



1 (Nos. 4637, 1658)

2 NEW

3

4 **Zemplar**[®]
5 (paricalcitol) Injection

6

7 **Fliptop Vial**

8 R_x only

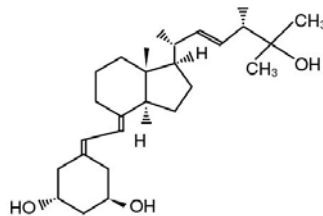
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10 DESCRIPTION

11 Paricalcitol, USP, the active ingredient in Zemplar Injection, is a synthetically
12 manufactured analog of calcitriol, the metabolically active form of vitamin D indicated
13 for the prevention and treatment of secondary hyperparathyroidism associated with
14 chronic kidney disease (CKD) Stage 5. Zemplar is available as a sterile, clear, colorless,
15 aqueous solution for intravenous injection. Each mL contains paricalcitol, 2 mcg or 5
16 mcg; propylene glycol, 30% (v/v); and alcohol, 20% (v/v).

17 Paricalcitol is a white powder chemically designated as 19-nor-1 α ,3 β ,25-
18 trihydroxy-9,10-secoergosta-5(Z),7(E),22(E)-triene and has the following structural
19 formula:

20



21

22

23 Molecular formula is C₂₇H₄₄O₃.

24 Molecular weight is 416.64.

25

26 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

27 Secondary hyperparathyroidism is characterized by an elevation in parathyroid hormone
28 (PTH) associated with inadequate levels of active vitamin D hormone. The source of
29 vitamin D in the body is from synthesis in the skin and from dietary intake. Vitamin D
30 requires two sequential hydroxylations in the liver and the kidney to bind to and to
31 activate the vitamin D receptor (VDR). The endogenous VDR activator, calcitriol
32 [1,25(OH)₂D₃], is a hormone that binds to VDRs that are present in the parathyroid
33 gland, intestine, kidney, and bone to maintain parathyroid function and calcium and



34 phosphorus homeostasis, and to VDRs found in many other tissues, including prostate,
35 endothelium and immune cells. VDR activation is essential for the proper formation and
36 maintenance of normal bone. In the diseased kidney, the activation of vitamin D is
37 diminished, resulting in a rise of PTH, subsequently leading to secondary
38 hyperparathyroidism, and disturbances in the calcium and phosphorus homeostasis.¹ The
39 decreased levels of 1,25(OH)₂ D₃ and resultant elevated PTH levels, both of which often
40 precede abnormalities in serum calcium and phosphorus, affect bone turnover rate and
41 may result in renal osteodystrophy.

42

43 **Mechanism of Action**

44 Paricalcitol is a synthetic, biologically active vitamin D analog of calcitriol with
45 modifications to the side chain (D₂) and the A (19-nor) ring. Preclinical and *in vitro*
46 studies have demonstrated that paricalcitol's biological actions are mediated through
47 binding of the VDR, which results in the selective activation of vitamin D responsive
48 pathways. Vitamin D and paricalcitol have been shown to reduce parathyroid hormone
49 levels by inhibiting PTH synthesis and secretion.

50

51 **Pharmacokinetics**

52 Within two hours after administering Zemplar intravenous doses ranging from 0.04 to
53 0.24 mcg/kg, concentrations of paricalcitol decreased rapidly; thereafter, concentrations
54 of paricalcitol declined log-linearly. No accumulation of paricalcitol was observed with
55 multiple dosing.

56

57 **Distribution**

58 Paricalcitol is extensively bound to plasma proteins (≥99.8%). In healthy subjects, the
59 steady state volume of distribution is approximately 23.8 L. The mean apparent volume
60 of distribution following a 0.24 mcg/kg dose of paricalcitol in CKD Stage 5 subjects
61 requiring hemodialysis (HD) and peritoneal dialysis (PD) is between 31 and 35 L.

62

63 **Metabolism**

64 After IV administration of a 0.48 mcg/kg dose of ³H-paricalcitol, parent drug was
65 extensively metabolized, with only about 2% of the dose eliminated unchanged in the
66 feces and no parent drug found in the urine. Several metabolites were detected in both
67 the urine and feces. Most of the systemic exposure was from the parent drug. Two
68 minor metabolites, relative to paricalcitol, were detected in human plasma. One
69 metabolite was identified as 24(R)-hydroxy paricalcitol, while the other metabolite was
70 unidentified. The 24(R)-hydroxy paricalcitol is less active than paricalcitol in an *in vivo*
71 rat model of PTH suppression.

72 *In vitro* data suggest that paricalcitol is metabolized by multiple hepatic and non-hepatic
73 enzymes, including mitochondrial CYP24, as well as CYP3A4 and UGT1A4. The



74 identified metabolites include the product of 24(R)-hydroxylation (present at low levels
75 in plasma), as well as 24,26- and 24,28-dihydroxylation and direct glucuronidation.
76

77 Elimination

78 Paricalcitol is excreted primarily by hepatobiliary excretion. Approximately 63% of the
79 radioactivity was eliminated in the feces and 19% was recovered in the urine in healthy
80 subjects. In healthy subjects, the mean elimination half-life of paricalcitol is about five to
81 seven hours over the studied dose range of 0.04 to 0.16 mcg/kg. The pharmacokinetics of
82 paricalcitol has been studied in CKD Stage 5 subjects requiring hemodialysis (HD) and
83 peritoneal dialysis (PD). The mean elimination half-life of paricalcitol after
84 administration of 0.24 mcg/kg paricalcitol IV bolus dose in CKD Stage 5 HD and PD
85 patients is 13.9 and 15.4 hours, respectively (Table 1).
86

87 **Table 1 Mean \pm SD Paricalcitol Pharmacokinetic Parameters in CKD Stage 5**
88 **Subjects Following Single 0.24 mcg/kg IV Bolus Dose**
89

	CKD Stage 5-HD (n=14)	CKD Stage 5-PD (n=8)
C_{\max} (ng/mL)	1.680 \pm 0.511	1.832 \pm 0.315
AUC _{0-∞} (ng·h/mL)	14.51 \pm 4.12	16.01 \pm 5.98
β (1/h)	0.050 \pm 0.023	0.045 \pm 0.026
$t_{1/2}$ (h) †	13.9 \pm 7.3	15.4 \pm 10.5
CL (L/h)	1.49 \pm 0.60	1.54 \pm 0.95
Vd _{β} (L)	30.8 \pm 7.5	34.9 \pm 9.5

90 †: harmonic mean \pm pseudo standard deviation, HD: hemodialysis, PD: peritoneal dialysis
91

92 The degree of accumulation was consistent with the half-life and dosing frequency.
93

94 Special Populations

95

96 *Geriatric*

97 The pharmacokinetics of paricalcitol have not been investigated in geriatric patients
98 greater than 65 years.
99

100 *Pediatrics*

101 The pharmacokinetics of paricalcitol have not been investigated in patients less than
102 18 years of age.



103

104 Gender

105 The pharmacokinetics of paricalcitol were gender independent.

106

107 *Hepatic Impairment*

108 The disposition of paricalcitol (0.24 mcg/kg) was compared in patients with mild
109 (n=5) and moderate (n=5) hepatic impairment (as indicated by the Child-Pugh method)
110 and subjects with normal hepatic function (n=10). The pharmacokinetics of unbound
111 paricalcitol were similar across the range of hepatic function evaluated in this study. No
112 dosing adjustment is required in patients with mild and moderate hepatic impairment.
113 The influence of severe hepatic impairment on the pharmacokinetics of paricalcitol has
114 not been evaluated.

115

116 *Renal Impairment*

117 The pharmacokinetics of paricalcitol have been studied in CKD Stage 5 subjects
118 requiring hemodialysis (HD) and peritoneal dialysis (PD). Hemodialysis procedure has
119 essentially no effect on paricalcitol elimination. However, compared to healthy subjects,
120 CKD Stage 5 subjects showed a decreased CL and increased half-life (see
121 **Pharmacokinetics, Elimination**).

122

123

124 Drug Interactions

125 An *in vitro* study indicates that paricalcitol is not an inhibitor of CYP1A2, CYP2A6,
126 CYP2B6, CYP2C8, CYP2C9, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP2E1, or CYP3A at
127 concentrations up to 50 nM (21 ng/mL) (approximately 20-fold greater than that obtained
128 after highest tested dose). In fresh primary cultured hepatocytes, the induction observed
129 at paricalcitol concentrations up to 50 nM was less than two-fold for CYP2B6, CYP2C9
130 or CYP3A, where the positive controls rendered a six- to nineteen-fold induction. Hence,
131 paricalcitol is not expected to inhibit or induce the clearance of drugs metabolized by
132 these enzymes.

133

134 Drug interactions with paricalcitol injection have not been studied.

135

136 Omeprazole: The pharmacokinetic interaction between paricalcitol capsule (16 mcg) and
137 omeprazole (40 mg; oral) was investigated in a single dose, crossover study in healthy
138 subjects. The pharmacokinetics of paricalcitol were unaffected when omeprazole was
139 administered approximately 2 hours prior to the paricalcitol dose.

140



141 Ketoconazole: Although no data are available for the drug interaction between
142 paricalcitol injection and ketoconazole, the effect of multiple doses of ketoconazole
143 administered as 200 mg BID for 5 days on the pharmacokinetics of paricalcitol capsule
144 has been studied in healthy subjects. The C_{max} of paricalcitol was minimally affected, but
145 $AUC_{0-\infty}$ approximately doubled in the presence of ketoconazole. The mean half-life of
146 paricalcitol was 17.0 hours in the presence of ketoconazole as compared to 9.8 hours,
147 when paricalcitol was administered alone (See **PRECAUTIONS**).

148

149 **Clinical Studies**

150 In three 12-week, placebo-controlled, phase 3 studies in chronic kidney disease Stage 5
151 patients on dialysis, the dose of Zemplar was started at 0.04 mcg/kg 3 times per week.
152 The dose was increased by 0.04 mcg/kg every 2 weeks until intact parathyroid hormone
153 (iPTH) levels were decreased at least 30% from baseline or a fifth escalation brought the
154 dose to 0.24 mcg/kg, or iPTH fell to less than 100 pg/mL, or the Ca x P product was
155 greater than 75 within any 2 week period, or serum calcium became greater than 11.5
156 mg/dL at any time.

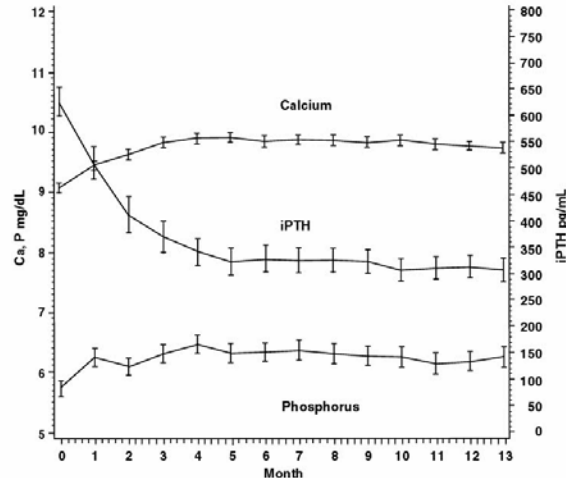
157 Patients treated with Zemplar achieved a mean iPTH reduction of 30% within 6
158 weeks. In these studies, there was no significant difference in the incidence of
159 hypercalcemia or hyperphosphatemia between Zemplar and placebo-treated patients. The
160 results from these studies are as follows:

161

	Group (No. of Pts.)	Baseline Mean (Range)	Mean (SE) Change From Baseline to Final Evaluation
iPTH (pg/mL)	Zemplar (n=40)	783 (291 – 2076)	-379 (43.7)
	placebo (n=38)	745 (320 – 1671)	-69.6 (44.8)
Alkaline Phosphatase (U/L)	Zemplar (n=31)	150 (40 – 600)	-41.5 (10.6)
	placebo (n=34)	169 (56 – 911)	+2.6 (10.1)
Calcium (mg/dL)	Zemplar (n=40)	9.3 (7.2 – 10.4)	+0.47 (0.1)
	placebo (n=38)	9.1 (7.8 – 10.7)	+0.02 (0.1)
Phosphorus (mg/dL)	Zemplar (n=40)	5.8 (3.7 – 10.2)	+0.47 (0.3)
	placebo (n=38)	6.0 (2.8 – 8.8)	-0.47 (0.3)
Calcium x Phosphorus Product	Zemplar (n=40)	54 (32 – 106)	+7.9 (2.2)
	placebo (n=38)	54 (26 – 77)	-3.9 (2.3)

162

163 A long-term, open-label safety study of 164 CKD Stage 5 patients (mean dose of
164 7.5 mcg three times per week), demonstrated that mean serum Ca, P, and Ca x P
165 remained within clinically appropriate ranges with PTH reduction (mean decrease of 319
166 pg/mL at 13 months).



167

168 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

169 Zemplar is indicated for the prevention and treatment of secondary hyperparathyroidism
170 associated with chronic kidney disease Stage 5.

171

172 CONTRAINDICATIONS

173 Zemplar should not be given to patients with evidence of vitamin D toxicity,
174 hypercalcemia, or hypersensitivity to any ingredient in this product (see **WARNINGS**).

175

176 WARNINGS

177 Acute overdose of Zemplar may cause hypercalcemia, and require emergency
178 attention. During dose adjustment, serum calcium and phosphorus levels should be
179 monitored closely (e.g., twice weekly). If clinically significant hypercalcemia develops,
180 the dose should be reduced or interrupted. Chronic administration of Zemplar may place
181 patients at risk of hypercalcemia, elevated Ca x P product, and metastatic calcification.

182

183 Treatment of patients with clinically significant hypercalcemia consists of
184 immediate dose reduction or interruption of Zemplar therapy and includes a low calcium
185 diet, withdrawal of calcium supplements, patient mobilization, attention to fluid and
186 electrolyte imbalances, assessment of electrocardiographic abnormalities (critical in
187 patients receiving digitalis), hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis against a calcium-free
188 dialysate, as warranted. Serum calcium levels should be monitored frequently until
189 normocalcemia ensues.

190 Phosphate or vitamin D-related compounds should not be taken concomitantly
191 with Zemplar.

192



193 **PRECAUTIONS**

194

195 **General**

196 Digitalis toxicity is potentiated by hypercalcemia of any cause, so caution should be
197 applied when digitalis compounds are prescribed concomitantly with Zemplar.

198 Adynamic bone lesions may develop if PTH levels are suppressed to abnormal levels.

199

200 **Information for the Patient**

201 The patient should be instructed that, to ensure effectiveness of Zemplar therapy, it is
202 important to adhere to a dietary regimen of calcium supplementation and phosphorus
203 restriction. Appropriate types of phosphate-binding compounds may be needed to control
204 serum phosphorus levels in patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) Stage 5, but
205 excessive use of aluminum containing compounds should be avoided. Patients should
206 also be carefully informed about the symptoms of elevated calcium (See **ADVERSE**
207 **REACTIONS**).

208 **Laboratory Tests**

209 During the initial phase of medication, serum calcium and phosphorus should be
210 determined frequently (e.g., twice weekly). Once dosage has been established, serum
211 calcium and phosphorus should be measured at least monthly. Measurements of serum or
212 plasma PTH are recommended every 3 months. An intact PTH (iPTH) assay is
213 recommended for reliable detection of biologically active PTH in patients with CKD
214 Stage 5. During dose adjustment of Zemplar, laboratory tests may be required more
215 frequently.

216

217 **Drug Interactions**

218

219 Paricalcitol is not expected to inhibit the clearance of drugs metabolized by cytochrome
220 P450 enzymes CYP1A2, CYP2A6, CYP2B6, CYP2C8, CYP2C9, CYP2C19, CYP2D6,
221 CYP2E1, or CYP3A nor induce the clearance of drug metabolized by CYP2B6, CYP2C9
222 or CYP3A.

223

224 Specific interaction studies were not performed with Zemplar Injection.

225

226 A multiple dose drug-drug interaction study with ketoconazole and paricalcitol capsule
227 demonstrated that ketoconazole approximately doubled paricalcitol $AUC_{0-\infty}$ (see
228 **CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**). Since paricalcitol is partially metabolized by
229 CYP3A and ketoconazole is known to be a strong inhibitor of cytochrome P450 3A
230 enzyme, care should be taken while dosing paricalcitol with ketoconazole and other
231 strong P450 3A inhibitors including atazanavir, clarithromycin, indinavir, itraconazole,
232 nefazodone, nelfinavir, ritonavir, saquinavir, telithromycin or voriconazole.

233



234 Digitalis toxicity is potentiated by hypercalcemia of any cause, so caution should be
235 applied when digitalis compounds are prescribed concomitantly with Zemplar.

236 **Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility**

237 In a 104-week carcinogenicity study in CD-1 mice, an increased incidence of uterine
238 leiomyoma and leiomyosarcoma was observed at subcutaneous doses of 1, 3, 10 mcg/kg
239 (2 to 15 times the AUC at a human dose of 14 mcg, equivalent to 0.24 mcg/kg based on
240 AUC). The incidence rate of uterine leiomyoma was significantly different than the
241 control group at the highest dose of 10 mcg/kg.

242 In a 104-week carcinogenicity study in rats, there was an increased incidence of
243 benign adrenal pheochromocytoma at subcutaneous doses of 0.15, 0.5, 1.5 mcg/kg (<1 to
244 7 times the exposure following a human dose of 14 mcg, equivalent to 0.24 mcg/kg based
245 on AUC). The increased incidence of pheochromocytomas in rats may be related to the
246 alteration of calcium homeostasis by paricalcitol.

247 Paricalcitol did not exhibit genetic toxicity *in vitro* with or without metabolic
248 activation in the microbial mutagenesis assay (Ames Assay), mouse lymphoma
249 mutagenesis assay (L5178Y), or a human lymphocyte cell chromosomal aberration assay.
250 There was also no evidence of genetic toxicity in an *in vivo* mouse micronucleus assay.
251 Zemplar had no effect on fertility (male or female) in rats at intravenous doses up to 20
252 mcg/kg/dose [equivalent to 13 times the highest recommended human dose (0.24
253 mcg/kg) based on surface area, mg/m²].

254 **Pregnancy**

255 **Pregnancy Category C.**

256 Paricalcitol has been shown to cause minimal decreases in fetal viability (5%) when
257 administered daily to rabbits at a dose 0.5 times the 0.24 mcg/kg human dose (based on
258 surface area, mg/m²) and when administered to rats at a dose 2 times the 0.24 mcg/kg
259 human dose (based on plasma levels of exposure). At the highest dose tested (20 mcg/kg
260 3 times per week in rats, 13 times the 0.24 mcg/kg human dose based on surface area),
261 there was a significant increase of the mortality of newborn rats at doses that were
262 maternally toxic (hypercalcemia). No other effects on offspring development were
263 observed. Paricalcitol was not teratogenic at the doses tested.

264 There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Zemplar
265 should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit to the mother justifies the
266 potential risk to the fetus.

267 **Nursing Mothers**

268 Studies in rats have shown that paricalcitol is present in the milk. It is not known
269 whether paricalcitol is excreted in human milk. In the nursing patient, a decision should
270 be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account
271 the importance of the drug to the mother.
272
273
274



275 **Pediatric Use**

276 The safety and effectiveness of Zemplar were examined in a 12-week randomized,
277 double-blind, placebo-controlled study of 29 pediatric patients, aged 5-19 years, with
278 end-stage renal disease on hemodialysis and nearly all had received some form of vitamin
279 D prior to the study. Seventy-six percent of the patients were male, 52% were Caucasian
280 and 45% were African-American. The initial dose of Zemplar was 0.04 mcg/kg 3 times
281 per week, based on baseline iPTH level of less than 500 pg/mL, or 0.08 mcg/kg 3 times a
282 week based on baseline iPTH level of ≥ 500 pg/mL, respectively. The dose of Zemplar
283 was adjusted in 0.04 mcg/kg increments based on the levels of serum iPTH, calcium, and
284 Ca x P. The mean baseline levels of iPTH were 841 pg/mL for the 15 Zemplar-treated
285 patients and 740 pg/mL for the 14 placebo-treated subjects. The mean dose of Zemplar
286 administered was 4.6 mcg (range: 0.8 mcg – 9.6 mcg). Ten of the 15 (67%) Zemplar-
287 treated patients and 2 of the 14 (14%) placebo-treated patients completed the trial. Ten of
288 the placebo patients (71%) were discontinued due to excessive elevations in iPTH levels
289 as defined by 2 consecutive iPTH levels > 700 pg/mL and greater than baseline after 4
290 weeks of treatment.

291 In the primary efficacy analysis, 9 of 15 (60%) subjects in the Zemplar group had
292 2 consecutive 30% decreases from baseline iPTH compared with 3 of 14 (21%) patients
293 in the placebo group (95% CI for the difference between groups -1% , 63%). Twenty-
294 three percent of Zemplar vs. 31% of placebo patients had at least one serum calcium
295 level > 10.3 mg/dL, and 40% vs. 14% of Zemplar vs. placebo subjects had at least one Ca
296 x P ion product > 72 (mg/dL)². The overall percentage of serum calcium measurements
297 > 10.3 mg/dL was 7% in the Zemplar group and 7% in the placebo group; the overall
298 percentage of patients with Ca x P product > 72 (mg/dL)² was 8% in the Zemplar group
299 and 7% in the placebo group. No subjects in either the Zemplar group or placebo group
300 developed hypercalcemia (defined as at least one calcium value > 11.2 mg/dL) during the
301 study.

302 **Geriatric Use**

304 Of the 40 patients receiving Zemplar in the three phase 3 placebo-controlled CKD Stage
305 5 studies, 10 patients were 65 years or over. In these studies, no overall differences in
306 efficacy or safety were observed between patients 65 years or older and younger patients.

307 **ADVERSE REACTIONS**

309 Zemplar has been evaluated for safety in clinical studies in 454 CKD Stage 5 patients. In
310 four, placebo-controlled, double-blind, multicenter studies, discontinuation of therapy
311 due to any adverse event occurred in 6.5% of 62 patients treated with Zemplar (dosage
312 titrated as tolerated, see **CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Clinical Studies**) and 2.0%
313 of 51 patients treated with placebo for 1 to 3 months. Adverse events occurring with
314 greater frequency in the Zemplar group at a frequency of 2% or greater, regardless of
315 causality, are presented in the following table:

316



317 **Adverse Event Incidence Rates For All Treated Patients**
318 **In All Placebo-Controlled Studies**

Adverse Event	Zemplar (n=62) %	Placebo (n=51) %
Overall	71	78
Body as a Whole		
Chills	5	0
Feeling unwell	3	0
Fever	5	2
Flu	5	4
Sepsis	5	2
Cardiovascular		
Palpitation	3	0
Digestive System		
Dry mouth	3	2
Gastrointestinal bleeding	5	2
Nausea	13	8
Vomiting	8	4
Metabolic and Nutritional Disorders		
Edema	7	0
Nervous System		
Light-headedness	5	2
Respiratory System		
Pneumonia	5	0

319
320 A patient who reported the same medical term more than once was counted only
321 once for that medical term.

322 Safety parameters (changes in mean Ca, P, Ca x P) in an open-label safety study
323 up to 13 months in duration support the long-term safety of Zemplar in this patient
324 population.

325
326 Potential adverse events of Zemplar Injection are, in general, similar to those encountered
327 with excessive vitamin D intake. Signs and symptoms of vitamin D intoxication
328 associated with hypercalcemia include:

329 **Early**

330 Weakness, headache, somnolence, nausea, vomiting, dry mouth, constipation,
331 muscle pain, bone pain, and metallic taste.

332 **Late**

333 Anorexia, weight loss, conjunctivitis (calcific), pancreatitis, photophobia,
334 rhinorrhea, pruritus, hyperthermia, decreased libido, elevated BUN,



335 hypercholesterolemia, elevated AST and ALT, ectopic calcification, hypertension,
336 cardiac arrhythmias, somnolence, death, and rarely, overt psychosis.

337

338 **Adverse events during post-marketing experience:** Taste perversion, such as metallic
339 taste, and allergic reactions, such as rash, urticaria, pruritus, facial and oral edema rarely
340 have been reported.

341

342 **OVERDOSAGE**

343 Overdosage of Zemplar may lead to hypercalcemia, hypercalciuria, hyperphosphatemia,
344 and over suppression of PTH. (see **WARNINGS**).

345

346 **Treatment of Overdosage and Hypercalcemia**

347

348 The treatment of acute overdosage should consist of general supportive measures. Serial
349 serum electrolyte determinations (especially calcium), rate of urinary calcium excretion,
350 and assessment of electrocardiographic abnormalities due to hypercalcemia should be
351 obtained. Such monitoring is critical in patients receiving digitalis. Discontinuation of
352 supplemental calcium and institution of a low calcium diet are also indicated in acute
353 overdosage.

354

355 General treatment of hypercalcemia due to overdosage consists of immediate suspension
356 of Zemplar therapy, institution of a low calcium diet, and withdrawal of calcium
357 supplements. Serum calcium levels should be determined at least weekly until
358 normocalcemia ensues. When serum calcium levels have returned to within normal
359 limits, Zemplar may be reinitiated at a lower dose. If persistent and markedly elevated
360 serum calcium levels occur, there are a variety of therapeutic alternatives that may be
361 considered. These include the use of drugs such as phosphates and corticosteroids as
362 well as measures to induce diuresis. Also, one may consider dialysis against a calcium-
363 free dialysate.

364

365 **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**

366 The currently accepted target range for iPTH levels in CKD Stage 5 patients is no more
367 than 1.5 to 3 times the non-uremic upper limit of normal.

368 The recommended initial dose of Zemplar is 0.04 mcg/kg to 0.1 mcg/kg (2.8 – 7
369 mcg) administered as a bolus dose no more frequently than every other day at any time
370 during dialysis.

371

372 If a satisfactory response is not observed, the dose may be increased by 2 to 4
373 mcg at 2- to 4-week intervals. During any dose adjustment period, serum calcium and
374 phosphorus levels should be monitored more frequently, and if an elevated calcium level
375 or a Ca x P product greater than 75 is noted, the drug dosage should be immediately
376 reduced or interrupted until these parameters are normalized. Then, Zemplar should be
reinitiated at a lower dose. If a patient is on a calcium-based phosphate binder, the dose



377 may be decreased or withheld, or the patient may be switched to a non-calcium-based
378 phosphate binder. Zemplar doses may need to be decreased as the PTH levels decrease in
379 response to therapy. Thus, incremental dosing must be individualized.

380 The following table is a suggested approach in dose titration:

381

Suggested Dosing Guidelines	
PTH Level	Zemplar Dose
the same or increasing	increase
decreasing by < 30%	increase
decreasing by >30%, < 60%	maintain
decreasing by > 60%	decrease
one and one-half to three times upper limit of normal	maintain

382

383 The influence of mild to moderately impaired hepatic function on paricalcitol
384 pharmacokinetics is sufficiently small that no dosing adjustment is required.

385 Parenteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and
386 discoloration prior to administration whenever solution and container permit.

387 Discard unused portion.

388 **HOW SUPPLIED**

389 Zemplar Injection is available as 2 mcg/mL (NDC 0074-4637-01) and 5 mcg/mL (NDC
390 0074-1658-01 and NDC 0074-1658-02).

391

List No.	Volume/Container	Concentration	Total Content
4637-01	1 mL/Fliptop Vial	2 mcg/mL	2 mcg
1658-01	1 mL/Fliptop Vial	5 mcg/mL	5 mcg
1658-02	2 mL/Fliptop Vial	5 mcg/mL	10 mcg

392 Store at 25°C (77°F). Excursions permitted between 15° - 30°C (59° - 86°F)

393 U.S. patents: 5,246,925; 5,587,497; 6,136,799; 6,361,758

394

395 **REFERENCES**

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398 NEW

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400

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