

HUMAN CHORIONIC GONADOTROPIN (hCG)

NOVAREL™

PREGNYL™



NOTE:

These medications may be given as a subcutaneous injection or an intramuscular injection depending on your physician's orders. Instructions for both injections are included.

Description: A natural steroid hormone produced during pregnancy. It is given subcutaneously or intramuscularly, depending on your center's protocol and is given to trigger ovulation. It functions like natural LH by stimulating the "lead follicle" or the biggest follicle, to release its egg. It may be used in combination with clomiphene citrate and gonadotropins. It is packaged with one vial of 10,000 IU (International Units) of powdered medication and one vial of diluent.

How it works: hCG is administered as an injection intramuscularly or subcutaneously depending on the physician's instructions. hCG is virtually identical to that of pituitary luteinizing hormone (LH). During the normal menstrual cycle, LH participates with follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) in the development and maturation of the normal ovarian follicle, and the mid-cycle LH surge triggers ovulation. During an assisted reproductive cycle (ART), hCG is used to induce egg maturation and trigger ovulation (the release of an egg(s) from the ovary) in women who have been treated with ovulation inducing medications.

Potential side effects: Though rare, it is possible to have some discomfort at the injection site as well as some mood changes.

Storage: hCG 10,000 Units Vial - Store at room temperature (68-77°F). After reconstitution/mixing: Refrigerate and use within 60 days.
Novarel 10,000 Units Vial - Store at room temperature (68-77°F); excursions permitted between (59-86°F). After reconstitution/mixing: Refrigerate (36-46°F) and use within 30 days.
Pregnyl 10,000 Units Vial - Store at room temperature (59-86°F). After reconstitution/mixing: Refrigerate and use within 60 days.

- Mixing:
- Pop off the plastic top of powdered medication and diluent (liquid).
 - Swab the top of each vial with an alcohol pad to prevent contamination.
 - Select a 3cc syringe with 1 ½" needle for mixing. Twist to secure needle.
 - Using your syringe, draw back 1cc of air into the syringe.
 - Firmly insert the needle through the rubber stopper into the vial of diluent. Invert, or turn upside down, the vial and syringe as one complete unit and depress the air into the vial in order to equalize the pressure, which will make withdrawal of the diluent easier. Once you depress the plunger of the air-filled syringe into the vial, make sure the tip of the needle is **BELOW** the liquid level and pull the plunger to withdraw 1cc of the diluent.

NOTE: The diluent vial contains excess diluent. Unless otherwise instructed by your physician, use ONLY 1cc of diluent.

- Slowly and cautiously deposit the diluent into the vial of powdered medication. Rotate the vial between your thumb and index finger until the solution is clear. Withdraw the newly mixed medication back into the syringe. Remove the syringe from the vial.
- Invert the syringe so the needle is pointing upwards and tap the syringe to force any air bubbles to the top. Depress the plunger to expel the air.

If you are now ready for your subcutaneous injection, recap and remove the mixing needle by twisting and replace it with the smaller subcutaneous injection needle (usually ½" needle).

PROCEED TO SUBCUTANEOUS INJECTION INSTRUCTIONS

If you are now ready for your intramuscular injection, recap and remove the mixing needle by twisting and replace it with the intramuscular injection needle (usually 1 ½" needle).

PROCEED TO INTRAMUSCULAR INJECTION INSTRUCTIONS