Best-Value Biological Medicine (Long-acting granulocyte-colony stimulating factors): Lonquex® (Lipegfilgrastim)

Information for Healthcare Professionals

The MMP recommends Lonquex® as a Best-Value Biological (BVB) Medicine for the long-acting granulocyte-colony stimulating factors. Prescribing Lonquex® will lead to significant savings for the health service.

The following presentation of Lonquex®, available on the High Tech Arrangement, is recommended as a best-value biological (BVB) medicine:

- Lonquex® solution for injection pre-filled syringe (PFS) 6 mg/0.6 ml.

Lonquex® solution for injection pre-filled syringe 6 mg/0.6 ml

- Each pack contains one PFS, containing 6 mg of lipegfilgrastim.
- It is supplied as a clear, colourless solution for injection.
- Lonquex® PFS has a shelf life of three years.
- Lonquex® PFS contains a 29-gauge needle.

Storage

- Lonquex® PFS should be stored in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). It should not be frozen.
- The PFS should be kept in the original packaging in order to protect it from light.
- The PFS may be removed from the refrigerator and stored below 25°C for a maximum single period of up to seven days. Once removed from the refrigerator, it must be used within this seven-day period or disposed of.

Dose Administration

- Before use, the solution for injection in Lonquex® PFS should be visually inspected. Only clear, colourless solution without particles should be used.
- The PFS should be allowed to reach a comfortable temperature (15 °C – 25 °C) before injecting.
- Vigorous shaking of the PFS should be avoided. Excessive shaking may aggregate lipegfilgrastim, rendering it biologically inactive.
- The patient information leaflet contains a clear diagrammatic guide on how to administer a dose from the PFS.
- When administering the dosage of lipegfilgrastim, the plunger on the PFS should be pushed as far as it will go to inject all the solution.

- While the plunger is still pressed all the way down, the patient should remove the needle from their skin, and then release the plunger. The needle safety device will then be activated immediately. The entire needle and syringe will be drawn back automatically and covered so that you cannot prick yourself.

Teva Pharmaceuticals Ireland Patient Support Services

Teva Pharmaceuticals Ireland provide a patient support service to patients who have been prescribed Lonquex®. Point of Care Health Services provides this service on behalf of Teva Pharmaceuticals Ireland.

The following services are available as part of the patient support service:

- Provision of up to two nurse home visits to deliver patient education and training on correct injection and administration technique for Lonquex®. This can also be delivered remotely, if required.
- Sharps management service - this includes provision of a sharps bin. Collection and disposal of the sharps bin are not included as part of this service.
- Access to a helpline for patient queries in relation to the administration of Lonquex®
- Post-home visit notification shared with the referring healthcare professional
- Provision of one follow-up phone call to check patient confidence with self-injection
- Provision of patient support materials, e.g. leaflet on Lonquex®.

In order to avail of the patient support services for patients who have been prescribed Lonquex®, healthcare professionals can access the Lonquex® patient support program by:

Telephone: (01) 499 2674 **Email: admin@pointofcare.ie**

Online referral & tracking: www.healthpoint.ie/teva

In order to obtain patient support materials for use in clinics, please contact: Yvonne Kavanagh

- Email: Yvonne.Kavanagh@Teva.ie
- Phone: (087) 6949669

References:

1. Lonquex® 6 mg/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe. Summary of Product Characteristics. Last revised 19/02/2024. Accessed at www.ema.europa.eu on 11/03/2024.

Adverse events should be reported. Reporting forms and information can be found at www.hpra.ie. Adverse events should also be reported to Teva UK Limited on +44 (0) 207 540 7117 or medinfo@tevauk.com