Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Bulevirtide

This information from UpToDate® Lexidrug™ explains what you need to know about this medication, including what it's used for, how to take it, its side effects, and when to call your healthcare provider.

Brand Names: US

Hepcludex

Brand Names: Canada

Hepcludex

Warning

- Stopping this drug may cause hepatitis D and hepatitis B infections to become worse. Patients with a liver problem called cirrhosis may have a higher risk. Close follow-up for at least several months is needed if treatment is stopped. Do not stop taking this drug without talking to the doctor who ordered it for you.

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat hepatitis D infection.

What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take this drug?

- If you are allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell your doctor about the allergy and what signs you had.

- If you have liver problems other than hepatitis D.
- If you take any drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins) that must not be taken with this drug, like certain drugs that are used for high blood pressure, high cholesterol, HIV, and others. There are many drugs that must not be taken with this drug.

This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with this drug.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all of your drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe for you to take this drug with all of your drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug without checking with your doctor.

What are some things I need to know or do while I take this drug?

- Tell all of your health care providers that you take this drug. This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Avoid driving and doing other tasks or actions that call for you to be alert until you see how this drug affects you.
- Have your blood work and other lab tests checked as you have been told by your doctor.
- You may need to have tests for certain viruses (like hepatitis C and HIV) as your doctor has told you.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan on getting pregnant, or are breast-feeding. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks to you and the baby.

What are some side effects that I need to call my doctor about right away?

WARNING/CAUTION: Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your doctor or get medical help right away if you have any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Fast heartbeat, severe dizziness or passing out, or severe upset stomach or throwing up. These may be other signs of an allergic reaction.

What are some other side effects of this drug?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother you or do not go away:

- Headache.
- Itching.
- Pain, redness, swelling, or other reaction where the injection was given.
- Stomach pain.
- Feeling tired or weak.

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

You may report side effects to Health Canada's Canada Vigilance Program at 1-866-234-2345.

How is this drug best taken?

Use this drug as ordered by your doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

All products:

- It is given as a shot into the fatty part of the skin on the top of the thigh or the belly area.
- This drug may be given into the outer area of the upper arm if given by someone else.
- If you will be giving yourself the shot, your doctor or nurse will teach you how to give the shot.
- It is important that you do not miss or skip a dose of this drug during treatment.
- Wash your hands before use.
- This drug needs to be mixed before use. Follow how to mix as you were told by the doctor.
- Do not shake. Swirl or roll the vial between the hands. It may take up to 3 minutes for the powder to dissolve.
- Do not use if this drug is cloudy or leaking.
- Do not use it if you see particles or clumps that have not dissolved. This includes powder stuck to the vial wall or the stopper. If you see any particles or clumps left in the vial, swirl slowly again then let this drug sit for more time until it dissolves.
- Use right away after mixing. Do not store for use at a later time.
- Move the site where you give the shot with each shot.
- Do not give into skin within 1 inch (2.5 cm) of the belly button.
- Do not give into a mole, scar, birthmark, or rash. Do not give into skin that is red, tattooed, irritated, burned, tender, bruised, hard, or damaged.
- Each vial is for one use only. Throw away any part not used after the dose is given.

- Throw away needles in a needle/sharp disposal box. Do not reuse needles or other items. When the box is full, follow all local rules for getting rid of it. Talk with a doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions.

Bulevirtide (-gmod) for injection:

- It is normal to see foam in the vial after mixing. Leftover foam in the vial after you pull this drug into a syringe is normal.

Bulevirtide for injection:

- If solution is foamy after mixing, let it sit for more time to let the drug dissolve. Foam in the vial means that the drug has not fully dissolved.

What do I do if I miss a dose?

- Take a missed dose as soon as you think about it on the same day you missed the dose.
- If you do not think about the missed dose until the next day, skip the missed dose and go back to your normal time.
- Do not take 2 doses on the same day.

How do I store and/or throw out this drug?

Bulevirtide (-gmod) for injection:

- Store at room temperature in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.

Bulevirtide for injection:

- Store in a refrigerator. Do not freeze.
- Store in the outer carton to protect from light.

All products:

- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour

down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.

General drug facts

- If your symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your doctor.
- Do not share your drugs with others and do not take anyone else's drugs.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. Check with your pharmacist. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

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If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.

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