

MEDICAL PHARMACIES NEW DRUGS

Drug Information and News for Health Care Providers

October 2015

TOUJEO® SOLOSTAR® (INSULIN GLARGINE) HIGH ALERT MEDICATION

**SOLUTION FOR INJECTION 300 U/ML
IN A DISPOSABLE PRE-FILLED
INSULIN PEN (1.5 ML)¹**

INDICATION FOR USE AND GOAL(S) OF THERAPY

Toujeo® SoloSTAR® (insulin glargine injection) is a proven 24 hour long-acting human insulin analogue. The goal of therapy is blood sugar control. This is basal insulin like Lantus® that has more units/mL.

FORMULATION

Toujeo® SoloSTAR® is provided as insulin glargine 300 Units/mL. This formulation allows more units to be injected with less volume. This may be an advantage for individuals currently needing to inject large volumes of Lantus® 100 Units/mL.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Toujeo® SoloSTAR® (insulin glargine injection) is contraindicated during episodes of hypoglycemia and in patients who are hypersensitive to the drug or its ingredients.

DOSE & ADMINISTRATION

- A dose of 1-80 units per injection
- To minimize risk of hypoglycemia, titrate dose of Toujeo® no more than every three to four days.
- A reduction in the Toujeo® dose may be required in residents with renal or hepatic impairment.
- Dosage adjustments may be needed with changes in physical activity, changes in meal patterns, changes in renal or hepatic function, or during acute illness to minimize risk of hypoglycemia or hyperglycemia.

Type 1 Diabetes: The recommended starting dose of Toujeo® in insulin naïve patients with type 1 diabetes is approximately 1/3 to 1/2 of the total daily insulin dose.

As a general rule, 0.2 to 0.4 units of insulin per kg of body weight can be used to calculate the initial total daily insulin dose in insulin naïve patients with type 1 diabetes. The maximum glucose lowering effect of a dose of Toujeo® may take five days to fully manifest.

Type 2 Diabetes: The recommended starting dose in naïve patients with type 2 diabetes is 0.2 units per kg of body weight once daily.

Switching Patients on Insulin Therapy to Toujeo®:

Lantus® 100 U/mL to Toujeo® (insulin glargine 300 U/mL): Lantus® (insulin glargine 100 U/mL) and Toujeo® (insulin 300 U/mL) are not bioequivalent and not directly interchangeable.

- The starting dose of Toujeo® can be the same as Lantus®, but a higher daily Toujeo® dose may be needed to achieve target ranges.

Levemir® (Insulin detemir) to Toujeo®: If Levemir® is given once daily, convert unit-per-unit and give once daily. If Levemir® is given twice daily, reduce the total daily dose by 20% and give once daily.

WHAT TO MONITOR AND REPORT TO THE HEALTHCARE TEAM

- Monitor blood glucose daily while titrating. It may take five or more days to observe the maximal effect.
- Monitor potassium levels, fluid retention, injection site reactions, and signs of hypoglycemia:

- Hunger
- Feeling Shaky
- Fast Heartbeat
- Lightheadedness
- Dizziness and Confusion
- Sweating
- Headache
- Irritability

Please refer to Toujeo® SoloSTAR® product monograph for more comprehensive information, including warnings and precautions.

Reference:

1. Toujeo® SoloSTAR® product monograph. Sanofi Canada 2015.