

## Patient Information

# **VISCO-3<sup>TM</sup>** **(Sodium Hyaluronate)**

Federal law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a physician.

**Please make sure to read the following important information carefully. This information does not take the place of your doctor's advice. If you do not understand this information or want to know more, ask your doctor.**

Your doctor has determined that the knee pain you are experiencing is caused by osteoarthritis and that you are a candidate for a non-surgical, non-pharmacological, pain-relieving therapy called VISCO-3<sup>TM</sup>.

VISCO-3<sup>TM</sup> is used for the treatment of pain in osteoarthritis of the knee in patients who have failed to get adequate relief from simple painkillers or from exercise and physical therapy.

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**What is VISCO-3™?**

VISCO-3™ is a solution made of highly purified, sodium hyaluronate (hyaluronan). Hyaluronan is a natural chemical found in the body and is found in particularly high amounts in joint tissues and in the fluid (synovial fluid) that fills the joints. The body's own hyaluronan acts like a lubricant and shock absorber in synovial fluid of a healthy joint. Osteoarthritis reduces your synovial fluid's ability to protect and lubricate your joint. VISCO-3™ is available in 2.5 mL pre-filled syringes. VISCO-3™ is given in a shot directly in your knee.

**What are the benefits of VISCO-3™?**

The safety and effectiveness of VISCO-3™ were studied in a clinical trial conducted in the United States (US): 209 patients received VISCO-3™ injections and 211 patients received another commercially available sodium hyaluronate once a week for 3 weeks. Pain scores were measured up to 12 weeks. Patients treated with VISCO-3™ had a 52.5% reduction in their pain after 12 weeks, which was similar to the treatment effect of another commercially available sodium hyaluronate. For further information on the clinical trial, see the Summary of Clinical Study section.

Products with the same formulation as VISCO-3™ were first introduced in Japan in 1987, and have been in the US since 2001.

**How is VISCO-3™ given?**

Your doctor will give you an injection of VISCO-3™ (25 mg/2.5 mL) into your knee once a week for 3 weeks (a total of 3 injections). Your doctor may recommend a local anesthetic to reduce the possible discomfort associated with an injection.

**What should you expect following your series of injections?**

The goal of VISCO-3™ is the relief of pain. You may experience some pain relief before you receive the full series of 3 injections. The actual amount and duration of pain relief varies from patient to patient. Immediately after you have the injection and for the next 48 hours, you may need to avoid activities such as jogging, tennis, heavy lifting or standing on your feet for a long time. Please note that no treatment, including VISCO-3™, helps in every single patient.

### **What other treatments are available for osteoarthritis?**

If you have osteoarthritis, there are several things you can do that do not involve VISCO-3™ injections. These include the following:

#### Non-drug treatments

- Avoiding activities that cause excess pain in your joints
- Exercise
- Physical therapy

#### Drug Therapy

- Painkillers such as acetaminophen and narcotics
- Drugs that reduce inflammation, such as aspirin, and other nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agents (NSAIDs) such as ibuprofen and naproxen
- Corticosteroids that are injected directly into the joint.

### **Are there any reasons why you should not use VISCO-3™?**

- You should not use this product if you are allergic to products from birds such as feathers, eggs and poultry.
- You should not have the injection if you have infections or skin diseases in the area the injection will be given.
- You should not take this product if you have had any previous allergic reaction to VISCO-3™ or similar material, i.e., hyaluronate products.
- The safety and effectiveness of VISCO-3™ have not been established in pregnant women, in lactating women, and in children (21 years of age or younger).

### **Possible complications:**

- The most common adverse events reported for VISCO-3™ in the clinical trial were joint pain, back pain and headache. Other reported adverse events included joint swelling, joint instability, joint stiffness, and injection site pain. These adverse events also occurred at similar rates in the patients treated with another commercially available sodium hyaluronate.
- No severe allergic reactions were observed in any study patients.
- The possible side effects reported in the literature and in post-marketing experience from products which have the same formulation as VISCO-3™ include injection site reactions (pain / swelling / effusion (an abnormal collection of fluid in a body cavity or space) /

redness / warmth). These reactions were generally mild and did not last long.

Other side effects include: Itching; swelling of face, eyelids, mouth, and/or extremities; rash; hives; redness in face; nausea; vomiting and fever.

Rare cases of allergic/non-allergic reactions accompanied by cold sweat, paleness and low blood pressure, have been reported.

Adverse experience data from the literature contain no evidence of increased safety risk relating to retreatment with VISCO-3™. The frequency and severity of adverse events occurring during repeat treatment cycles did not increase over that reported for a single treatment cycle.

- If any of the above symptoms or signs appear after you are given VISCO-3™, or if you have any other problems, you should contact your doctor.

**Other things you should know about VISCO-3™:**

- VISCO-3™ is only for injection into the knee, performed by a qualified physician.
- Pain and/or swelling of the injected joint may occur after injection of VISCO-3™.
- The effectiveness of repeat treatment cycles of VISCO-3™ has not been established.
- The effectiveness of a single treatment cycle of less than 3 injections has not been established.
- The safety and effectiveness of the use of VISCO-3™ in joints other than the knee have not been established.
- The safety and effectiveness of the use of VISCO-3™ given at the same time as other injectables have not been established.

**Summary of Clinical Study:**

A clinical trial was performed comparing VISCO-3™ to a commercially available hyaluronan, a legally marketed alternative with identical indications for use. A main goal of the study was to evaluate the reduction in pain in the joint up through 12 weeks after treatment. 420 subjects at 29 US study centers received at least one injection of either VISCO-3™ or the other commercially available sodium hyaluronate.

Safety data indicated comparable safety and tolerability of VISCO-3™ to the other commercially available sodium hyaluronate. Of the adverse events that occurred in the study, less than 10% were considered related to the study device in either treatment group. The most

frequently reported device-related adverse events in the VISCO-3™ group were joint pain (1%), joint swelling (1.4%), and injection site pain (1.0%). None of the serious adverse events reported in the study were considered to be related to the study device in either treatment group, and no clinically relevant changes were observed in vital signs or physical examinations. Overall, these results indicated that VISCO-3™ is safe and well tolerated.

Effectiveness data from this study showed that patients treated with VISCO-3™ had a 52.5% reduction in their pain after 12 weeks. This was similar to the treatment effect of another commercially available sodium hyaluronate and demonstrated that VISCO-3™ provides comparable pain relief to that of the alternative hyaluronate.

**How can you get more information about VISCO-3™?**

- Ask your doctor.
- Call Bioventus  
Customer Service at 1-800-396-4325 (toll free) or 1-919-474-6700
- Consult the VISCO-3™ internet site at [www.supartz.com](http://www.supartz.com).

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