

High Strength Insulins

Insulin lispro 200 units has been approved by the EKPG for restricted use in East Kent following specialist initiation. Initiation is currently restricted to consultants, GPwSIs and diabetes specialist nurses. It will be reserved for use in the following patients:

- Where the dose of U100 insulin requires a large volume to be injected which is causing pain at the injection site.
- Where the dose of insulin exceeds the maximum deliverable by one administration of the available injection device (most pen injectors deliver a maximum of 60 to 80 units)

Extra vigilance is recommended to ensure that the correct strength is prescribed and dispensed.

Approved by: East Kent Prescribing Group (*Representing Ashford CCG, Canterbury and Coastal CCG, South Kent Coast CCG and Thanet CCG*)

Date: July 2015

Address: c/o Canterbury and Coastal CCG, Ground Floor, Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW

Contact: T: 01227 791267 | E: accg.eastkentprescribing@nhs.net

High Strength Insulins

Insulin lispro (Humalog) is now available in a strength of 200 units per ml. This is probably the first of a number of insulins which will be available in higher strengths.

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- **Where the dose of U100 insulin requires a large volume to be injected which is causing pain at the injection site.**
- **Where the dose of insulin exceeds the maximum deliverable by one administration of the available injection device (most pen injectors deliver a maximum of 60 to 80 units)**

Patients commenced on Humalog 200 units/ml should be counselled in the fact that this is a higher strength insulin and be advised to double check that they receive the correct strength each time their prescription is dispensed.

Care home staff are advised to ensure that the strength of insulin prescribed on the MAR chart is the strength dispensed for the patient before each administration.

It is important that a number of steps are taken to minimize the risk of medication errors .

- Insulin lispro 200 units is only available in the KwikPen device. This dials the dose in units only . The dose does not need to be adjusted if changing from insulin lispro 100 units per ml.
- Patients should be instructed NOT to transfer the insulin lispro to a different delivery system because overdose could occur.
- When prescribing Humalog KwikPen ensure that the correct strength is clearly stated on the prescription.

Key safety features:

Packaging:

A yellow warning box containing the wording “use only this pen, or severe overdose can result”

The strength of 200 units per ml is written in a yellow box.

Background colour is dark grey(instead of white as for Humalog 100 units per ml)

Prefilled Pen

The pen colour is dark grey (as opposed to blue for the Humalog 100 units/ml)

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The label of the pen is burgundy and contains a checkered box

The strength of 200 units is written in a yellow box.

The following patient information leaflet should be available to all patients receiving their first prescription.



PIL - humalog
u200.pdf

Pharmacists and dispensers are asked to draw attention to the leaflet to patients who receive Humalog 200 units /ml for the first time.

Prescribers are asked to advise patients on the safety points covered in this leaflet when prescribing for the first time.

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