

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## NOVO NORDISK INSULIN WITHDRAWAL

Do you use the following insulins?

After the end of December 2007,  
the following will no longer be available:

**Velosulin<sup>®</sup>** Human insulin, rDNA



**Mixtard<sup>®</sup> 10** Human insulin, rDNA



**Mixtard<sup>®</sup> 20** Human insulin, rDNA



**Mixtard<sup>®</sup> 40** Human insulin, rDNA



**Mixtard<sup>®</sup> 50** Human insulin, rDNA



Please make an appointment with your  
diabetes nurse or doctor to discuss changing  
to an alternative insulin and delivery device.



## Prescribing Information

**Mixtard® 10 Penfill®; Mixtard® 20 Penfill®; Mixtard® 40 Penfill®,  
Mixtard® 50 Penfill®, Velosulin®.**

Insulin human, rDNA.

**Presentation:** 3ml Penfill® cartridges (Mixtard® 10, 20, 40 and 50); 10ml vial (Velosulin®). All are available in a strength of 100 iu/ml. Mixtard® is a mixture of soluble and isophane insulin, the ratio being indicated by the number in the name: 10 – 10/90, 20 – 20/80, 40 – 40/60, 50 – 50/50. Velosulin® is a buffered soluble insulin.

**Uses:** The treatment of diabetes mellitus. **Dosage and Administration:** Dosage is individual, usually given by subcutaneous injection; Velosulin® may be given intravenously and may also be given by continuous subcutaneous infusion (CSII) using a suitable pump, catheter and needle. Injection of Velosulin® or Mixtard® should be followed by a meal within 30 minutes of administration. Resuspend suspensions before use by gently agitating. Insulin suspensions must not be administered intravenously or used in insulin infusion pumps. Penfill® cartridges are designed to be used with Novo Nordisk insulin delivery systems and NovoFine® needles; instructions for use are included with the devices and must be carefully followed. Penfill® cartridges are for single-patient use only. Velosulin® and Mixtard® contain metacresol which may cause allergic reactions. Patients using CSII may be more prone to infection at the injection site.

**Contraindications:** Hypoglycaemia; hypersensitivity to human insulin or any of the excipients. **Precautions:** Use of dosages which are inadequate, or discontinuation of treatment may lead to hyperglycaemia and, in type 1 diabetes to ketoacidosis which is potentially lethal. Hypoglycaemia may occur if the insulin dose is too high in relation to requirements. Reduction of early warning symptoms for hypoglycaemia may be seen upon tightening control and has been reported by a few patients on transfer from animal source to human insulin. When administered by CSII, Velosulin® should never be mixed with any other insulin. Transfer to another type or brand of insulin should be under medical supervision. **Pregnancy:** There are no restrictions on the treatment of diabetes with insulin during pregnancy or lactation. Intensified control during pregnancy is recommended. Insulin requirements usually fall during the first trimester and increase during the second and third trimesters. **Side effects:** Hypoglycaemia. Oedema, refraction anomalies and local hypersensitivity reactions may occur at initiation of insulin therapy, but usually disappear during continued treatment. Generalised hypersensitivity reactions may occasionally occur and are potentially life-threatening. Lipodystrophy may result from failure to rotate injection sites. Rapid improvement in glycaemic control may be associated with acute painful neuropathy (usually reversible) and worsening of diabetic retinopathy. **PL Numbers:** Velosulin® EU/1/02/232/001. Mixtard® 10 Penfill® EU/1/02/231/006. Mixtard® 20 Penfill® EU/1/02/231/009. Mixtard® 40 Penfill® EU/1/02/231/015. Mixtard® 50 Penfill® EU/1/02/231/018. **Legal Category:** POM. **Basic NHS Price:** 1 x 10ml vial £7.48, 5 x 3ml Penfill® cartridges £20.08.

**Full prescribing information can be obtained from:**

Novo Nordisk Limited, Broadfield Park, Brighton Road, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 9RT.

**Date PI drawn up:** July 2006.

**Information about adverse event reporting can be found at**  
[www.yellowcard.gov.uk](http://www.yellowcard.gov.uk)

**Adverse events should also be reported to Novo Nordisk Limited**  
**Telephone Novo Nordisk Customer Care Centre: 0845 600 5055**

**Calls charged at local rate and may be recorded for training purposes.**

