

A total of 1552 subjects weighing greater than 65 kg in Study 3 had genotype 2 or 3 and were randomized to 24 or 48 weeks of therapy. No additional benefit was observed with the longer treatment duration.

PegIntron/REBETOL Combination Therapy — Study 4

A large randomized trial compared the safety and efficacy of treatment for 48 weeks with two PegIntron/REBETOL regimens [PegIntron 1.5 mcg/kg and 1 mcg/kg subcutaneously once weekly both in combination with REBETOL 800 to 1400 mg PO daily (in two divided doses)] and Pegasys 180 mcg subcutaneously once weekly in combination with Copegus 1000 to 1200 mg PO daily (in two divided doses) in 3070 treatment-naïve adults with chronic hepatitis C genotype 1. In this trial, lack of early virologic response (undetectable HCV-RNA or greater than or equal to 2 log₁₀ reduction from baseline) by treatment Week 12 was the criterion for discontinuation of treatment. SVR was defined as undetectable HCV-RNA (Roche COBAS TaqMan assay, a lower limit of quantitation of 27 IU/mL) at 24 weeks post-treatment (see **Table 18**).

Table 18: SVR Rates by Treatment – Study 4

| | PegIntron 1.5 mcg/kg/ REBETOL | PegIntron 1 mcg/kg/ REBETOL | Pegasys 180 mcg/Copegus |
|-----|--|--|------------------------------------|
| SVR | 40% (406/1019) | 38% (386/1016) | 41% (423/1035) |

Overall SVR rates were similar among the three treatment groups. Regardless of treatment group, SVR rates were lower in subjects with poor prognostic factors. Subjects with poor prognostic factors randomized to PegIntron (1.5 mcg/kg)/REBETOL or Pegasys/Copegus, however, achieved higher SVR rates compared to similar subjects randomized to PegIntron 1 mcg/kg/REBETOL. For the PegIntron 1.5 mcg/kg plus REBETOL dose, SVR rates for subjects with and without the following prognostic factors were as follows: cirrhosis (10% vs. 42%), normal ALT levels (32% vs. 42%), baseline viral load greater than 600,000 IU/mL (35% vs. 61%), 40 years of age and older (38% vs. 50%), and African American race (23% vs. 44%). In subjects with undetectable HCV-RNA at Week 12 who received PegIntron (1.5 mcg/kg)/REBETOL, the SVR rate was 81% (328/407).

PegIntron/REBETOL Combination Therapy in Prior Treatment Failures — Study 5

In a noncomparative trial, 2293 subjects with moderate to severe fibrosis who failed previous treatment with combination alpha interferon/ribavirin were re-treated with PegIntron, 1.5 mcg/kg subcutaneously, once weekly, in combination with weight adjusted ribavirin. Eligible subjects included prior nonresponders (subjects who were HCV-RNA positive at the end of a minimum 12 weeks of treatment) and prior relapsers (subjects who were HCV-RNA negative at the end of a minimum 12 weeks of treatment and subsequently relapsed after post-treatment follow-up). Subjects who were negative at Week 12 were treated for 48 weeks and followed for 24 weeks post-treatment. Response to treatment was defined as undetectable HCV-RNA at 24 weeks post-treatment (measured using a research-based test, limit of detection 125 IU/mL). The overall response rate was 22% (497/2293) (99% CI: 19.5, 23.9). Subjects with the following characteristics were less likely to benefit from re-treatment: previous nonresponse, previous pegylated interferon treatment, significant bridging fibrosis or cirrhosis, and genotype 1 infection.

The re-treatment sustained virologic response rates by baseline characteristics are summarized in **Table 19**.

Table 19: SVR Rates by Baseline Characteristics of Prior Treatment Failures

| HCV Genotype/ Metavir Fibrosis Score | Overall SVR by Previous Response and Treatment | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| | Nonresponder | | Relapser | |
| | alfa interferon/ribavirin % (number of subjects) | peginterferon (2a and 2b combined)/ribavirin % (number of subjects) | alfa interferon/ribavirin % (number of subjects) | peginterferon (2a and 2b combined)/ribavirin % (number of subjects) |
| Overall | 18 (158/903) | 6 (30/476) | 43 (130/300) | 35 (113/344) |
| HCV 1 | 13 (98/761) | 4 (19/431) | 32 (67/208) | 23 (56/243) |
| F2 | 18 (36/202) | 6 (7/117) | 42 (33/79) | 32 (23/72) |
| F3 | 16 (38/233) | 4 (4/112) | 28 (16/58) | 21 (14/67) |
| F4 | 7 (24/325) | 4 (8/202) | 26 (18/70) | 18 (19/104) |
| HCV 2/3 | 49 (53/109) | 36 (10/28) | 67 (54/81) | 57 (52/92) |
| F2 | 68 (23/34) | 56 (5/9) | 76 (19/25) | 61 (11/18) |
| F3 | 39 (11/28) | 38 (3/8) | 67 (18/27) | 62 (18/29) |
| F4 | 40 (19/47) | 18 (2/11) | 59 (17/29) | 51 (23/45) |
| HCV 4 | 17 (5/29) | 7 (1/15) | 88 (7/8) | 50 (4/8) |

Achievement of an undetectable HCV-RNA at treatment Week 12 was a strong predictor of SVR. In this trial, 1470 (64%) subjects did not achieve an undetectable HCV-RNA at treatment Week 12, and were offered enrollment into long-term treatment trials, due to an inadequate treatment response. Of the 823 (36%) subjects who were HCV-RNA undetectable at treatment Week 12, those infected with genotype 1 had an SVR of 48% (245/507), with a range of responses by fibrosis scores (F4-F2) of 39-55%. Subjects infected with genotype 2/3 who were HCV-RNA undetectable at treatment Week 12 had an overall SVR of 70% (196/281), with a range of responses by fibrosis scores (F4-F2) of 60-83%. For all genotypes, higher fibrosis scores were associated with a decreased likelihood of achieving SVR.

14.2 Chronic Hepatitis C in Pediatrics

PegIntron/REBETOL Combination Therapy — Pediatric Trial

Previously untreated pediatric subjects 3 to 17 years of age with compensated chronic hepatitis C and detectable HCV-RNA were treated with REBETOL 15 mg/kg/day plus PegIntron 60 mcg/m² once weekly for 24 or 48 weeks based on HCV genotype and baseline viral load. All subjects were to be followed for 24 weeks post-treatment. A total of 107 subjects received treatment, of which 52% were female, 89% were Caucasian, and 67% were infected with HCV genotype 1. Subjects infected with genotype 1, 4 or genotype 3 with HCV-RNA greater than or equal to 600,000 IU/mL received 48 weeks of therapy while those infected with genotype 2 or genotype 3 with HCV-RNA less than 600,000 IU/mL received 24 weeks of therapy. The trial results are summarized in **Table 20**.

Table 20: SVR Rates by Genotype and Treatment Duration – Pediatric Trial

| Genotype | All Subjects N=107 | |
|----------------|---|---|
| | 24 Weeks | 48 Weeks |
| | Virologic Response N* [†] (%) | Virologic Response N* [†] (%) |
| All | 26/27 (96.3) | 44/80 (55.0) |
| 1 | — | 38/72 (52.8) |
| 2 | 14/15 (93.3) | — |
| 3 [‡] | 12/12 (100) | 2/3 (66.7) |
| 4 | — | 4/5 (80.0) |

* Response to treatment was defined as undetectable HCV-RNA at 24 weeks post-treatment.

[†] N = number of responders/number of subjects with given genotype, and assigned treatment duration.

[‡] Subjects with genotype 3 low viral load (less than 600,000 IU/mL) were to receive 24 weeks of treatment while those with genotype 3 and high viral load were to receive 48 weeks of treatment.

15 REFERENCES

1. Ge, D., Fellay, J., Thompson, A.J., Simon, J.S., Shianna, K.V., Urban, T.J., Heinzen, E.L., Qiu, P., Bertelsen, A.H., Muir, A.J., Sulkowski, M., McHutchison, J.G., Goldstein, D.B., Genetic variation in IL28B predicts hepatitis C treatment-induced viral clearance, *Nature* 2009;461(7262):399-401.
2. Thompson, A.J., Muir, A.J., Sulkowski, M.S., Ge, D., Fellay, J., Shianna, K.V., Urban, T., Afdhal, N.H., Jacobson, I.M., Esteban, R., Poordad, F., Lawitz, E.J., McCone, J., Shiffman, M.L., Galler, G.W., Lee, W.M., Reindollar, R., King, J.W., Kwo, P.Y., Ghalib, R.H., Freilich, B., Nyberg, L.M., Zeuzem, S., Poynard, T., Vock, D.M., Pieper, K.S., Patel, K., Tillmann, H.L., Noviello, S., Koury, K., Pedicone, L.D., Brass, C.A., Albrecht, J.K., Goldstein, D.B., McHutchison, J.G., Interleukin-28B polymorphism improves viral kinetics and is the strongest pretreatment predictor of sustained virologic response in genotype 1 hepatitis C virus, *Gastroenterology* 2010;139:120-129.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

PegIntron REDIPEN

| Each PegIntron REDIPEN Package Contains: | |
|--|--------------------|
| A box containing one 50 mcg per 0.5 mL PegIntron REDIPEN and 1 BD needle and 2 alcohol swabs. | (NDC 0085-1323-01) |
| A box containing one 80 mcg per 0.5 mL PegIntron REDIPEN and 1 BD needle and 2 alcohol swabs. | (NDC 0085-1316-01) |
| A box containing one 120 mcg per 0.5 mL PegIntron REDIPEN and 1 BD needle and 2 alcohol swabs. | (NDC 0085-1297-01) |
| A box containing one 150 mcg per 0.5 mL PegIntron REDIPEN and 1 BD needle and 2 alcohol swabs. | (NDC 0085-1370-01) |

| Each PegIntron REDIPEN PAK 4 Contains: | |
|--|--------------------|
| A box containing four 50 mcg per 0.5 mL PegIntron REDIPEN Units, each containing 1 BD needle and 2 alcohol | (NDC 0085-1323-02) |

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| swabs. | |
| A box containing four 80 mcg per 0.5 mL PegIntron REDIPEN Units, each containing 1 BD needle and 2 alcohol swabs. | (NDC 0085-1316-02) |
| A box containing four 120 mcg per 0.5 mL PegIntron REDIPEN Units, each containing 1 BD needle and 2 alcohol swabs. | (NDC 0085-1297-02) |
| A box containing four 150 mcg per 0.5 mL PegIntron REDIPEN Units, each containing 1 BD needle and 2 alcohol swabs. | (NDC 0085-1370-02) |

PegIntron Vials

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Each PegIntron Package Contains: | |
| A box containing one 50 mcg per 0.5 mL vial of PegIntron Powder for Injection and one 5 mL vial of Diluent (Sterile Water for Injection USP), 2 BD Safety Lok syringes with a safety sleeve and 2 alcohol swabs. | (NDC 0085-4353-01) |
| A box containing one 80 mcg per 0.5 mL vial of PegIntron Powder for Injection and one 5 mL vial of Diluent (Sterile Water for Injection USP), 2 BD Safety Lok syringes with a safety sleeve and 2 alcohol swabs. | (NDC 0085-4354-01) |
| A box containing one 120 mcg per 0.5 mL vial of PegIntron Powder for Injection and one 5 mL vial of Diluent (Sterile Water for Injection USP), 2 BD Safety Lok syringes with a safety sleeve and 2 alcohol swabs. | (NDC 0085-4355-01) |
| A box containing one 150 mcg per 0.5 mL vial of PegIntron Powder for Injection and one 5 mL vial of Diluent (Sterile Water for Injection USP), 2 BD Safety Lok syringes with a safety sleeve and 2 alcohol swabs. | (NDC 0085-4356-01) |

Storage

PegIntron REDIPEN single-use pre-filled pen

PegIntron REDIPEN pre-filled pen should be stored at 2-8°C (36-46°F).

After reconstitution, the solution should be used immediately, but may be stored up to 24 hours at 2-8°C (36-46°F). The reconstituted solution contains no preservative, and is clear and colorless. **DO NOT FREEZE. Keep away from heat.**

PegIntron Vials

PegIntron should be stored at 25°C (77°F); excursions permitted to 15-30°C (59-86°F) [see USP Controlled Room Temperature]. After reconstitution with supplied diluent, the solution should be used immediately but may be stored up to 24 hours at 2-8°C (36-46°F). The reconstituted solution contains no preservative, and is clear and colorless. **DO NOT FREEZE. Keep away from heat.**

Disposal Instructions

Patients should be thoroughly instructed in the importance of proper disposal. After preparation and administration of PegIntron for Injection, patients should be advised to use a puncture-resistant container for the disposal of used syringes, needles, and the REDIPEN pre-filled pen. The full container should be disposed of in accordance with state and local laws. Patients should also be cautioned against reusing or sharing needles, syringes, or the REDIPEN pre-filled pen.

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

- Advise the patient to read the FDA-approved patient labeling (Medication Guide and Instructions for Use)

A patient should self-inject PegIntron only if it has been determined that it is appropriate, the patient agrees to medical follow-up as necessary, and training in proper injection technique has been given to him/her.

Pregnancy

Patients must be informed that REBETOL (ribavirin) may cause birth defects and death of the unborn child. Extreme care must be taken to avoid pregnancy in female patients and in female partners of male patients during treatment with combination PegIntron/ribavirin therapy and for 6 months post-therapy. Combination PegIntron/ribavirin therapy should not be initiated until a report of a negative pregnancy test has been obtained immediately prior to initiation of therapy. It is recommended that patients undergo monthly pregnancy tests during therapy and for 6 months post-therapy [see *Contraindications (4)*, *Use in Specific Populations (8.1)*, and *ribavirin labeling*].

HCV Transmission

Inform patients that there are no data regarding whether PegIntron therapy will prevent transmission of HCV infection to others. Also, it is not known if treatment with PegIntron will cure hepatitis C or prevent cirrhosis, liver failure, or liver cancer that may be the result of infection with the hepatitis C virus.

Laboratory Evaluations, Hydration, “Flu-like” Symptoms

Patients should be advised that laboratory evaluations are required before starting therapy and periodically thereafter [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.15)]. It is advised that patients be well hydrated, especially during the initial stages of treatment. “Flu-like” symptoms associated with administration of PegIntron may be minimized by bedtime administration of PegIntron or by use of antipyretics.

Patients developing fever, cough, shortness of breath or other symptoms of a lung problem during treatment with PegIntron may need to have a chest X-ray or other tests to adequately treat them.

Instructions for Use

Patients receiving PegIntron should be directed in its appropriate preparation, handling, measurement, and injection, and referred to the Instructions for Use for PegIntron Powder for Solution and PegIntron REDIPEN Single-use Pre-filled pen.

Patients should be instructed that the Sterile Water for Injection vial supplied with PegIntron Powder for Solution contains an excess amount of diluent (5 mL) and only 0.7 mL should be withdrawn to reconstitute PegIntron Powder for Solution. The vial of Sterile Water for Injection is intended for single use only. Discard the unused portion of the sterile water. Do not save or reuse.

Patients should be directed to store PegIntron before mixing as follows:

- PegIntron REDIPEN single-use pre-filled pens: store in the refrigerator between 36-46°F (2-8°C)
- PegIntron Powder for Solution: store at room temperature between 59-86°F (15-30°C)

Patients should be instructed on the importance of site selection for self-administering the injection, as well as the importance on rotating the injection sites.

Manufactured by:

Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp., a subsidiary of **Merck & Co., Inc.**, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889, USA
U.S. License Number 0002

For patent information: www.merck.com/product/patent/home.html

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MEDICATION GUIDE
PegIntron® (peg-In-tron)
(Peginterferon alfa-2b)
for injection, for subcutaneous use

Read this Medication Guide before you start taking PegIntron®, and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or your treatment.

If you are taking PegIntron with REBETOL (ribavirin) with or without an approved hepatitis C virus (HCV) protease inhibitor, also read the Medication Guides for those medicines.

PegIntron, by itself or in combination with other approved medicines, is a treatment for some people who are infected with hepatitis C virus.

What is the most important information I should know about PegIntron?

PegIntron can cause serious side effects that:

- may cause death, or
- may worsen certain serious diseases that you may already have.

Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the symptoms listed below while taking PegIntron. If symptoms get worse, or become severe and continue, your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking PegIntron permanently. In many, but not all, people, these symptoms go away after they stop taking PegIntron.

1. Mental health problems, including suicide. PegIntron may cause you to develop mood or behavior problems that may get worse during treatment with PegIntron or after your last dose, including:

- irritability (getting upset easily)
- depression (feeling low, feeling bad about yourself, or feeling hopeless)
- acting aggressive, being angry or violent
- thoughts of hurting yourself or others, or suicide
- former drug addicts may fall back into drug addiction or overdose

If you have these symptoms, your healthcare provider should carefully monitor you during treatment with PegIntron and for 6 months after your last dose.

2. Heart problems. Some people who take PegIntron may get heart problems, including:

- low blood pressure
- fast heart rate or abnormal heart beat
- trouble breathing or chest pain
- heart attacks or heart muscle problems (cardiomyopathy)

3. Stroke or symptoms of a stroke. Symptoms may include weakness, loss of coordination, and numbness. Stroke or symptoms of a stroke may happen in people who have some risk factors or no known risk factors for a stroke.

4. New or worsening autoimmune problems. Some people taking PegIntron develop autoimmune problems (a condition where the body's immune cells attack other cells or

organs in the body), including rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, and psoriasis. In some people who already have an autoimmune problem, it may get worse during your treatment with PegIntron.

5. Infections. Some people who take PegIntron may get an infection. Symptoms may include:

- fever
- chills
- bloody diarrhea
- burning or pain with urination
- urinating often
- coughing up mucus (phlegm) that is discolored (for example, yellow or pink)

PegIntron in combination with REBETOL (ribavirin) may cause birth defects or the death of your unborn baby. Do not take PegIntron and ribavirin combination therapy if you or your sexual partner is pregnant or plan to become pregnant. Do not become pregnant within 6 months after discontinuing PegIntron and ribavirin combination therapy. You must use 2 forms of birth control when you take PegIntron and ribavirin and for the 6 months after treatment.

- Females must have a pregnancy test before starting PegIntron and ribavirin combination therapy, every month while on the combination therapy, and every month for the 6 months after the last dose of combination therapy.
- If you or your female sexual partner becomes pregnant while taking PegIntron and ribavirin combination therapy or within 6 months after you stop taking the combination therapy, tell your healthcare provider right away. You or your healthcare provider should contact the Ribavirin pregnancy registry by calling 1-800-593-2214. The Ribavirin pregnancy registry collects information about what happens to mothers and their babies if the mother takes ribavirin while she is pregnant.

While taking PegIntron, you should see a healthcare provider regularly for check-ups and blood tests to make sure that your treatment is working, and to check for side effects.

What is PegIntron?

PegIntron is a prescription medicine that is used:

- with REBETOL (ribavirin) and an approved hepatitis C virus (HCV) protease inhibitor to treat chronic (lasting a long time) hepatitis C infection in adults.
- with REBETOL (ribavirin) to treat chronic (lasting a long time) hepatitis C infection in people 3 years and older with stable liver problems.
- alone, sometimes to treat adults who have chronic (lasting a long time) hepatitis C infection with stable liver problems and who can not take REBETOL (ribavirin).

People with hepatitis C have the virus in their blood and in their liver. PegIntron reduces the amount of virus in the body and helps the body's immune system fight the virus. REBETOL (ribavirin) is a drug that helps to fight the viral infection but does not work when used by itself to treat chronic hepatitis C.

It is not known if PegIntron use for longer than 1 year is safe and will work.

It is not known if PegIntron use in children younger than 3 years old is safe and will work.

Who should not take PegIntron?

- Before mixing, store PegIntron single-use REDIPEN in the refrigerator between 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C).
- Before mixing, store PegIntron vials at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).
- Keep PegIntron away from heat.
- After mixing, use PegIntron right away or store it in the refrigerator for up to 24 hours between 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C).
- Do not freeze PegIntron.
- **Keep PegIntron and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

General Information about PegIntron

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use PegIntron for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give PegIntron to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them.

This Medication Guide summarizes the most important information about PegIntron. If you would like more information, ask your healthcare provider. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about PegIntron that was written for healthcare professionals.

For more information, go to www.PegIntron.com or call 1-800-526-4099.

What are the ingredients in PegIntron?

Active ingredients: peginterferon alfa-2b

Inactive ingredients: dibasic sodium phosphate anhydrous, monobasic sodium phosphate dihydrate, sucrose, polysorbate 80. Sterile water for injection is supplied as a diluent.

This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Manufactured by:

Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp., a subsidiary of **Merck & Co., Inc.**, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889, USA

U.S. License Number 0002

Revised: 05/2017

For patent information: www.merck.com/product/patent/home.html

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Instructions for Use

PegIntron[®] (peg-In-tron)
(Peginterferon alfa-2b)
Powder for Injection

This Instructions for Use is only for use with the single-use vials of Powder for injection. If your healthcare provider prescribes the REDIPEN Pre-filled Pen for you, use only those Instructions for Use.

Be sure that you read, understand and follow these instructions before injecting PegIntron. Your healthcare provider should show you how to prepare, measure, and inject PegIntron properly using a vial before you use it for the first time. Ask your healthcare provider if you have any questions.

Important:

- Make sure that you have:
 - the correct strength of PegIntron vial prescribed by your healthcare provider.
 - the correct syringe and needle to use with PegIntron. Your healthcare provider should tell you what syringes and needles to use to inject PegIntron.
- Throw away the syringe and needle after you use it. Do not re-use your syringes and needles. See “Disposal of the used needles, syringes and vials” in this Instructions for Use.
- The vial of mixed PegIntron should be used right away. Do not mix more than 1 vial of PegIntron at a time. If you do not use the vial of the prepared solution right away, store it in a refrigerator and use within 24 hours. See the end of these Instructions for Use for information about “How should I store PegIntron?”

Before starting, collect all of the supplies that you will need to use for preparing and injecting PegIntron. For each injection you will need a PegIntron vial package that contains:

- 1 vial of PegIntron powder for injection
- 1 vial of sterile water for injection (diluent)
- 2 single-use disposable syringes (BD Safety Lok syringes with a safety sleeve)
- 2 alcohol swabs

You will also need:

- 1 cotton ball or gauze

- 1 sharps disposal container for throwing away your used syringes, needles, and vials.

How should I prepare a dose of PegIntron?

Before you inject PegIntron, the powder must be mixed with 0.7 mL of the sterile water for injection (diluent) that comes in the PegIntron vial package.

1. Find a clean, well-lit, flat work surface.
2. Get 1 of your PegIntron vial packages. Check the date printed on the PegIntron carton. Make sure that the expiration date has not passed. Do not use your PegIntron vial packages if the expiration date has passed. The medicine in the PegIntron vial should look like a white to off-white tablet that is whole, or in pieces, or powdered.

If you have already mixed the PegIntron solution and stored it in the refrigerator, take it out of the refrigerator before use and allow the solution to come to room temperature. See the Medication Guide section “How should I store PegIntron?”

3. Wash your hands well with soap and water, rinse and towel dry (See Figure A). Keep your work area, your hands, and injection site clean to decrease the risk of infection.

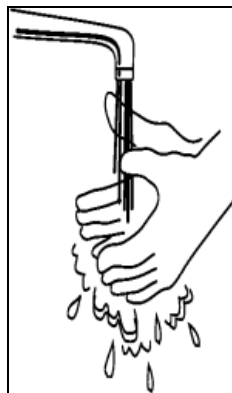


Figure A

The disposable syringes have needles that are already attached and cannot be removed. Each syringe has a clear plastic safety sleeve that is pulled over the needle for disposal after use. The safety sleeve should remain tight against the flange while using the syringe and moved over the needle only when ready for disposal. (See Figure B)

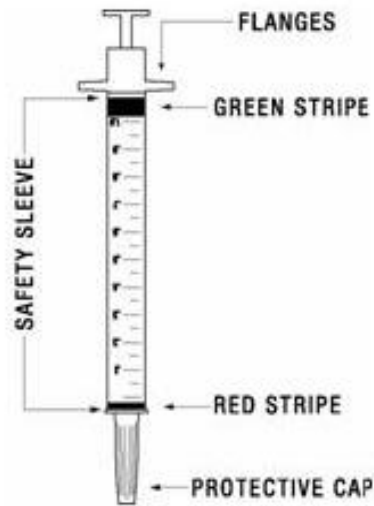


Figure B

4. Remove the protective wrapper from one of the syringes provided. Use the syringe for steps 4 through 15. Make sure that the syringe safety sleeve is sitting against the flange. (See Figure B)
5. Remove the protective plastic cap from the tops of both the sterile water for injection (diluent) and the PegIntron vials (See Figure C). Clean the rubber stopper on the top of both vials with an alcohol swab.

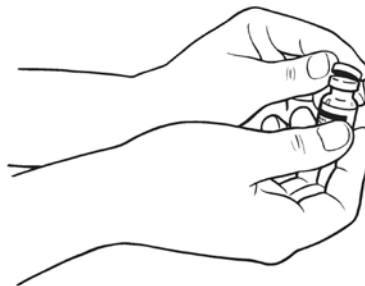


Figure C

6. Carefully remove the protective cap straight off of the needle to avoid damaging the needle point.
7. Fill the syringe with air by pulling back on the plunger to 0.7 mL. (See Figure D)

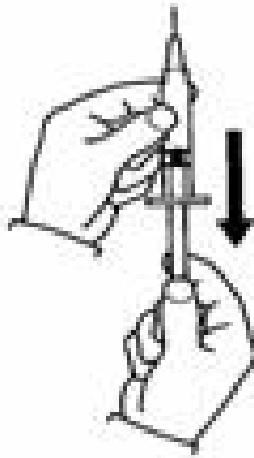


Figure D

8. Hold the diluent vial upright. Do not touch the cleaned top of the vial with your hands.
 - Push the needle through the center of the rubber stopper of the diluent vial. (See Figure E)
 - Slowly inject all the air from the syringe into the air space above the diluent in the vial. (See Figure F)

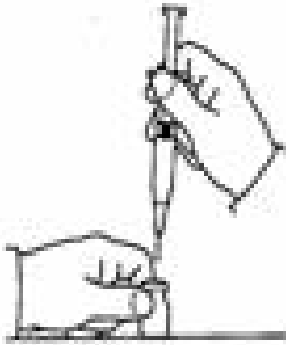


Figure E

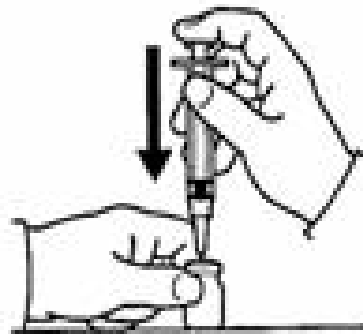


Figure F

9. Turn the vial upside down and make sure the tip of the needle is in the liquid.
10. Withdraw only 0.7 mL of diluent by pulling the plunger back to the 0.7 mL mark on the side of the syringe. (See Figure G)

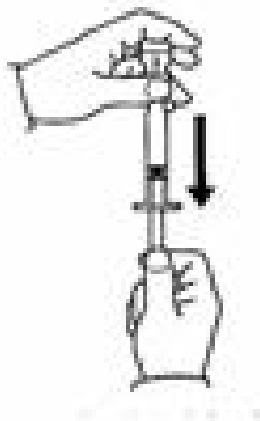


Figure G

11. With the needle still inserted in the vial, check the syringe for air bubbles.
 - If there are any air bubbles, gently tap the syringe with your finger until the air bubbles rise to the top of the syringe.
 - Slowly push the plunger up to remove the air bubbles.
 - If you push diluent back into the vial, slowly pull back on the plunger to draw the correct amount of diluent back into the syringe.
12. Remove the needle from the vial (See Figure H). Do not let the syringe touch anything.

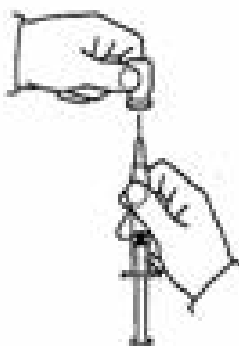


Figure H

13. Throw away any diluent that is left over in the vial.
14. Insert the needle through the center of the rubber stopper of the PegIntron powder vial. Do not touch the cleaned rubber stopper.
 - Place the needle tip, at an angle, against the side of the vial. (See Figure I)
 - Slowly push the plunger down to inject the 0.7 mL diluent. The stream of diluent should run down the side of the vial.

- To prevent bubbles from forming, do not aim the stream of diluent directly on the medicine in the bottom of the vial.

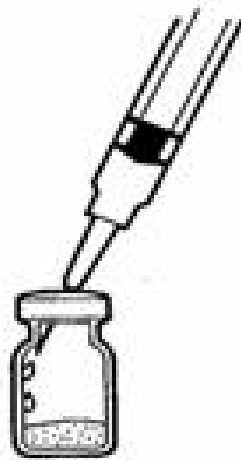


Figure I

15. Remove the needle from the vial.
- Firmly grasp the safety sleeve and pull it over the exposed needle until you hear a click (See Figure J). The green stripe on the safety sleeve will completely cover the red stripe on the needle. Throw away the syringe, needle, and vial in the sharps disposal container (See “Disposal of the used needles, syringes, and vials”).

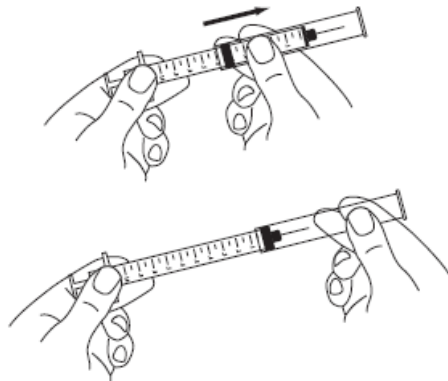


Figure J

16. Gently swirl the vial in a gentle circular motion, until the PegIntron is completely dissolved (mixed together). (See Figure K)
- Do not shake the vial. If any powder remains undissolved in the vial, gently turn the vial upside down until all of the powder is dissolved.
 - The solution may look cloudy or bubbly for a few minutes. If air bubbles form, wait until the solution settles and all bubbles rise to the top.



Figure K

17. After the PegIntron completely dissolves, the solution should be clear, colorless and without particles. It is normal to see a ring of foam or bubbles on the surface.

Do not use the mixed solution if you see particles in it, or it is not clear and colorless. Throw away the syringe, needle, and vial in the sharps disposal container (See the section "Disposal of the used needles, syringes, and vials"). Then, repeat steps 1 through 17 with a new vial of PegIntron and diluent to prepare a new syringe.

18. After the PegIntron powder completely dissolves, clean the rubber stopper again with an alcohol swab before you withdraw your dose.
19. Unwrap the second syringe provided. You will use it to give yourself the injection.
 - o Carefully remove the protective cap from the needle. Fill the syringe with air by pulling the plunger to the number on the side of the syringe (mL) that matches your prescribed dose. (See Figure L)

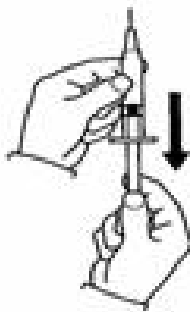


Figure L

- o Hold the PegIntron vial upright. Do not touch the cleaned top of the vial with your hands. (See Figure M)

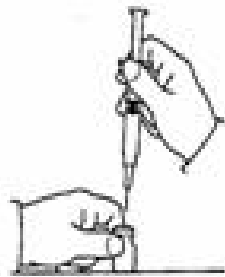


Figure M

- Insert the needle into the vial containing the PegIntron solution. Inject the air into the center of the vial. (See Figure N)

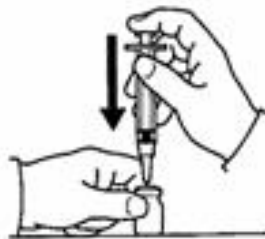


Figure N

20. Turn the PegIntron vial upside down. Be sure the tip of the needle is in the PegIntron solution.
- Hold the vial and syringe with one hand. Be sure the tip of the needle is in the PegIntron solution. With the other hand, slowly pull the plunger back to fill the syringe with the exact amount of PegIntron into the syringe your healthcare provider told you to use. (See Figure O)

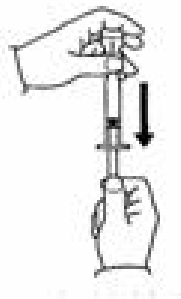


Figure O

21. Check for air bubbles in the syringe. If you see any air bubbles, hold the syringe with the needle pointing up. Gently tap the syringe until the air bubbles rise. Then, slowly push the plunger up to remove any air bubbles. If you push

solution into the vial, slowly pull back on the plunger again to draw the correct amount of PegIntron back into the syringe. When you are ready to inject the medicine, remove the needle from the vial. (See Figure P)

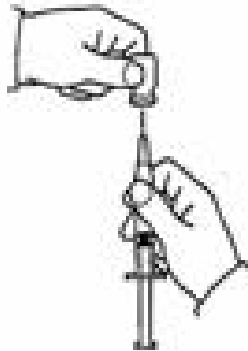


Figure P

How should I choose a site for injection?

The best sites for giving yourself an injection are those areas with a layer of fat between the skin and muscle, like your thigh, the outer surface of your upper arm, and abdomen (See Figure Q). Do not inject yourself in the area near your belly-button (navel) or waistline. If you are very thin, you should only use the thigh or outer surface of the arm for injection.



Figure Q

You should use a different site each time you inject PegIntron to avoid soreness at any one site. **Do not inject PegIntron solution into an area where the skin is irritated, red, bruised, infected or has scars, stretch marks, or lumps.**

How should I inject a dose of PegIntron?

22. Clean the skin where the injection is to be given with an alcohol swab. Wait for the area to dry.
 - Make sure the safety sleeve of the syringe is pushed firmly against the syringe flange so that the needle is fully exposed.
23. With one hand, pinch a fold of skin. With your other hand, pick up the syringe and hold it like a pencil.
 - Insert the needle into the pinched skin at a 45- to 90-degree angle with a quick dart-like motion. (See Figure R)

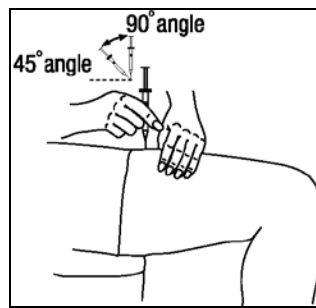


Figure R

- After the needle is inserted, remove the hand that you used to pinch your skin. Use it to hold the syringe barrel.
 - Pull the plunger of the syringe back very slightly.
 - **If no blood is present in the syringe**, inject the medicine by gently pressing the plunger all the way down the syringe barrel, until the syringe is empty.
 - **If blood comes into the syringe**, the needle has entered a blood vessel. Do not inject.
 - Withdraw the needle and throw away the syringe and needle in the sharps disposal container. (See “Disposal of the used needles, syringes, and vials”)
 - Then, repeat steps 1 through 23 with a new vial of PegIntron and diluent to prepare a new syringe, and inject the medicine at a new site.
24. When the syringe is empty, pull the needle out of the skin.
 - Place a cotton ball or gauze over the injection site and press for several seconds. Do not massage the injection site.
 - If there is bleeding, cover it with a bandage.

25. After injecting your dose:

- Firmly grasp the safety sleeve and pull it over the exposed needle until you hear a click, and the green stripe on the safety sleeve covers the red stripe on the needle. (See Figure S)

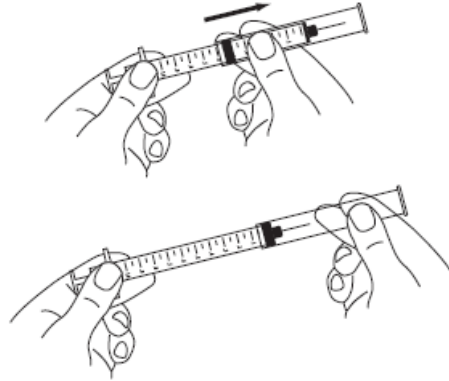


Figure S

Disposal of the used needles, syringes, and vials

- Put your used needles, syringes and vials in a FDA-cleared sharps disposal container right away after use. **Do not throw away (dispose of) loose needles, syringes and vials in your household trash.**
- If you do not have a FDA-cleared sharps disposal container, you may use a household container that is:
 - made of a heavy-duty plastic,
 - can be closed with a tight-fitting, puncture-resistant lid, without sharps being able to come out,
 - upright and stable during use,
 - leak-resistant, and
 - properly labeled to warn of hazardous waste inside the container.
- When your sharps disposal container is almost full, you will need to follow your community guidelines for the right way to dispose of your sharps disposal container. There may be state or local laws about how you should throw away used syringes and needles. For more information about safe sharps disposal, and for specific information about sharps disposal in the state that you live in, go to the FDA's website at: <http://www.fda.gov/safesharpsdisposal>.
- Do not dispose of your used sharps disposal container in your household trash unless your community guidelines permit this. Do not recycle your used sharps disposal container.

Always keep the sharps disposal container out of the reach of children.

How should I store PegIntron?

- Before mixing, store PegIntron vials at room temperature, between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).
- After mixing, use PegIntron right away or store it in the refrigerator for up to 24 hours between 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C).
- Do not freeze PegIntron.
- Keep PegIntron away from heat.

Keep PegIntron and all medicines out of the reach of children.

This Instructions for Use has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Manufactured by:

Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp., a subsidiary of **Merck & Co., Inc.**, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889, USA.

U.S. License Number 0002

Revised 05/2017

For patent information: www.merck.com/product/patent/home.html

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Instructions for Use

PegIntron® (peg-In-tron)
(peginterferon alfa-2b)
Powder for Injection

This Instructions for Use is only for use with the single-use vials of Powder for injection. If your healthcare provider prescribes the REDIPEN Pre-filled Pen for you, use only those Instructions for Use.

Be sure that you read, understand and follow these instructions before injecting PegIntron. Your healthcare provider should show you how to prepare, measure, and inject PegIntron properly using a vial before you use it for the first time. Ask your healthcare provider if you have any questions.

Important:

- Make sure that you have:
 - the correct strength of PegIntron vial prescribed by your healthcare provider.
 - the correct syringe and needle to use with PegIntron. Your healthcare provider should tell you what syringes and needles to use to inject PegIntron.
- Throw away the syringe and needle after you use it. Do not re-use your syringes and needles. See “How should I dispose of the used syringes, needles, and vials?” at the end of this Instructions for Use.
- The vial of mixed PegIntron should be used right away. Do not mix more than 1 vial of PegIntron at a time. If you do not use the vial of the prepared solution right away, store it in a refrigerator and use within 24 hours. See the end of these Instructions for Use for information about “How should I store PegIntron?”

Before starting, collect all of the supplies that you will need to use for preparing and injecting PegIntron. For each injection you will need a PegIntron vial package that contains:

- 1 vial of PegIntron powder for injection
- 1 vial of sterile water for injection (diluent). The vial contains an excess amount of sterile water (5 mL). You will only need to withdraw 0.7 mL to prepare your single dose.
- 2 single-use disposable syringes (BD Safety Lok syringes with a safety sleeve)
- 2 alcohol swabs

You will also need:

- 1 cotton ball or gauze
- 1 sharps disposal container for throwing away (dispose of) your used syringes, needles, and vials. See “How should I dispose of the used syringes, needles, and vials?” at the end of this Instructions for Use.

How should I prepare a dose of PegIntron?

Before you inject PegIntron, the powder must be mixed with 0.7 mL of the sterile water for injection (diluent) that comes in the PegIntron vial package.

1. Find a clean, well-lit, flat work surface.
2. Get 1 of your PegIntron vial packages. Check the date printed on the PegIntron carton. Make sure that the expiration date has not passed. Do not use your PegIntron vial packages if the expiration date has passed. The medicine in the PegIntron vial should look like a white to off-white tablet that is whole, or in pieces, or powdered.

If you have already mixed the PegIntron solution and stored it in the refrigerator, take it out of the refrigerator before use and allow the solution to come to room temperature. See the Medication Guide section “How should I store PegIntron?”

3. Wash your hands well with soap and water, rinse and towel dry (See Figure A). Keep your work area, your hands, and injection site clean to decrease the risk of infection.

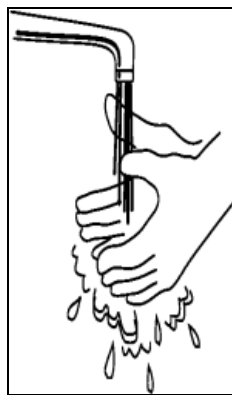


Figure A

The disposable syringes have needles that are already attached and cannot be removed. Each syringe has a clear plastic safety sleeve that is pulled over the needle for disposal after use. The safety sleeve should remain tight against the flange while using the syringe and moved over the needle only when ready for disposal. (See Figure B)

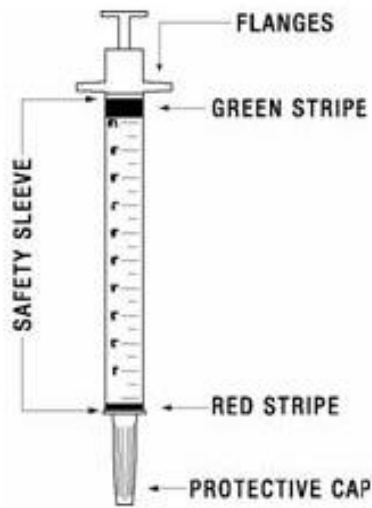


Figure B

4. Remove the protective wrapper from one of the syringes provided. Use the syringe for steps 4 through 15. Make sure that the syringe safety sleeve is sitting against the flange. (See Figure B)
5. Remove the protective plastic cap from the tops of both the sterile water for injection (diluent) and the PegIntron vials (See Figure C). Clean the rubber stopper on the top of both vials with an alcohol swab.

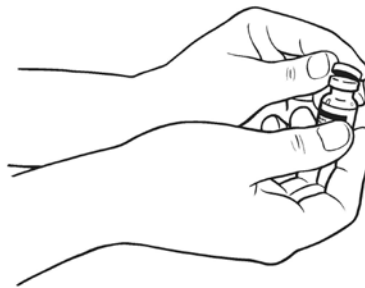


Figure C

6. Carefully remove the protective cap straight off of the needle to avoid damaging the needle point.
7. Fill the syringe with air by pulling back on the plunger to 0.7 mL. (See Figure D)

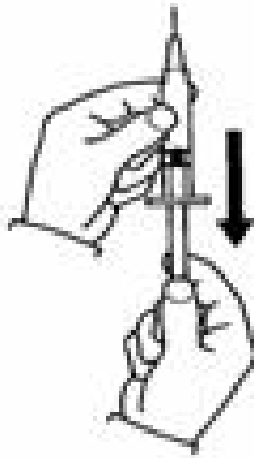


Figure D

8. Hold the diluent vial upright. Do not touch the cleaned top of the vial with your hands.
 - Push the needle through the center of the rubber stopper of the diluent vial. (See Figure E)
 - Slowly inject all the air from the syringe into the air space above the diluent in the vial. (See Figure F)

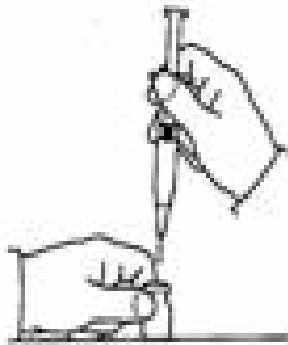


Figure E

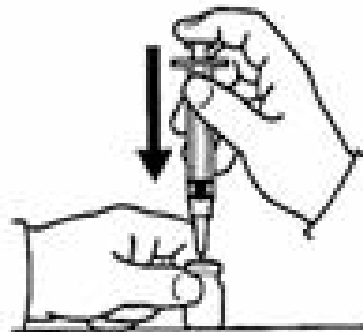


Figure F

9. Turn the vial upside down and make sure the tip of the needle is in the liquid.
 - o Important: The sterile water for injection vial contains an excess amount of sterile water (5 mL). **You will only need to withdraw 0.7 mL to prepare your single dose.**
10. Withdraw only 0.7 mL of diluent by pulling the plunger back to the 0.7 mL mark on the side of the syringe. (See Figure G)

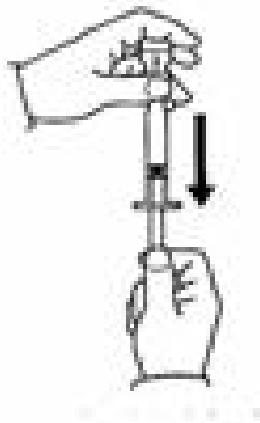


Figure G

11. With the needle still inserted in the vial, check the syringe for air bubbles.
 - If there are any air bubbles, gently tap the syringe with your finger until the air bubbles rise to the top of the syringe.
 - Slowly push the plunger up to remove the air bubbles.
 - If you push diluent back into the vial, slowly pull back on the plunger to draw the correct amount of diluent back into the syringe.
12. Remove the needle from the vial (See Figure H). Do not let the syringe touch anything.

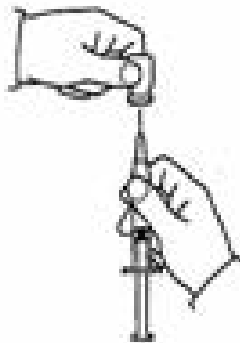


Figure H

13. Throw away the diluent that is left over in the vial. Do not save any leftover diluent or use it again. See "How should I dispose of the used syringes, needles, and vials?" at the end of this Instructions for Use.
14. Insert the needle through the center of the rubber stopper of the PegIntron powder vial. Do not touch the cleaned rubber stopper.
 - Place the needle tip, at an angle, against the side of the vial. (See Figure I)

- Slowly push the plunger down to inject the 0.7 mL diluent. The stream of diluent should run down the side of the vial.
- To prevent bubbles from forming, do not aim the stream of diluent directly on the medicine in the bottom of the vial.

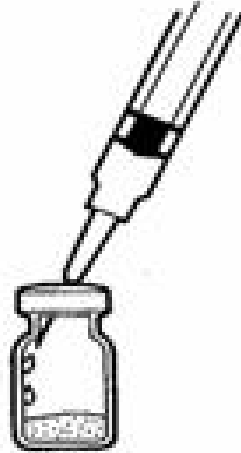


Figure I

15. Remove the needle from the vial.
- Firmly grasp the safety sleeve and pull it over the exposed needle until you hear a click (See Figure J). The green stripe on the safety sleeve will completely cover the red stripe on the needle. Dispose of the syringe, needle, and vial in the sharps disposal container (See “How should I dispose of the used syringes, needles, and vials?”).

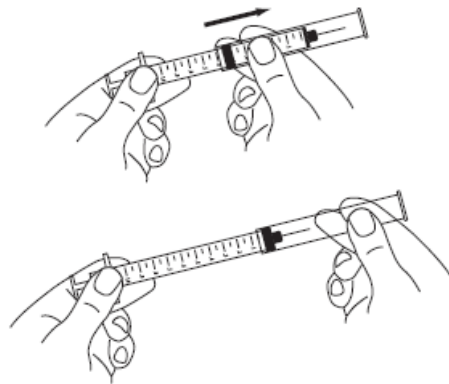


Figure J

16. Gently swirl the vial in a gentle circular motion, until the PegIntron is completely dissolved (mixed together). (See Figure K)
- Do not shake the vial. If any powder remains undissolved in the vial, gently turn the vial upside down until all of the powder is dissolved.
 - The solution may look cloudy or bubbly for a few minutes. If air bubbles form, wait until the solution settles and all bubbles rise to the top.



Figure K

17. After the PegIntron completely dissolves, the solution should be clear, colorless and without particles. It is normal to see a ring of foam or bubbles on the surface.

Do not use the mixed solution if you see particles in it, or it is not clear and colorless. Dispose of the syringe, needle, and vial in the sharps disposal container (See "How should I dispose of the used syringes, needles, and vials?"). Then, repeat steps 1 through 17 with a new vial of PegIntron and diluent to prepare a new syringe.

18. After the PegIntron powder completely dissolves, clean the rubber stopper again with an alcohol swab before you withdraw your dose.
19. Unwrap the second syringe provided. You will use it to give yourself the injection.
 - o Carefully remove the protective cap from the needle. Fill the syringe with air by pulling the plunger to the number on the side of the syringe (mL) that matches your prescribed dose. (See Figure L)

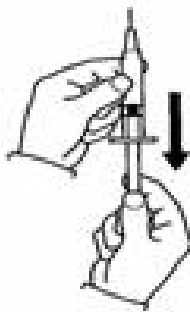


Figure L

- o Hold the PegIntron vial upright. Do not touch the cleaned top of the vial with your hands. (See Figure M)

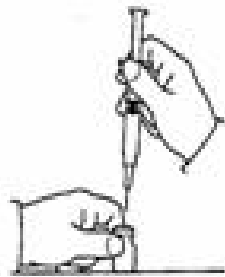


Figure M

- Insert the needle into the vial containing the PegIntron solution. Inject the air into the center of the vial. (See Figure N)



Figure N

20. Turn the PegIntron vial upside down. Be sure the tip of the needle is in the PegIntron solution.
- Hold the vial and syringe with one hand. Be sure the tip of the needle is in the PegIntron solution. With the other hand, slowly pull the plunger back to fill the syringe with the exact amount of PegIntron into the syringe your healthcare provider told you to use. (See Figure O)

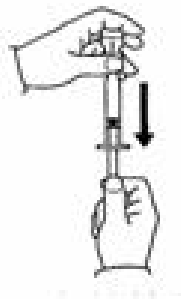


Figure O

21. Check for air bubbles in the syringe. If you see any air bubbles, hold the syringe with the needle pointing up. Gently tap the syringe until the air bubbles rise. Then, slowly push the plunger up to remove any air bubbles. If you push

solution into the vial, slowly pull back on the plunger again to draw the correct amount of PegIntron back into the syringe. When you are ready to inject the medicine, remove the needle from the vial. (See Figure P)

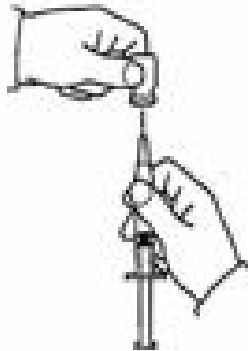


Figure P

How should I choose a site for injection?

The best sites for giving yourself an injection are those areas with a layer of fat between the skin and muscle, like your thigh, the outer surface of your upper arm, and abdomen (See Figure Q). Do not inject yourself in the area near your belly-button (navel) or waistline. If you are very thin, you should only use the thigh or outer surface of the arm for injection.

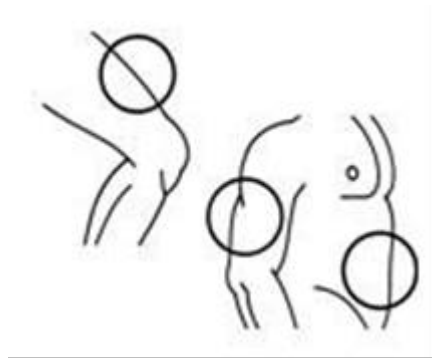


Figure Q

You should use a different site each time you inject PegIntron to avoid soreness at any one site. **Do not inject PegIntron solution into an area where the skin is irritated, red, bruised, infected or has scars, stretch marks, or lumps.**

How should I inject a dose of PegIntron?

22. Clean the skin where the injection is to be given with an alcohol swab. Wait for the area to dry.
 - Make sure the safety sleeve of the syringe is pushed firmly against the syringe flange so that the needle is fully exposed.
23. With one hand, pinch a fold of skin. With your other hand, pick up the syringe and hold it like a pencil.
 - Insert the needle into the pinched skin at a 45- to 90-degree angle with a quick dart-like motion. (See Figure R)

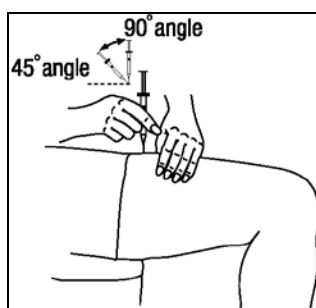


Figure R

- After the needle is inserted, remove the hand that you used to pinch your skin. Use it to hold the syringe barrel.
 - Pull the plunger of the syringe back very slightly.
 - **If no blood is present in the syringe**, inject the medicine by gently pressing the plunger all the way down the syringe barrel, until the syringe is empty.
 - **If blood comes into the syringe**, the needle has entered a blood vessel. Do not inject.
 - Withdraw the needle and dispose of the syringe and needle in the sharps disposal container. (See “How should I dispose of the used syringes, needles, and vials?” at the end of this Instructions for Use.)
 - If there is bleeding, cover the injection site with a bandage.
 - Then, repeat steps 1 through 23 with a new vial of PegIntron and diluent to prepare a new syringe, and inject the medicine at a new site.
24. When the syringe is empty, pull the needle out of the skin.
 - Place a cotton ball or gauze over the injection site and press for several seconds. Do not massage the injection site.
 - If there is bleeding, cover it with a bandage.

25. After injecting your dose:

- o Firmly grasp the safety sleeve and pull it over the exposed needle until you hear a click, and the green stripe on the safety sleeve covers the red stripe on the needle. (See Figure S)

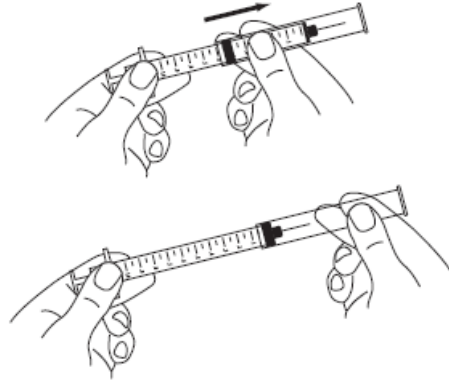


Figure S

26. Dispose of used syringes, needles, and vials in the sharps disposal container. (See “How should I dispose of the used syringes, needles, and vials?” below).

How should I dispose of the used syringes, needles, and vials?

- Put your used needles, syringes and vials in a FDA-cleared sharps disposal container right away after use. **Do not throw away (dispose of) loose needles, syringes and vials in your household trash.**
- If you do not have a FDA-cleared sharps disposal container, you may use a household container that is:
 - o made of a heavy-duty plastic,
 - o can be closed with a tight-fitting, puncture-resistant lid, without sharps being able to come out,
 - o upright and stable during use,
 - o leak-resistant, and
 - o properly labeled to warn of hazardous waste inside the container.
- When your sharps disposal container is almost full, you will need to follow your community guidelines for the right way to dispose of your sharps disposal container. There may be state or local laws about how you should throw away used syringes and needles. For more information about safe sharps disposal, and for specific information about sharps disposal in the state that you live in, go to the FDA’s website at:
<http://www.fda.gov/safesharpsdisposal>.

- Do not dispose of your used sharps disposal container in your household trash unless your community guidelines permit this. Do not recycle your used sharps disposal container.

Always keep the sharps disposal container out of the reach of children.

How should I store PegIntron?

- Before mixing, store PegIntron vials at room temperature, between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).
- After mixing, use PegIntron right away or store it in the refrigerator for up to 24 hours between 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C).
- Do not freeze PegIntron.
- Keep PegIntron away from heat.

Keep PegIntron and all medicines out of the reach of children.

This Instructions for Use has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Manufactured by:

Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp., a subsidiary of **Merck & Co., Inc.**, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889, USA

U.S. License Number 0002

Revised: 05/2017

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usifu-mk4031-pwi-5mL-1602r001

Instructions for Use

PegIntron[®] (peg-In-tron)

(Peginterferon alfa-2b)

REDIPEN[®] single-use pre-filled pen

This Instructions for Use is only for use with the REDIPEN single-use pre-filled pen.

Be sure that you read, understand, and follow these instructions before injecting PegIntron. Your healthcare provider should show you how to prepare and inject PegIntron properly using the REDIPEN single-use pre-filled pen before you use it for the first time. Ask your healthcare provider if you have any questions.

Important:

- Make sure that you have the correct strength of REDIPEN pre-filled pen prescribed by your healthcare provider.
- Throw away REDIPEN after you use it. **Do not re-use your pre-filled pen or needle.** See “**Disposal of used needles and pre-filled pens**” in this Instructions for Use.

Before starting, collect all of the supplies that you will need to use for preparing and injecting PegIntron. For each injection you will need a package that contains:

- 1 PegIntron REDIPEN single-use pre-filled pen
- 1 disposable needle
- 2 alcohol swabs
- dosing tray (the dosing tray is the bottom half of the REDIPEN package)
- You will need gauze or a cotton ball to press to the injection site after injecting. You will also need 1 sharps disposal container for throwing away your used pre-filled pen. See “**Disposal of used needles and pre-filled pens**” in this Instructions for Use.

The REDIPEN single-use pre-filled pen should only be used with the injection needle that comes in the package. If you use other needles, the pen may not work the right way.

- Figures A and B below show the different parts of the REDIPEN single-use pre-filled pen and the injection needle. Figure C below shows the dosing tray with the pre-filled pen. The parts of the pre-filled pen you need to know are:



Figure A

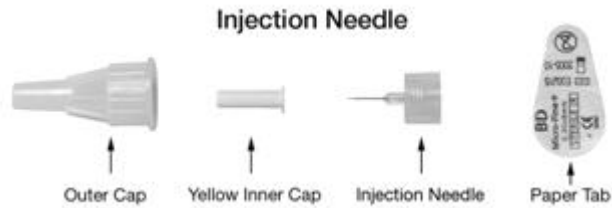


Figure B



Figure C

How should I prepare a dose of PegIntron using the REDIPEN single-use pre-filled pen?

1. Find a clean, well-lit, flat work surface.
2. Take the pre-filled pen out of the refrigerator and allow the medicine to come to room temperature. Look at the date printed on the carton to make sure that the expiration date has not passed. Do not use if the expiration date has passed.
3. After taking the pre-filled pen out of the carton, look in the window of the pre-filled pen and make sure the PegIntron in the cartridge holder window is a white to off-white tablet that is whole, or in pieces, or powdered.

4. Wash your hands well with soap and water. It is important to keep your work area, your hands, and the injection site clean to decrease the risk of infection. See Figure D.



Figure D

Mix the PegIntron

5. **Place the pre-filled pen upright** in the dosing tray on a hard, flat, non-slip surface with the dosing button down. See Figure E. You may want to hold the pre-filled pen using the grip.



Figure E

6. To mix the powder and the liquid, keep the pre-filled pen upright in the dosing tray and press the top half of the pre-filled pen downward toward the hard, flat, non-slip surface **until you hear the “click” sound.** See Figure F. When you hear the click, you will notice in the window that both dark stoppers are now touching. The dosing button should be flat with the pen body.



Figure F

7. Wait several seconds for the powder to completely dissolve. Do not shake. If the solution does not dissolve, gently turn the pre-filled pen upside down two times. See Figure G.



Figure G

8. Keep the pre-filled pen **UPRIGHT**, with the dosing button down. Look through the pre-filled pen window to see that the mixed PegIntron solution is completely dissolved. The solution should be clear and colorless **before use**. It is normal to see some small bubbles in the pre-filled pen window, near the top of the solution. Do not use the REDIPEN pre-filled pen if the solution is discolored, or is not clear, or if it has particles in it.
9. Place the pre-filled pen back into the dosing tray provided in the packaging. See Figure H. The dosing button will be on the bottom.



Figure H

Attach the Needle

10. Before you attach the needle to the pre-filled pen, wipe the rubber membrane of the pre-filled pen with an alcohol swab.
11. Remove the protective paper tab from the injection needle, but do not remove either the outer cap or the yellow inner cap from the injection needle.
12. Keep the pre-filled pen upright in the dosing tray and push the injection needle straight into the pre-filled pen rubber membrane. Screw the needle onto the pre-filled pen by turning it in a clockwise direction. See Figure I.
 - Remember to leave the needle caps in place when you attach the needle to the pre-filled pen. Pushing the needle through the rubber membrane "primes" the needle and allows the extra liquid and air in the pen to be removed.



Figure I

NOTE: Some fluid will trickle out. This is **normal**. The dark stoppers move up and you will no longer see the fluid in the window once the needle is successfully primed.

- Remove the outer clear needle cap on the pre-filled pen, but leave the yellow cap on. See Figure J.



Figure J

How should I set the dose prescribed by my healthcare provider?

Dial the Dose

13. Holding the pre-filled pen firmly, pull the dosing button out as far as it will go. See Figure K. You will see a dark band.

Do not push the dosing button in until you are ready to self-inject the PegIntron dose.



Figure K

- Turn the dosing button until your prescribed dose is lined up with the dosing tab. See Figure L. The dosing button will turn freely. If you have trouble dialing your dose, check to make sure the dosing button has been pulled out **as far** as it will go. See Figure M.



Figure L

Figure M

- Carefully lay the pre-filled pen down on the dosing tray or on a hard, flat, non-slip surface. Do not remove the yellow needle cap and do not push the dosing button in until you are ready to self-inject the PegIntron dose.

Choosing an Injection Site

The best sites for giving yourself an injection are those areas with a layer of fat between the skin and muscle, like your thigh, the outer surface of your upper arm, and abdomen. See Figure N. Do not inject yourself in the area near your belly-button (navel) or waistline. If you are very thin, you should only use the thigh or outer surface of the arm for injection.

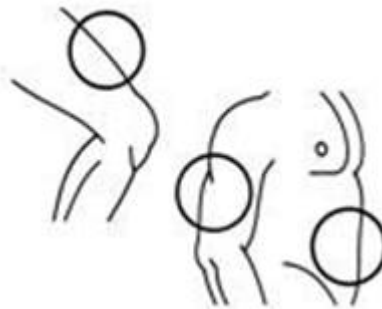


Figure N

You should use a different site each time you inject PegIntron to avoid soreness at any one site. Do not inject PegIntron into an area where the skin is irritated, red, bruised, infected, or has scars, stretch marks, or lumps.

How should I Inject a dose of PegIntron?

16. Clean the skin where the injection is to be given with the second alcohol swab provided, and wait for the skin to dry.
17. There may be some liquid around the yellow inner needle cap. See Figure O. This is normal.



Figure O

18. Remove the **yellow** inner needle cap when the injection site is dry. See Figure P. You are now ready to inject.



Figure P

19. Hold the pre-filled pen with your fingers wrapped around the pen body barrel and your thumb on the dosing button. See Figure Q.



Figure Q

20. With your other hand, pinch the skin in the area you have cleaned for injection.
21. Insert the needle into the pinched skin at an angle of 45° to 90°. See Figure R.



Figure R

22. Press the dosing button down slowly and firmly until you can not push it any further. Keep your thumb pressed down on the dosing button for an additional 5 seconds to make sure that you get the complete dose.
23. Slowly release the dosing button and remove the needle from your skin.

24. Gently press the injection site with a small bandage or sterile gauze if needed for a few seconds but do not massage the injection site. If there is bleeding, cover with an adhesive bandage. Do not recap the needle and do not reuse the pre-filled pen.

Disposal of the used needles and pre-filled pens

- Put your used needles and pre-filled pens in a FDA-cleared sharps disposal container right away after use. **Do not throw away (dispose of) loose needles and pre-filled pens in your household trash.**
- If you do not have a FDA-cleared sharps disposal container, you may use a household container that is:
 - made of a heavy-duty plastic,
 - can be closed with a tight-fitting, puncture-resistant lid, without sharps being able to come out,
 - upright and stable during use,
 - leak-resistant, and
 - properly labeled to warn of hazardous waste inside the container.
- When your sharps disposal container is almost full, you will need to follow your community guidelines for the right way to dispose of your sharps disposal container. There may be state or local laws about how you should throw away used needles, syringes and pre-filled pens. For more information about safe sharps disposal, and for specific information about sharps disposal in the state that you live in, go to the FDA's website at: <http://www.fda.gov/safesharpsdisposal>.
- Do not dispose of your used sharps disposal container in your household trash unless your community guidelines permit this. Do not recycle your used sharps disposal container.

Always keep the sharps disposal container out of the reach of children.

How should I store PegIntron REDIPEN pre-filled pen?

- Before mixing, store PegIntron REDIPEN pre-filled pen in the refrigerator between 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C).
- After mixing, use PegIntron right away or store it in the refrigerator for up to 24 hours between 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C).
- Do not freeze PegIntron.
- Keep PegIntron away from heat.

Keep PegIntron and all medicines out of reach of children.

This Instructions for Use has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Manufactured by:

Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp., a subsidiary of **Merck & Co., Inc.**,
Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889, USA

U.S. License Number 0002

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For patent information: www.merck.com/product/patent/home.html

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