

# Brightside Specialty Pharmacy

431 N. Tustin Ave., STE C, Santa Ana, CA 92705

Phone 714-707-5115

Date :8/10/2022

## Patient Education for TRULICITY 1.5 MG/0.5 ML PEN



Instruct patient on appropriate storage. Follow instructions on aseptic technique preparing/administering. Report sx c/w pancreatitis stat: radiating abdominal pain, or n/v. Monitor blood glucose to check for efficacy and avoid hypoglycemia. Diet, exercise, and weight control are important for therapy success. For subcutaneous administration. Rotate sites of injection. Dispense & explain Medication Guide and Pen User Manual. Not recommended for Type I Diabetics or diabetic ketoacidosis.

Follow directions on best place to keep drug supply. Prepare carefully as you have been shown. Tell Dr if abdominal pain mild to severe, or nausea. Check blood glucose levels regularly. Diet and exercise will improve therapy response. Rotate under-the-skin sites of injections. Read Medication Guide and Pen User Manual. Do not use if you are a Type I Diabetic.

### .....Education Section.....

#### **IMPORTANT:**

**HOW TO USE THIS INFORMATION:** This is a summary and

does NOT have all possible information about this product. This information does not assure that this product is safe, effective, or appropriate for you. This information is not individual medical advice and does not substitute for the advice of your health care professional. Always ask your health care professional for complete information about this product and your specific health needs.

#### **DULAGLUTIDE - INJECTION**

(DOO-la-GLOO-tide)

#### **COMMON BRAND NAME(S):**

Trulicity

#### **WARNING:**

This medication can cause a certain type of thyroid

tumor (thyroid C-cell tumors) in rats. It is unknown if this medication can cause similar tumors in humans. Talk with your doctor about the benefits and risks of treatment with this medication. Do not use this medication if you have a certain inherited disease (multiple endocrine neoplasia syndrome type 2 or MEN 2) or if you have a personal/family history of a certain type of cancer (medullary thyroid carcinoma). While using this medication, tell your doctor right away if you notice any signs or symptoms of thyroid tumors, including unusual growth or lump in the neck, difficulty swallowing, shortness of breath, unusual/lasting hoarseness.

#### **USES:**

Dulaglutide is used with a proper diet and exercise

program to control high blood sugar in people with type 2 diabetes. Controlling high blood sugar helps prevent kidney damage, blindness, nerve problems, loss of limbs, and sexual function problems. This medication is also used to lessen the risk of a major cardiovascular event (such as heart attack or stroke) in people who already have, or are at high risk for heart/blood vessel disease.

Dulaglutide is similar to a natural hormone in your body

(incretin). It works by causing insulin release in response to high blood sugar (such as after a meal) and by decreasing the amount of sugar your liver makes.

Dulaglutide is not a substitute for insulin if you need insulin treatment.

#### **HOW TO USE:**

Read the Medication Guide and Instructions for Use

provided by your pharmacist before you start using dulaglutide and each time you get a refill. If you have any questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Before using, check this product visually for particles or discoloration. If either is present, do not use the liquid. Before injecting each dose, clean the injection site with rubbing alcohol. Change the injection site each time to lessen injury under the skin.

Inject this medication under the skin in the thigh, abdomen, or upper arm as directed by your doctor, usually once every 7 days. Do not inject into a vein or muscle. It may be used with or without meals.

If you are also using insulin, give dulaglutide and insulin as separate injections. Do not mix them. You may inject these medications in the same area of the body, but the injection sites should not be next to each other.

Do not share your pen device with another person, even if the needle is changed. You may give other people a serious infection, or get a serious infection from them. Learn how to store and discard medical supplies safely.

Use this medication regularly to get the most benefit from it. To help you remember, use it on the same day each week. It may help to mark your calendar with a reminder. Carefully follow the medication treatment plan, meal plan, and exercise program your doctor has recommended.

The dosage is based on your medical condition and response to treatment. Your doctor will start you on a low dose first to decrease your risk of stomach/abdominal side effects, and gradually increase your dose. Follow your doctor's instructions carefully.

Tell your doctor if your condition does not improve or if it worsens (such as if your blood sugar remains high or increases).

**SIDE EFFECTS:**

See also Warning section.

Nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal pain, stomach upset, decreased appetite, tiredness, or weakness may occur. If any of these effects last or get worse, tell your doctor or pharmacist promptly.

Remember that this medication has been prescribed because your doctor has judged that the benefit to you is greater than the risk of side effects. Many people using this medication do not have serious side effects.

Tell your doctor right away if you have any serious side effects, including: slow/irregular heartbeat, signs of kidney problems (such as change in the amount of urine), vision changes.

Vomiting/diarrhea that doesn't stop may result in dehydration and kidney problems. Contact your doctor promptly if you notice any symptoms of dehydration, such as unusual decreased urination, unusual dry mouth/thirst, fast heartbeat, or dizziness/lightheadedness.

Get medical help right away if you have any very serious side effects, including: signs of pancreatitis (such as nausea/vomiting that doesn't stop, severe stomach/abdominal/back pain).

Although dulaglutide by itself usually does not cause low blood sugar (hypoglycemia), low blood sugar may occur if this drug is prescribed with other diabetes medications. Talk with your doctor or pharmacist about whether the dose(s) of your other diabetes medication(s) needs to be lowered. Drinking large quantities of alcohol, not getting enough calories from food, or doing unusually heavy exercise may also lead to low blood sugar. Symptoms may include sudden sweating, shaking, fast heartbeat, hunger, blurred vision, dizziness, or tingling hands/feet. It is a good habit to carry glucose tablets or gel to treat low blood sugar. If you don't have these reliable forms of glucose, rapidly raise your blood sugar by eating a quick source of sugar such as table sugar, honey, or candy, or drink fruit juice or non-diet soda. Tell your doctor right away about the reaction and the use of this product. To help prevent low blood sugar, eat meals on a regular schedule, and do not skip meals. Check with your doctor or pharmacist to find out what you should do if you miss a meal.

Symptoms of high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) include thirst, increased urination, confusion, drowsiness, flushing, rapid breathing, and fruity breath odor. If these symptoms occur, tell your doctor right away. Your dosage may need to be increased.

A very serious allergic reaction to this drug is rare. However, get medical help right away if you notice any symptoms of a serious allergic reaction, including: rash, itching/swelling (especially of the face/tongue/throat), severe dizziness, trouble breathing.

This is not a complete list of possible side effects. If you notice other effects not listed above, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

In the US -

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or at [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).

In Canada - Call your doctor for medical advice about side

effects. You may report side effects to Health Canada at 1-866-234-2345.

**PRECAUTIONS:**

See also Warning section.

Before using dulaglutide, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are allergic to it; or if you have any other allergies. This product may contain inactive ingredients, which can cause allergic reactions or other problems. Talk to your pharmacist for more details.

Before using this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist your medical history, especially of: kidney disease, disease of the pancreas (pancreatitis), stomach/intestinal disorders (such as gastroparesis), a certain eye problem (diabetic retinopathy).

You may experience blurred vision, dizziness, or drowsiness due to extremely low or high blood sugar. Do not drive, use machinery, or do any activity that requires alertness or clear vision until you are sure you can perform such activities safely.

Limit alcohol while taking this medication because it can increase your risk of developing low blood sugar.

It may be harder to control your blood sugar when your body is stressed (such as due to fever, infection, injury, or surgery). Consult your doctor because this may require a change in your treatment plan, medications, or blood sugar testing.

Before having surgery, tell your doctor or dentist about all the products you use (including prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and herbal products).

During pregnancy, this medication should be used only when clearly needed. Discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor.

Pregnancy may cause or worsen diabetes. Discuss a plan with your doctor for managing your blood sugar while pregnant. Your doctor may change your diabetes treatment during your pregnancy (such as diet and medications including insulin).

It is unknown if this drug passes into breast milk. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding.

**DRUG INTERACTIONS:**

Drug interactions may change how your

medications work or increase your risk for serious side effects. This document does not contain all possible drug interactions. Keep a list of all the products you use (including prescription/nonprescription drugs and herbal products) and share it with your doctor and pharmacist. Do not start, stop, or change the dosage of any medicines without your doctor's approval.

Beta-blocker medications (such as metoprolol, propranolol, glaucoma eye drops such as timolol) may prevent the fast/pounding heartbeat you would usually feel when your blood sugar falls too low (hypoglycemia). Other symptoms of low blood sugar, such as dizziness, hunger, or sweating, are unaffected by these drugs.

Many drugs can affect your blood sugar, making it harder to control. Before you start, stop, or change any medication, talk with your doctor or pharmacist about how the medication may affect your blood sugar. Check your blood sugar regularly as directed and share the results with your doctor. Tell your doctor right away if you have symptoms of high or low blood sugar. (See also Side Effects section.) Your doctor may need to adjust your diabetes medication, exercise program, or diet.

**OVERDOSE:**

If someone has overdosed and has serious symptoms such

as passing out or trouble breathing, call 911. Otherwise, call a poison control center right away. US residents can call their local poison control center at 1-800-222-1222. Canada residents can call a provincial poison control center.

**NOTES:**

Do not share this medication with others.

Attend a diabetes education program to learn more about how to manage your diabetes with medications, diet, exercise, and regular medical exams.

Learn the symptoms of high and low blood sugar and how to treat low blood sugar. Check your blood sugar regularly as directed.

Lab and/or medical tests (such as kidney function, fasting blood glucose, hemoglobin A1c, eye exams) should be done while you are using this medication. Keep all medical and lab appointments.

**MISSED DOSE:**

If you miss a dose, use it as soon as you remember.

If it is within 3 days of the next dose, skip the missed dose. Use your next dose at the regular time. Do not double the dose to catch up.

**STORAGE:**

Store in the refrigerator. Do not freeze. This

medication may also be stored at room temperature but must be used within 2 weeks. Keep all medications away from children and pets.

Do not flush medications down the toilet or pour them into a drain unless instructed to do so. Properly discard this product when it is expired or no longer needed. Consult your pharmacist or local waste disposal company.

**MEDICAL ALERT:**

Your condition can cause complications in a

medical emergency. For information about enrolling in MedicAlert, call 1-888-633-4298 (US) or 1-800-668-1507 (Canada).

Information last revised April 2022.

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