

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is CETROTIDE used for?

CETROTIDE is used as part of the hormone treatment for ovarian stimulation. CETROTIDE blocks the effect of a natural hormone, called gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH). GnRH controls the secretion of another hormone, called luteinizing hormone (LH). LH is the hormone that starts ovulation (release of an egg) during the menstrual cycle. CETROTIDE allows the release of an egg to be controlled so that it occurs at an optimal time for pregnancy to occur.

## What dosage forms are available?

CETROTIDE is available in two sizes: 0.25 mg and 3 mg. Both strengths contain cetorelix acetate and mannitol as the non-active ingredient.

## How should I use CETROTIDE?

CETROTIDE should be injected under the skin, as a single dose of 3 mg once or as a multiple dose of 0.25 mg daily as directed by your doctor.

In the single dose regimen, 3 mg of CETROTIDE is administered when the serum estradiol level is indicative of an appropriate stimulation response, usually on stimulation day 7 (range day 5-9). If hCG has not been administered within four days after injection of CETROTIDE 3 mg, CETROTIDE 0.25 mg should be administered once daily until the day of hCG administration.

In the daily dose regimen, 0.25 mg of CETROTIDE is administered on either stimulation day 5 (morning or evening) or day 6 (morning) and continued daily until the day of hCG administration.

## What should I do if I take too much CETROTIDE?

If you suspect that you may have taken more than the prescribed dose of this medicine, contact your doctor immediately.

## What should I do if I missed a dose?

If you miss a dose of CETROTIDE do not double dose. Discuss with your doctor when you should receive your next dose. Check with your doctor if you have any questions about this.

## How long can you keep CETROTIDE after preparation of the solution?

The solution should be used immediately after preparation. Each vial and syringe should be used only once.

## What are the possible side effects?

As with all medication, there is a potential for side effects. Common side effects include: headache; injection site reactions (e.g. pain, redness, swelling pruritus, erythema, hematoma and/or irritation at the site of injection) and nausea.

Rare cases of allergic reactions can occur (warm, red skin, itching (often in your groin or armpits), red, itchy, raised areas (hives), runny nose, fast or uneven pulse, swelling of your tongue and throat, sneezing, wheezing, serious difficulty breathing or dizziness. You may be having a possible serious, life-threatening allergic reaction to the medicine. If you notice any of the side effects above, stop using CETROTIDE and seek immediate medical attention.

During or following hormonal stimulation of the ovaries, ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome may develop. Ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome (OHSS) is a rare condition which occurs when too many follicles (part of the ovary that forms into an egg) grow and cause abdominal discomfort or pain, nausea, diarrhea and sometimes difficulty in breathing. In extreme cases hospitalization is necessary. OHSS is potentially very serious, but can be avoided by careful monitoring by your doctor.

Call your doctor if you have any side effects not mentioned in this leaflet or if you are unsure about the effect of this medicine.

## What are some important points to remember?

- Store CETROTIDE in a cool dry place (2-25°C).
- Protect CETROTIDE from excess moisture and heat. Do not freeze.
- Keep the packaged tray in the outer carton to protect it from light.
- Always check the expiry date on the labels and on the carton before use – never use expired CETROTIDE.
- After expiry, dispose of the vial and the syringe properly.
- Store the medicine out of the reach of children.
- This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for another condition or give the medicine to others.
- For additional information, please refer to the package insert that came with your medication, or the latest approved product monograph.

## Who should not use CETROTIDE?

Before you use CETROTIDE let your doctor know of any of the following: if you are taking or have recently taken other medications including those not requiring a prescription, if you are allergic to cetorelix acetate or mannitol, if you are pregnant, or think that you might be pregnant, or if you are breast feeding, if you are allergic to GnRH or any other GnRH analogs (e.g., leuprolide acetate, goserelin acetate), or if you have moderate or severe liver or kidney disease.

## Where can I get help and find more information?

**momentum**

The MOMENTUM patient services program (formerly Fertility Lifelines) is a free and confidential service that offers customized patient support, including injection assistance, to individuals using EMD Serono fertility products.

Call MOMENTUM toll-free at 1-800-387-8479 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. (Eastern Time), Monday to Friday. MOMENTUM is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for urgent inquiries that cannot wait until the following business day. For after-hour calls, simply leave your name, reason for calling, and your phone number, and a registered nurse will return your call in a timely manner.

MOMENTUM is available in over 250 languages through the assistance of certified translators.

MOMENTUM is also available online at [fertility.mymomentum.ca](http://fertility.mymomentum.ca).

For more information on CETROTIDE please refer to the package insert that came with your medication.

MOMENTUM will not comment on individual diagnosis, treatment questions, or laboratory results. You should discuss those with your healthcare provider.

MOMENTUM is a source of educational support sponsored by EMD Serono, Canada and is not intended to replace discussions with your healthcare provider.



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**momentum**

**1-800-387-8479**

Momentum is a complimentary and confidential phone service which offers support for patients who are prescribed EMD Serono fertility products.

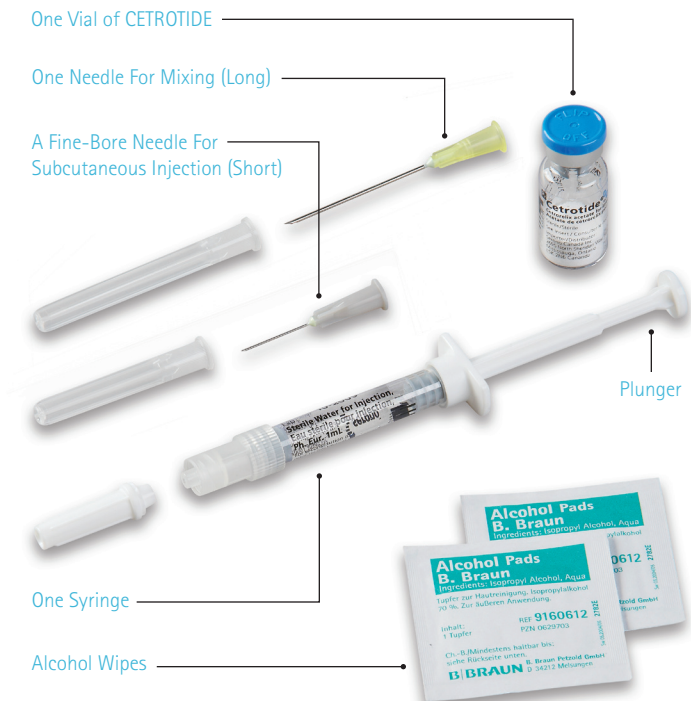


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## ADMINISTRATION AND STORAGE INSTRUCTIONS



## Cetrotide® is available in:

- 0.25mg
- 3mg



## Before you begin:

1. Clean work surface with soap and water.
2. Wash hands well with soap and water.
3. On a clean surface, lay out everything you need: one vial of medication, one pre-filled syringe, one needle for mixing (yellow mark), one needle for injection (grey mark) and two alcohol wipes.

### Step 1

Flip off the plastic cover of the vial of medication.

### Step 2

Wipe the aluminum ring and rubber stopper with an alcohol wipe.  
Discard the alcohol wipe.

### Step 3

Take the pre-filled syringe of diluent and remove the cover.

### Step 4

Remove the wrapping on the yellow mixing needle.  
Twist the needle onto the pre-filled syringe so that it is tight.  
Carefully remove the needle cover.

### Step 5

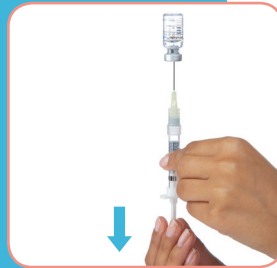
Push the needle through the center of the rubber stopper of the vial of medication.  
Inject the water from the pre-filled syringe into the vial by slowly pushing down the plunger of the syringe. Dissolve CETROTIDE® only with the water contained in the pre-filled syringe.



### Step 6

Without removing the needle from the vial, gently rotate the vial until the solution is clear and without particles.  
Avoid forming bubbles.

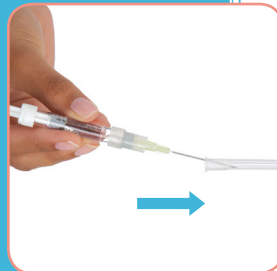
**IMPORTANT:** Do not use if solution appears cloudy, lumpy or discoloured.



### Step 7

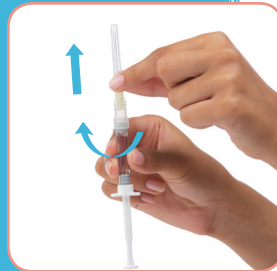
Draw the total content of the vial into the syringe. If the liquid is left in the vial, invert the vial, pull back the needle until the opening of the needle is just inside the stopper. If you look from the side through the gap in the stopper, you can control the movement of the needle and the liquid.

It is important to withdraw the entire contents of the vial.



### Step 8

Withdraw the needle from the vial.  
Carefully recap the needle.



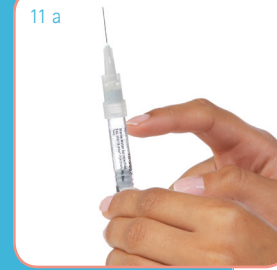
### Step 9

Twist to detach the needle from the syringe.  
Discard the mixing needle into a sharps container. Carefully lay the syringe on a clean surface.



### Step 10

Remove the wrapping on the grey injection needle. Twist the needle onto the syringe so that it is tight.  
Carefully remove the cover of the needle by pulling it straight off.

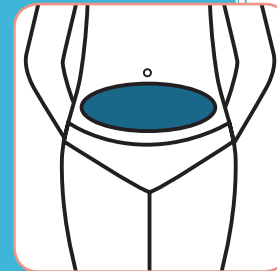


### Step 11

a. Hold the syringe with the needle pointing upwards and gently flick the syringe if there are any visible air bubbles.  
b. If there are no air bubbles, or if there is no air space at the top of the syringe, pull the plunger back to allow for an air space of 0.1 mL.

Carefully replace the cap and lay the syringe on a clean surface.

**IMPORTANT:** It is important to have an air space in your syringe before you inject. This will ensure that all the medication has been injected.



### Step 12

Choose an injection site: CETROTIDE is for injection under the skin of the lower abdominal wall.

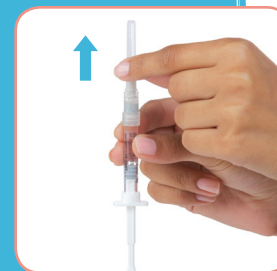
If you are on 0.25 mg regimen, choose a different injection site each day to minimize local irritation.



### Step 13

Clean the skin at the injection site using an alcohol wipe and allow the alcohol to dry.

Keep the alcohol wipe nearby.



### Step 14

Pick up the syringe and remove the cap from the needle.



### Step 15

Invert the syringe and hold as if "throwing a dart".

With your other hand, gently squeeze the skin together to make a little elevation at the injection site.



### Step 16

Using a "dart like motion", insert the needle at a 90° angle.

**IMPORTANT:** To inject, you need very little force but quick action.



### Step 17

Once the needle is inserted into the tissue all the way, inject the solution by pushing gently on the plunger with the hand holding the syringe.

Take as much time as you need to inject all the solution.



### Step 18

Immediately withdraw the needle and clean the site with the clean side of the alcohol swab using a circular motion.

If there is minor oozing you may need to apply a small amount of pressure for a minute.

Dispose of the syringe and needles immediately after use into a sharps container.