**Teriparatide and Hybrid Medicines**

**April 2024**

## **Switching from Forsteo® to Tetridar®**

This leaflet contains information about your medicines for your osteoporosis condition and our plan to switch your treatment from Forsteo® to Tetridar®. If you have any further questions after reading this leaflet, please speak to <insert name and contact details for relevant clinical team member>.

## **Why am I receiving this leaflet?**

You are currently undergoing treatment with teriparatide (Forsteo®). You may be aware that the patent for Forsteo® has expired and other versions of teriparatide, including hybrid medicines, have now been approved and are available to patients. The HSE now recommends that patients receive Tetridar® as the hybrid medicine version of Forsteo®.

## **What is a hybrid medicine?**

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) defines a hybrid medicine as a medicine that is similar to an authorised medicine containing the drug, but where there are certain differences between the two medicines such as in their strength, indication or pharmaceutical form. The approval of the hybrid medicine depends partly on the results of tests on the original medicine and partly on new data from clinical trials.

Tetridar® has been approved for use in Ireland as it has been shown to be as safe and effective as Forsteo®.

We are confident that Tetridar® is just as effective and has the same safety profile as Forsteo®. Tetridar® costs less than Forsteo®. Switching patients to Tetridar® will save the HSE money. This will help the HSE give new innovative medicines to even more patients.

## **What does this mean for me?**

Because Tetridar® and Forsteo® contain the same active medicine (teriparatide), treatment for your osteoporosis remains unchanged.

Like Forsteo®, Tetridar® is given by subcutaneous injection. With Forsteo®, you received a new pre-filled pen each month. The same will happen with Tetridar®; you will receive a new pre-filled pen each month.

You will continue to inject Tetridar® once a day, as you currently do with Forsteo®.

You will continue to get your repeat prescription from us, and you can collect Tetridar® from the same pharmacy that provided you with Forsteo®.

Supports for patients prescribed Tetridar® include:

* nurse home visit to provide training on administering the injection
* supply of sharps bins
* provision of product information.

We will register you for these services.

## **Will any additional monitoring be required?**

We are not required to make any additional safety checks in patients who are switched to Tetridar® but we still plan to monitor every patient who switches. You will be contacted by a member of our team four weeks after you switch so that we can check that Tetridar® is working just as well as Forsteo® and to follow-up on any issues you may have encountered.

If you do have a problem with Tetridar®, for example having trouble using the injection device or experiencing side-effects, we can help you to manage these.

## **What if I have further questions?**

If you have concerns about switching to Tetridar®, we are here to help. Please ask <insert name of relevant clinical team member>. If necessary, they will arrange an appointment with one of the doctors to answer any further questions you may have.

## **Contact us**

If you have any further questions, please contact the <insert name of clinic/service> on <insert number + staff member name> (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm) or you can email [insertemail@xxxx.ie](mailto:insertemail@xxxx.ie).

## **Where can I get more information on hybrid medicines?**

Further information for patients on hybrid medicines is available on the following websites:

**European Medicines Agency:** <https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory-overview/marketing-authorisation/generic-hybrid-medicines>

Further information on osteoporosis, including the medicines that are used in its treatment, is available on the website of the **Irish Osteoporosis Society**: [www.irishosteoporosis.ie](http://www.irishosteoporosis.ie)