Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand
Waitaha Canterbury

EZETIMIBE AND SIMVASTATIN

eh-zet-ih-mibe and sim-va-sta-tin

What does it do?

Ezetimibe and *simvastatin* is used to lower cholesterol. This reduces your chance of having a heart attack, stroke and other related problems.

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

How should you take it?

Take *ezetimibe* and *simvastatin* regularly as directed with a glass of water, usually at bedtime. You can take it with or without food.

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
Symptoms of a serious muscle problem such as: ongoing muscle weakness or pain, dark urine	Tell your doctor immediately
Muscle weakness or pain	Very rarely, this can be serious – check with your doctor

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

Other information:

- Grapefruit, grapefruit juice or sour/Seville oranges may react with *ezetimibe* and *simvastatin*. Discuss with your pharmacist.