for the treatment of tumour-induced hypercalcaemia

- Reliable response
  Normocalcaemia restored in 90-100% of patients

- Sustained effectiveness
  Normocalcaemia maintained for an average of 3 weeks

- Well tolerated
  Reported side-effects not of clinical significance

- Effective as a single infusion

**Presentation** Ampoules of 5ml aqueous injectable concentrate containing 15mg pamidronate disodium (calculated as the anhydrous form) for intravenous infusion.

**Indication** Tumour-induced hypercalcaemia.

**Dosage** Adults and elderly: Depending on the initial calcium plasma level, 15-90mg by slow intravenous infusion in sodium chloride 0.9% or dextrose 5%. Infusion rate should not exceed 15mg/2 hours, and concentration should not exceed 90mg/l. Total dose can be given as a single i.v. infusion or divided over 2-4 consecutive days. Not recommended for children. Rehydration with normal saline before treatment is recommended.

**Contraindications** Known hypersensitivity to pamidronate disodium.

**Precautions** Do not administer as a bolus injection. Do not co-administer with other bisphosphonates, plicamycin (mithramycin) or calcium-containing i.v. infusions. Beware of slight transient hypercalcaemia when the dose given is too high in relation to initial plasma calcium levels. Caution in patients with severe renal insufficiency (multiple dosing recommended); convulsions; oliguria; pregnancy; interference with bone scintigraphy examinations.

**Side-effects** Mild, transient 1-2°C temperature rise at onset of treatment, transient decreased lymphocyte count; neither appears to be clinically significant.

**Packs** Ampoules 15mg/5ml (PL0001/0138) in packs of 4, basic NHS price £96.62. *denotes registered trademark. Full prescribing information is available on request from Ciba Laboratories, Horsham, West Sussex.