

## Information for Patients about Medicines containing Teriparatide

**February 2023**

Teriparatide is a biological medicine used in the treatment of osteoporosis, which is a condition that weakens bones, making them fragile and more likely to break. There are now a number of products available that contain teriparatide.

### What are the best-value medicines for teriparatide?

The best-value medicines identified by the HSE for teriparatide are **Movymia®** and **Sondelbay®**.

### Movymia® and Sondelbay® are biosimilar medicines; what is a biosimilar medicine?

A biosimilar medicine is a newer version of the original biological medicine. A biosimilar medicine is very similar to the original biological medicine. It works in the same way.

### Are biosimilar medicines safe?

Biosimilar medicines are tested to show they are just as safe and effective as the original biological medicine.

### What's changing?

From **March 2023**, we are changing the way medicines containing teriparatide are prescribed under the HSE's High Tech Arrangement.

### I am a new patient, what do the changes mean for me?

- From **1 March 2023**, if you are starting treatment on teriparatide, you will be prescribed one of the best-value medicines, **Movymia®** or **Sondelbay®**.

#### What's the definition of a new patient?

A new patient, is an adult, who has not been prescribed or received teriparatide within the last six months.

## I am an existing patient prescribed teriparatide, what does the change mean for me?

- If you are an existing patient, you will continue to receive your medicine from your community pharmacy. The changes outlined above do not apply to you.

If you are currently on Forsteo®, your consultant or a member of their team may discuss with you the possibility of switching to **Movymia®** or **Sondelbay®**.

## Does my consultant know about these changes?

Yes. Consultants who care for patients with osteoporosis are aware of these changes.

## Why have the changes been introduced?

The best-value medicines cost less than the original biological medicine. Switching patients to the best-value medicines will save the HSE money. This means we can give new innovative medicines to even more patients.

## What supports are available?

Supports for patients prescribed this medicine include:

- nurse home visit to provide training on administering the injection
- supply of sharps bins and waste collection service
- provision of product information.

Your consultant or a member of their team will register you for these services.

## Where can I get more information on biosimilar medicines?

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

**HSE-Medicines Management Programme:** [www.hse.ie/yourmedicines](http://www.hse.ie/yourmedicines) under Best-value medicines

**Health Products Regulatory Authority:** [www.hpra.ie/homepage/medicines/special-topics/biosimilar-medicines](http://www.hpra.ie/homepage/medicines/special-topics/biosimilar-medicines)

**European Medicines Agency:** [www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory/overview/biosimilar-medicines-overview#information-for-patients-and-healthcare-professionals-section](http://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory/overview/biosimilar-medicines-overview#information-for-patients-and-healthcare-professionals-section)