

**Prescribing information:** (Please refer to SPC before prescribing)

Relenza 5mg/dose, Zanamivir, pre-dispensed, inhalation powder. **Indications:** Treatment and post exposure prophylaxis of influenza A & B in adults and children ( $\geq$  5 years) who present with symptoms typical of influenza when influenza is circulating in the community and following contact with a clinically diagnosed case in a household. Relenza is not a substitute for influenza vaccination. **Dosage and administration:** Other inhaled drugs, e.g. asthma medication, should be administered prior to administration of Relenza. *Treatment:* begin as soon as possible, within 48 hours after onset of symptoms for adults, and within 36 hours after onset of symptoms for children. 2 inhalations (2x5mg) twice daily for five days, providing a total daily dose of 20 mg. *Post exposure prophylaxis:* 2 inhalations (2x5mg) once daily for 10 days starting within 36hrs of exposure to an infected person. Administration by oral inhalation only, using the Diskhaler device provided. **Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity to the active substance ingredient and in patients with milk protein allergy **Precautions:** Those with galactose intolerance, lactase deficiency or glucose-galactose malabsorption should not take this medicine. Patients with severe asthma, chronic respiratory disease, unstable chronic illnesses or immunocompromised patients should receive Relenza with caution. Rare reports of bronchospasm/decline in respiratory function have been received, in such cases treatment should be discontinued and medical advice sought. Efficacy of Relenza has not been established in the elderly ( $\geq$ 65years). Patients with influenza should

be monitored for neuropsychiatric events during administration of Relenza, especially children and adolescents. **Interactions:** Clinically significant interactions are unlikely. **Pregnancy & lactation:** As a precautionary measure, it is preferable to avoid the use of Relenza during pregnancy, unless clinical conditions is such that the potential benefits to the mother significantly outweigh the possible risk to the foetus. There is no information on secretion of Zanamivir into human breast milk. A risk to the breastfed child cannot be excluded. **Undesirable effects:** See SPC for full details. Common: Rash. Uncommon: Allergic-type reactions including oropharyngeal oedema, vasovagal-like reactions, bronchospasm, dyspnea, throat tightness or constriction, urticaria. Rare: anaphylactic reactions, facial oedema, severe skin reactions including erythema multiforme, Stevens Johnson syndrome, and Toxic epidermal necrolysis. Other: Convulsions and neuropsychiatric events (mainly in children and adolescents). **Category:** POM. **MA number:** PL10949/0327. **Presentation and basic NHS cost:** 5 foil disks and plastic diskhaler. NHS cost £16.36 / 5 disks. **MA holder:** Glaxo Wellcome UK Ltd trading as GlaxoSmithKline UK, 980 Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8 9GS. **Further information is available from:** Customer Contact Centre, GlaxoSmithKline; [customercontactuk@gsk.com](mailto:customercontactuk@gsk.com); Freephone 0800 221 441. Trademarks are owned by or licensed to the GSK group of companies. **Date of preparation:** January 2020. **Reference:** PI-2427(V2.0).

**Adverse events should be reported. Reporting forms and information can be found at [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard) or search for MHRA Yellowcard in the Google Play or Apple App. Adverse events should also be reported to GlaxoSmithKline on 0800 221 441.**