

- **Do I need to change my injection device as well?**

Levemir® is available in the latest insulin delivery systems.

Changing from Pork Insulatard® to Levemir® means you will have to change your injection device as well. A disposable injection device is available or you may wish to start using a reusable injection device with cartridges.

Your doctor or diabetes nurse will discuss the best options available for you.

Please remember that after any change is made to your insulin you should carefully monitor your blood glucose. Your doctor or nurse will discuss this with you in more detail.

Novo Nordisk Customer Care

**0845 600 5055**

Calls charged at local rate.  
Calls may be recorded for training purposes.  
Monday to Friday: 08.30 – 17.30  
(Excluding bank holidays)

[www.changingdiabetes.co.uk](http://www.changingdiabetes.co.uk)

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UPDATED VERSION

**Are you changing from  
Pork Insulatard®?**



**This leaflet will explain the differences between  
Pork Insulatard® and Insulatard® or Levemir®.**

More information on  
your new insulin will  
be available from your  
doctor or diabetes nurse.



## Why do I need to change my insulin?

At Novo Nordisk we are constantly working to improve insulin treatments and insulin delivery devices for everyone. Pork Insulatard® was first introduced in the UK over 60 years ago. Since then research into diabetes and our understanding of insulin has progressed significantly. We have developed newer insulin products and improved insulin delivery devices. Insulatard® (human) was first produced over 20 years ago and more recently Levemir® which has been on the market for almost 2 years.

Now that other alternatives are available, fewer people have been using Pork Insulatard® over the years and therefore we will not continue to produce Pork Insulatard®.

There are alternative animal insulin preparations available from Wockhardt UK Ltd. Please contact your health care professional for advice.

## How does Insulatard® (human) differ from Pork Insulatard®?

Pork Insulatard® is extracted from pig pancreas. Science now allows us to use yeast cells to produce human insulin (e.g. Insulatard® [human]). In effect these cells act like “mini factories”.

- **The action of Insulatard® (human) is similar to that of Pork Insulatard®**

You will not need to change your daily routine if you are moved onto Insulatard® (human).

- **It is available in the same 10ml vials as Pork Insulatard®. A prefilled injection device is also available or you may wish to start using a reusable injection device with cartridges**

Your doctor or diabetes nurse will discuss the best options available for you.

Your doctor may have to adjust your dose if they switch you from one type or brand of insulin to another.

## What is Levemir® and how does it differ from Pork Insulatard®?

Levemir® is an insulin known as a long-acting insulin analogue for the treatment of diabetes. Just like Pork Insulatard® it is used to cover your background (basal) insulin needs when you are not eating. Normally a person without diabetes would secrete a certain level of insulin throughout the day. The effect of Levemir® intends to copy this action.

- **Levemir®**

Levemir® has a longer duration of action than Pork Insulatard®. Levemir® may be given once or twice daily.

Levemir® is used in combination with mealtime short or rapid-acting insulin. Your doctor may have to adjust your mealtime insulin dose when you change to Levemir®.

- **Do I need to change my daily routine?**

Your doctor or diabetes nurse will explain to you in more detail how this change of insulin will affect your daily routine.

When you visit your doctor or nurse, more information on Levemir® is available for you to take away.