Switching from Humira® adalimumab to Hyrimoz® adalimumab

Information for patients

This leaflet offers more information about your medicines for your rheumatological condition and our plans to switch your treatment from Humira adalimumab to Hyrimoz adalimumab.

Below is a list of commonly asked questions, however if you have any further questions or concerns, please speak to your Clinical Nurse Specialist, your consultant, or send an email to thh-tr.biologics@nhs.net.

Why am I receiving this leaflet?

You have been given this leaflet as you are currently being treated with a medicine called adalimumab. Adalimumab belongs to a group of medicines called "Biologics"

Previously, there was only one manufacturer that made adalimumab, and they called their adalimumab brand Humira. However, after an agreed number of years (patent), other companies are allowed to produce their own copies of adalimumab, these are called biosimilars.

What is a biosimilar?

Most medicines, like paracetamol, are relatively simple and easy to produce and copy. The resulting copies are known as generic medicines.

Biologic medicines, like adalimumab, are more complicated to produce and copy. The copies rather than being identical are highly similar, and are therefore called biosimilars.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has defined a biosimilar as a **drug that is similar in terms of quality, safety, and efficacy (effectiveness) to the original medicine.** This means that biosimilars are highly similar to the original medicine but not identical. They have been thoroughly tested to show no difference in terms of how the medicine works, its effectiveness and safety.

The adalimumab biosimilar that the Trust is switching to is called Hyrimoz adalimumab.

Who has approved the use of biosimilar adalimumab?

European Medicines Authority (EMA): The EMA approves all medicines across Europe. The EMA fully reviews all the data about biosimilars including the manufacturing process, product quality, effectiveness and safety, and compares the biosimilar to the original medicine.

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE): NICE considers biosimilar medicines to be as effective and safe as the original branded medicines.

What does this mean for me?

Because Hyrimoz adalimumab and Humira adalimumab both contain the same active product (adalimumab), treatment for your condition remains unchanged. You will continue to be looked after by the same team, in the same clinic, and in the same manner. In addition, your dose and frequency of injection will also be unchanged.

Hyrimoz adalimumab is presented in a different injection device to Humira adalimumab. As a result there will be a change in the injection device you use to administer your adalimumab.

We have assessed the two injection devices and think that the differences between the two devices are minor. However, you will be offered training to use the Hyrimoz adalimumab injection device.

How are my injections delivered?

Your injections will be delivered in exactly the same way as before because adalimumab will be provided by the same homecare company that provides Humira adalimumab.

It is expected that there should be no interruptions to supplies of your medicine but contact your homecare company or your nurse specialist if you have any concerns.

Will there be any additional monitoring?

There will be no extra monitoring required. Your condition will be treated and monitored in the same way.

Why is The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust changing to Hyrimoz adalimumab?

The hospital is contracted to switch patients to biosimilar medicines where applicable and this is part of a country-wide NHS initiative.

Hyrimoz adalimumab is equally effective and safe, and is available to the NHS at a much lower price than Humira adalimumab. This provides the NHS with an opportunity to make significant savings that can be re-invested into the NHS to improve services. In order to make the most of this opportunity, we are currently switching patients like yourself, who are already being treated with Humira adalimumab to Hyrimoz adalimumab.

What do I do if I am having problems/have questions with Hyrimoz adalimumab?

We are only recommending the biosimilar adalimumab because we are confident that it is as safe and effective as your current Humira adalimumab. We do not expect you to experience problems as a result of switching to Hyrimoz adalimumab.

If you have any problems or concerns regarding Hyrimoz adalimumab or would like any more information, or have any questions regarding any of the issues raised in this leaflet, please contact your nurse specialist or consultant on 01895 279682 or the Pharmacy Medicines Helpline on 01895 279652.

What should I do in case of an emergency?

Please call the Rheumatology department on 01895 279682.

Languages/ Alternative Formats

Please ask if you require this information in other languages, large print or audio format.
Please contact: 01895 279973.

Fadlan waydii haddii aad warbixintan ku rabto luqad ama hab kale. Fadlan la xidhiidh 01895 279 973

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਜਾਂ ਰੂਪ ਵਿੱਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਪਤਾ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ 01895 279973 ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ

برائے مہربانی جے تہانوں اے اطلاع کسے اور زبان یا انداز وچ چاہی دی اے تے پتہ کرن لئی 01895 279 973 تے رابطہ کرو

தயவுசெய்து, வேற்று மொழிகளில் இத் தகவல்கள், கட்டுமானம் தேவையெனில், கேளுங்கள்.! தயவுசெய்து 01895 279973 இலக்கத்துடன் தொடர்பு கொள்ளுங்கள்.!

Jeżeli chcialbyś uzyskać te informacje w innym języku, w dużej czcionce lub w formacie audio, poproś pracownika oddzialu o kontakt z biurem informacji pacjenta (patient information) pod numerem telefonu: 01895 279973.

如果你需要這些資料的其他語言版本、大字体、或音頻格式，請致電01895 279 973 查詢。

إذا كنت تود الحصول على هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى، بالأحرف الكبيرة أو بشكل شريط صوتي، يرجى الاتصال بالرقم التالي 01895279973 .

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