

What is Ovidrel used for?

Ovidrel belongs to a family of hormones known as gonadotrophins, which are involved with the normal control of reproduction.

It is used in women as part of in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) programmes. Ovidrel is used in the stimulation cycle to ripen (mature) follicles containing eggs and trigger ovulation. Ovidrel is also used to time egg collection in an in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) programme.

Ovidrel is not addictive.

This medicine is available only on a doctor's prescription.

DO NOT use Ovidrel if:

- ◆ You have a history of allergy to Ovidrel or its ingredients
- ◆ Your ovaries are unable to be stimulated to produce eggs (primary ovarian failure or premature menopause)
- ◆ Uncontrolled thyroid or adrenal gland disease
- ◆ A tumour of the hypothalamus or pituitary gland
- ◆ Ovarian enlargement or large ovarian cysts
- ◆ Cancer of your ovaries, uterus (womb) or breasts
- ◆ Fibroid tumours in the uterus which would make pregnancy impossible.

DO NOT use Ovidrel after the expiry date on the package has been passed.

DO NOT use Ovidrel if the packing is torn or shows signs of tampering.

If your medicine has expired or is damaged, return it to your pharmacist/clinic for disposal

Before you use Ovidrel

TELL YOUR DOCTOR if you have any allergies to:

- ◆ Any other medicines
- ◆ Any other substance such as foods, preservatives or dyes
- ◆ Any other pre-existing medical conditions

Ovidrel has not been found to interact with other commonly used medicines.

TELL YOUR DOCTOR if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

How to use Cetrotide

Ovidrel is given as by a subcutaneous injection usually below or near your navel. Your clinic nurse or doctor will explain to you how to give the injection. Ovidrel comes as a pre filled syringe (250mcg in 0.5ml) and is given as a single injection. The dosage can vary and your clinic nurse or doctor will explain the dosage to you.

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or clinic nurse carefully. They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you forget to take Ovidrel you should contact your doctor or clinic nurse immediately. It is important that Ovidrel is injected on the correct day and at the correct time as instructed by your doctor or clinic nurse. You must inform your doctor if your injection was not given as directed.

Side effects

TELL YOUR DOCTOR or clinic nurse if you do not feel well while taking Ovidrel.

All medicines have side effects. Sometimes they are more serious, most of the time they are not.

If you think you have side effects talk to your doctor or clinic nurse.

The most common side effects are:

- ◆ Pain, swelling or redness at the injection site
- ◆ Headache
- ◆ Tiredness
- ◆ Nausea/vomiting
- ◆ Abdominal pain

Less common side effects are: -

- ◆ Diarrhoea
- ◆ Depression
- ◆ Irritability
- ◆ Restlessness
- ◆ Breast pain
- ◆ Symptoms of OHSS (ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome) which include severe abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, shortness of breath and low urine output

If you are worried contact your doctor or clinic nurse

Storage

- ◆ Ovidrel can be stored in a cool dry place below 25°C for 30 days in its original packaging. If it is not going to be used within that time frame it should be refrigerated between 2-8 °C. Do not freeze.
- ◆ **DO NOT LEAVE IN THE CAR**
- ◆ Keep this medicine where children cannot reach it

Disposal

After injecting you should discard the syringe even if you have not injected all its contents. Syringes should be discarded in an appropriate disposal unit.

If you have any Ovidrel that has expired or is left over return it to your clinic or pharmacy.