



# Enfuvirtide (FUZEON®)

## Solution for subcutaneous injection

### Vial of 108mg

### How do this medication work?

Enfuvirtide is an antiretroviral drug that acts by preventing the fusion of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) with the cells of our immune system (CD4+ T lymphocytes).

Enfuvirtide is used in combination with other antiretroviral drugs to slow the progression of the disease and reduce the risk of opportunistic infections (AIDS-related infections).

Enfuvirtide does not cure AIDS nor kill the virus. There is a permanent risk of transmitting HIV either through sexual or blood contact. It is therefore essential that precautions always be taken (latex condoms, clean syringes, etc.).

Fertile women must use an effective means of birth control.

therapy will help prevent resistance (HIV's ability to recognize and defeat the effect of the medication) and avoid treatment failure (loss of efficacy of the antiretroviral treatment), which would result in an increased viral load and a lower number of CD4 cells, which are the ones that help your body fight infection.

Nearly everyone tends to relax their compliance with the treatment at some point. The key to success is motivation. Don't hesitate to consult members of your care team so that they can explain the benefits of the treatment you are having. They can also suggest ways that will help you maintain it properly.

*Unless you are having serious side effects, never stop your treatment without first speaking to your doctor.*

### How do I take this medication?

#### Enfuvirtide

Inject 1ml (90mg) under the skin

Twice daily

The sites for injection are the abdomen, upper thighs or upper arms because there is enough fatty tissue under the skin to allow you to pinch enough skin to give the injection correctly. Do not inject into the same area as you did the time before. Do not inject in or near bumps or any other types of reactions from past injections. Also, do not inject into moles, scars, bruises, your belly button or areas that could be irritated by a belt or waistband.

It is important to take your antiretroviral medicine properly - i.e. never forget a dose, follow the instructions on how to take the medicine, and always keep on with your treatment.

It is important to do the enfuvirtide injections regularly, at the same time each day, and to keep to this schedule as closely as possible. Adherence to

### Can I take Enfuvirtide with my other medications?

Enfuvirtide does not appear to interact with other medicines.

Consult your doctor or pharmacist before taking any new prescription or non-prescription medication, natural product or recreational drug.



## What are the side effects of this medication?

Normal reactions which will disappear or can be treated  
**Continue the medication**



- Mild injection site reactions: itching, swelling, redness, pain or tenderness, hardened skin and lumps

Contact your doctor  
**Continue the medication**

- Severe injection site reactions: discharge, a feeling of warmth, swelling, redness or intense pain at the injection site that limits your activities or necessitates pain medication
- If the injection site reaction does not disappear within 7 to 10 days
- If you have a cough and fever

See your doctor **IMMEDIATELY**

- **Allergic reactions:** trouble breathing, fever with vomiting, skin rash, blood in your urine, swelling of your feet

Keep your doctor or pharmacist informed of any side effect causing discomfort so they can help you deal with it.

## What if I forget to take a dose?

Take the dose you missed as soon as possible and then continue with your regular schedule.

However, if it's nearly time to take the following dose, do not take the missed dose and just take the following one at the usual time. **Do not double up doses.**



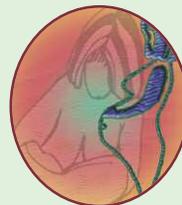
## Can I drink alcohol with Enfuvirtide?

Avoid excessive or regular consumption of alcohol (beer, wine or hard liquor), which can increase the risk of hepatitis (liver inflammation) or interact with some of your medications.



However, do not miss a dose of your medication because you want to have an alcoholic drink. Unless your doctor tells you otherwise, reasonable (social) consumption should not damage your health.

## What if I'm pregnant or breast-feeding?



The effect of enfuvirtide in pregnant women is not yet known. Talk to your doctor if you want to take enfuvirtide and are pregnant or want to become pregnant.

Since the virus can be transmitted through maternal milk, breast-feeding is not recommended in HIV-positive women.

## General advice

Always keep your appointments with your doctor and the care team so that your health can be closely monitored.

If you have any questions about your medications or need help to schedule when to take them, please contact your doctor or pharmacist, who is familiar with what you are taking.

Contact person : \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone : \_\_\_\_\_

## Storage

Keep the vial with the dry powder of enfuvirtide in a dry place, at room temperature (15-30°C or 59-86°F).

The vial with the dry powder mixed with sterile water for injection can be kept in the fridge for a maximum of 24 hours.



Keep this medication out of sight and reach from children.