

Patient information factsheet

Teduglutide (Revestive®)

We have given you this factsheet because your doctor has prescribed you a medicine called teduglutide (also known by the brand name Revestive®). It explains what teduglutide is, how to use it and the possible side effects. We hope it will help to answer some of the questions you may have. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact us using the details at the end of this factsheet.

What is teduglutide?

Teduglutide is a medicine that helps the gastrointestinal tract (gut) to absorb nutrients, fluids and electrolytes (salts and minerals, such as sodium, potassium and magnesium, which are found in the blood).

It is used to treat adults and children with short bowel syndrome (a condition in which nutrients and fluids are not properly absorbed by the gut, usually because a part or all of the small intestine has been surgically removed).

How does teduglutide work?

Teduglutide is a type of growth hormone called glucagon like peptide-2 (GLP-2) that is naturally produced by the body. It stimulates the growth of the small bowel lining. Increasing the growth of the small bowel lining improves its ability to absorb nutrients, fluid and electrolytes.

What are the benefits?

Teduglutide can help reduce or remove the need for parenteral nutrition (a type of intravenous feed for nutritional support) in people with short bowel syndrome and/or other illnesses that affect how the small bowel works.

Are there any risks or side effects?

Like all medicines, teduglutide may cause side effects in some people, but others will have no side effects at all.

Side effects may include:

- an injection site reaction, such as itching, redness and/or pain (regularly changing your injection site can help with this)
- fluid retention (swollen ankles, shortness of breath and weight gain)
- prolapsed stoma (when the bowel protrudes through the stomal opening in the skin to a greater extent than was anticipated)
- bowel obstruction (a blockage in the bowel that keeps food or liquid from passing through your small intestine or large intestine)
- polyp (small abnormal growths) formation in your colon, stomach and small bowel

Patient information factsheet

If you experience any of these side effects or have any concerns, please contact us for advice.

For a full list of the possible risks and side effects, please see the manufacturer's leaflet that comes with the medicine.

Is teduglutide suitable for everyone?

Teduglutide is suitable for adults and children who have short bowel syndrome and have been having parenteral nutrition on a stable prescription for many months.

We will review your medical and surgical history before you start using teduglutide to make sure it is suitable for you.

How and when do I use teduglutide?

Teduglutide comes in the form of a white powder that is to be mixed with a solvent (liquid) that comes in a pre-filled syringe, and then injected under the skin (subcutaneous) once a day.

A homecare company nurse will come to your home and show you and/or a member of your family how to mix the powder and liquid together and give the injection. This is a good opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have.

The dose we prescribe you will be based on your current weight. Please note that we may need to change your dose if you have any of the following:

- severely decreased liver function
- cardiovascular disease (high blood pressure or a weak heart)
- decreased kidney function
- any other severe illness that is not well-controlled

Someone from the homecare company will then deliver the teduglutide and the equipment you will need to administer the injection to your home every four weeks.

What should I do if I miss a dose?

If you miss a dose (or are unable to inject the dose at your usual time), use it as soon as possible on that day. Never use more than one injection in the same day. **Do not inject an extra dose to make up for a forgotten dose.**

How long will I need to use teduglutide for?

Teduglutide is a long-term treatment, so it is important that you continue to use it every day (unless we tell you otherwise). You must not suddenly stop using teduglutide, as this may cause a sudden change in your fluid needs. If you need to stop using teduglutide for any reason, contact us for advice first.

How should I store teduglutide?

Teduglutide should be stored at room temperature (below 25°C). Do not freeze it.

Once the powder is mixed with the liquid, the teduglutide injection should be administered immediately.

Patient information factsheet

Can I use teduglutide if I am pregnant or breastfeeding?

Teduglutide is not recommended for use if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Contact our team for advice before starting to use teduglutide if you:

- are pregnant
- think you may be pregnant
- are planning to have a baby
- are breastfeeding

Can I use teduglutide with other medicines?

Teduglutide can affect how other medicines work by changing how they are absorbed into the bloodstream from the small bowel. Before you start using teduglutide, it is important that you tell us what medicines you are already taking. Once you start using teduglutide, please contact us for advice if there are any changes to your medicines.

Will I be monitored while using teduglutide?

Pre-treatment screening

Before you start using teduglutide, you will need to have:

- a blood test (including a micronutrient screen)
- a dietetic review (where you will be weighed and asked about what you are eating and drinking)
- (if you have a colon) a colonoscopy (a test to check inside your bowels)
- a gastroscopy (a test to check inside your food pipe, stomach and the first part of your small intestine)
- a CT scan (a scan that uses x-rays and a computer to create detailed images of the inside of the body) of your chest, abdomen and pelvis

Review appointments in our nutrition clinic

After you start using teduglutide, we will arrange to see you in our nutrition clinic:

- two weeks after you start treatment
- four weeks after you start treatment
- then once every four weeks for the next three months
- then once every three months once your dose is stable (we will discuss this with you)

At these appointments, you will have:

- a blood test
- a review of your weekly monitoring form (including your weight, fluid and food intake, urine output, stoma output (if relevant), fluid balance and any side effects)
- a physical assessment

Depending on our assessment, we may adjust your parenteral nutrition or supplementation prescription.

If you do not attend these review appointments, we will stop your treatment.

Surveillance tests and scans

While you are using teduglutide, you will also need to have a CT scan or gastroscopy and colonoscopy:

- every year for the first two years
- then once every five years

Patient information factsheet

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns about taking teduglutide, please contact us.

Nutrition support and intestinal failure team co-ordinator

Telephone: **07909 008365** (Monday to Friday, 8am to 4pm)

Email: ifteamadmin@uhs.nhs.uk

Useful links

www.pinnt.com/Home.aspx

www.medicines.org.uk/emc/files/pil.3382.pdf

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