset | Tell your doctor if troublesome |

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.