



## **Valacyclovir (Valtrex®)**

This medication is taken by mouth and is used to treat herpes.

### **Tell your doctor, nurse, or nurse practitioner if you:**

- Have an allergy to valacyclovir, acyclovir, or famcyclovir
- Are taking any medications
- Have recently been given or planning to receive the Herpes Zoster vaccine
- Have a history of kidney disease
- Are breastfeeding

### **Possible side effects**

- Headache, fatigue, or stomach pain
- Nausea or vomiting

### **How to take this medication:**

- This medication is most effective if started within 24 -72 hours of the outbreak.
- Take this medication as directed by the clinician until finished.
- Take with plenty of water, with or without food.
- Finish all medication even if your symptoms improve or disappear after a few days.
- If you miss a pill, take as soon as you remember unless it's time for the next pill.

### **Precautions after taking this medication:**

- Seek emergency medical care if you develop a rash, itching, red, swollen, blistered or peeling skin, fever, trouble breathing, swelling to mouth, throat or face, blurred vision, severe vomiting or diarrhea.

### **Precautions for females:**

- This medication should only be used if necessary during pregnancy.

### **Storage**

- Store in a dry place at room temperature, and out of reach of children and pets.

**For information, call the Sexual Health Clinic 613-234-4641**

