

**Patient Information**  
**JANUMET™ (JAN-you-met)**  
**(sitagliptin phosphate and metformin HCl)**

**Tablets**

Read this Patient Information carefully before you start taking JANUMET and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor about your medical condition or your treatment. If you have any questions about JANUMET, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

**What is the most important information I should know about JANUMET?**

**Serious side effects can happen in people taking JANUMET, including:**

**1. Lactic Acidosis.** Metformin, one of the medicines in JANUMET, can cause a rare but serious condition called lactic acidosis (a build-up of lactic acid in the blood) that can cause death. Lactic acidosis is a medical emergency and must be treated in a hospital.

**Stop taking JANUMET and call your doctor right away if you get any of the following symptoms, which could be signs of lactic acidosis:**

**You:**

- feel very weak or tired.
- have unusual (not normal) muscle pain.
- have trouble breathing.
- have unusual sleepiness or sleep longer than usual.
- have sudden stomach or intestinal problems with nausea and vomiting or diarrhea.
- feel cold, especially in your arms and legs.
- feel dizzy or lightheaded.
- have a slow or irregular heartbeat.

**You have a higher chance of getting lactic acidosis if you:**

- have severe kidney problems. People whose kidneys are not working properly should not take JANUMET.
- have liver problems.
- have congestive heart failure that requires treatment with medicines.
- drink alcohol very often, or drink a lot of alcohol in short-term “binge” drinking.
- get dehydrated (lose a large amount of body fluids). This can happen if you are sick with a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea. Dehydration can also happen when you sweat a lot with activity or exercise and don’t drink enough fluids.
- have certain x-ray tests with dyes or contrast agents that are injected into your body.
- have surgery.
- have a heart attack, severe infection, or stroke.

## **2. Pancreatitis** (inflammation of the pancreas) which may be severe and lead to death.

Certain medical problems make you more likely to get pancreatitis.

### **Before you start taking JANUMET:**

Tell your doctor if you have ever had

- pancreatitis
- stones in your gallbladder (gallstones)
- a history of alcoholism
- high blood triglyceride levels

Stop taking JANUMET and call your doctor right away if you have pain in your stomach area (abdomen) that is severe and will not go away. The pain may be felt going from your abdomen through to your back. The pain may happen with or without vomiting. These may be symptoms of pancreatitis.

### **What is JANUMET?**

- JANUMET is a prescription medicine that contains two prescription diabetes medicines, sitagliptin (JANUVIA™) and metformin. JANUMET can be used along with diet and exercise to lower blood sugar in adults with type 2 diabetes.
- JANUMET is not for people with type 1 diabetes.
- JANUMET is not for people with diabetic ketoacidosis (increased ketones in your blood or urine).
- If you have had pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas) in the past, it is not known if you have a higher chance of getting pancreatitis while you take JANUMET.

- JANUMET is not effective in children and adolescents 10 to 17 years of age with type 2 diabetes. JANUMET has not been studied in children younger than 10 years of age.

JANUMET 50mg/500mg, 50mg/850mg and 50mg/1000mg film-coated tablets are supplied in packs of 56 tablets.

### **Who should not take JANUMET?**

#### **Do not take JANUMET if:**

- have severe kidney problems.
- you are allergic to any of the ingredients in JANUMET. See the end of this Patient Information for a complete list of ingredients in JANUMET.

Symptoms of a serious allergic reaction to JANUMET may include:

- rash
  - raised red patches on your skin (hives)
  - swelling of the face, lips, tongue, and throat that may cause difficulty in breathing or swallowing
- 
- you have diabetic ketoacidosis. See **"What is JANUMET?"**

### **What should I tell my doctor before taking JANUMET?**

#### **Before you take JANUMET, tell your doctor if you:**

- have or have had inflammation of your pancreas (pancreatitis).
- have severe kidney problems.
- have liver problems.
- have heart problems, including congestive heart failure.
- drink alcohol very often, or drink a lot of alcohol in short-term "binge" drinking.
- are going to get an injection of dye or contrast agents for an x-ray procedure; JANUMET will need to be stopped for a short time. Talk to your doctor about when you should stop JANUMET and when you should start JANUMET again. See **"What is the most important information I should know about JANUMET?"**.
- have any other medical conditions.

- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if JANUMET will harm your unborn baby. If you are pregnant, talk with your doctor about the best way to control your blood sugar while you are pregnant.
- are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed. It is not known if JANUMET will pass into your breast milk. Talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby if you are taking JANUMET.

**Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take**, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. JANUMET may affect how well other drugs work and some drugs can affect how well JANUMET works.

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of your medicines and show it to your doctor and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

### **How should I take JANUMET?**

- Take JANUMET exactly as your doctor tells you.
- Your doctor may change your dose of JANUMET if needed.
- Your doctor may tell you to take JANUMET along with certain other diabetes medicines. Low blood sugar can happen more often when JANUMET is taken with certain other diabetes medicines. See "**What are the possible side effects of JANUMET?**"
- Take JANUMET with meals to lower your chance of an upset stomach.
- Continue to take JANUMET as long as your doctor tells you.
- If you take too much JANUMET, call your doctor or poison control center right away.
- If you miss a dose, take it with food as soon as you remember. If you do not remember until it is time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular schedule. Do not take two doses of JANUMET at the same time.
- You may need to stop taking JANUMET for a short time. Call your doctor for instructions if you:
  - are dehydrated (have lost too much body fluid). Dehydration can occur if you are sick with severe vomiting, diarrhea or fever, or if you drink a lot less fluid than normal.
  - plan to have surgery.
  - are going to receive an injection of dye or contrast agent for an x-ray procedure. See "**What is the most important information I should know about JANUMET?**" and "**What should I tell my doctor before taking JANUMET?**".
- When your body is under some types of stress, such as fever, trauma (such as a car accident), infection or surgery, the amount of diabetes medicine that you need may change. Tell your doctor right away if you have any of these problems and follow your doctor's instructions.
- Check your blood sugar as your doctor tells you to.
- Stay on your prescribed diet and exercise program while taking JANUMET.

- Talk to your doctor about how to prevent, recognize and manage low blood sugar (hypoglycemia), high blood sugar (hyperglycemia), and problems you have because of your diabetes.
- Your doctor will check your diabetes with regular blood tests, including your blood sugar levels and your hemoglobin A1C.
- Your doctor will do blood tests to check how well your kidneys are working before and during treatment with JANUMET.

#### What are the possible side effects of JANUMET?

Serious side effects have occurred in people taking JANUMET.

- See "**What is the most important information I should know about JANUMET?**"
- **Low blood sugar (hypoglycemia).** If you take JANUMET with another medicine that can cause low blood sugar, such as a sulfonylurea or insulin, your risk of getting low blood sugar is higher.

The dose of your sulfonylurea medicine or insulin may need to be lowered while you use JANUMET. Signs and symptoms of low blood sugar may include:

- |              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| • headache   | • irritability    |
| • drowsiness | • hunger          |
| • weakness   | • fast heartbeat  |
| • dizziness  | • sweating        |
| • confusion  | • feeling jittery |

- **Serious allergic reactions.** If you have any symptoms of a serious allergic reaction, stop taking JANUMET and call your doctor right away. See "**Who should not take JANUMET?**". Your doctor may give you a medicine for your allergic reaction and prescribe a different medicine for your diabetes.
- **Skin reaction.** Some people who take medicines called DPP-4 inhibitors, one of the medicines in JANUMET, may develop a skin reaction called bullous pemphigoid that can require treatment in a hospital. Tell your doctor right away if you develop blisters or the breakdown of the outer layer of your skin (erosion). Your doctor may tell you to stop taking JANUMET.

Common side effects when taking JANUMET include:

- stuffy or runny nose and sore throat

- upper respiratory infection
- diarrhea
- nausea and vomiting
- gas, stomach discomfort, indigestion
- weakness
- headache
- low blood sugar (hypoglycemia) when used in combination with certain medications, such as a sulfonylurea or insulin.

Taking JANUMET with meals can help reduce the common stomach side effects of metformin that usually happen at the beginning of treatment. If you have unusual or sudden stomach problems, talk with your doctor. Stomach problems that start later during treatment may be a sign of something more serious.

JANUMET may have other side effects, including:

- Swelling of the hands or legs. Swelling of the hands and legs can happen if you take JANUMET in combination with rosiglitazone (Avandia®). Rosiglitazone is another type of diabetes medicine.
- Kidney problems (sometimes requiring dialysis).
- Constipation.
- Joint pain.
- Muscle aches.
- Arm or leg pain.
- Back pain.
- Itching.
- Blisters.

These are not all the possible side effects of JANUMET. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Tell your doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you, is unusual, or does not go away.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects.

### **How should I store JANUMET?**

Store JANUMET below 30°C.

**Keep JANUMET and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

### **General information about the use of JANUMET**

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in patient information leaflets. Do not use JANUMET for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give JANUMET to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

This leaflet summarizes the most important information about JANUMET. If you would like to know more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your doctor or pharmacist for additional information about JANUMET that is written for health professionals.

### **What are the ingredients in JANUMET?**

Active ingredients: sitagliptin and metformin hydrochloride.

Inactive ingredients: microcrystalline cellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, sodium lauryl sulfate, and sodium stearyl fumarate. The tablet film coating contains the following inactive ingredients: polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene glycol, talc, titanium dioxide, red iron oxide, and black iron oxide.

### **What is type 2 diabetes?**

Type 2 diabetes is a condition in which your body does not make enough insulin, and the insulin that your body produces does not work as well as it should. Your body can also make too much sugar. When this happens, sugar (glucose) builds up in the blood. This can lead to serious medical problems.

High blood sugar can be lowered by diet and exercise, and by certain medicines when necessary.

Avandia® is a registered trademark of GlaxoSmithKline.

### **Product Owner:**

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