



**Strategy and Sustainability Division  
MINISTRY FOR SOCIAL POLICY**

**DH CIRCULAR No. 105/2009  
DH 2149/2009**

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2009

**Attention all** Consultants  
Medical Officers  
Pharmacists  
Nurses

**Re: Calcium supplementation with zoledronic acid in Paget's Disease**

Elevated bone turnover is a characteristic of Paget's disease of the bone. The Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) of Aclasta<sup>®</sup> (zoledronic acid) states that due to the rapid onset of effect of zoledronic acid on bone turnover, transient hypocalcaemia may develop and is usually maximal within the first 10 days after infusion of zoledronic acid. The SPC recommends that adequate calcium intake is essential with zoledronic acid administration.

For this reason, Schedule V cards for patients with Paget's Disease on zoledronic acid therapy will now have printed "Zoledronic acid with calcium supplement". In this way, these patients will be entitled for free calcium supplement when zoledronic acid infusion is administered.

Patients are to be dispensed with to calcium supplementation for 17 days per annum only which should be taken 7 days before and 10 days after the infusion.

For your attention please.

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