

PRODUCT MONOGRAPH  
INCLUDING PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION

<sup>P</sup>**NUCALA**

Mepolizumab for Injection  
100 mg/mL lyophilized powder for subcutaneous injection

Mepolizumab Injection  
100 mg/mL solution for subcutaneous injection  
40 mg/0.4 mL solution for subcutaneous injection

Interleukin-5 (IL-5) inhibitor

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## RECENT MAJOR LABEL CHANGES

Section	Date
1 INDICATIONS	11/2021
4 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, 4.1 Dosing Considerations	09/2022
4 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, 4.2 Recommended Dose & Dosage Adjustment	09/2022
4 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, 4.4 Administration	09/2022
4 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, 4.5 Missed Dose	09/2022
7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, 7.1 Special Populations	11/2021
7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, 7.1.1 Pregnant Women	11/2023

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Sections or subsections that are not applicable at the time of authorization are not listed.

<b>RECENT MAJOR LABEL CHANGES</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>1 INDICATIONS</b> .....	<b>4</b>
1.1 Pediatrics .....	4
1.2 Geriatrics .....	5
<b>2 CONTRAINDICATIONS</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>4 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION</b> .....	<b>5</b>
4.1 Dosing Considerations .....	5
4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment .....	6
4.3 Reconstitution .....	7
4.4 Administration .....	8
4.5 Missed Dose .....	9
<b>5 OVERDOSAGE</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>6 DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS</b> .....	<b>11</b>
7.1 Special Populations .....	12
7.1.1 Pregnant Women .....	12
7.1.2 Breast-feeding .....	12
7.1.3 Pediatrics .....	12
7.1.4 Geriatrics .....	13
<b>8 ADVERSE REACTIONS</b> .....	<b>13</b>
8.1 Adverse Reaction Overview .....	13
8.2 Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions .....	14
8.3 Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions .....	28
8.5 Post-Market Adverse Reactions .....	28
<b>9 DRUG INTERACTIONS</b> .....	<b>28</b>
9.2 Drug Interactions Overview .....	28

9.4	Drug-Drug Interactions .....	28
9.5	Drug-Food Interactions .....	28
9.6	Drug-Herb Interactions .....	28
9.7	Drug-Laboratory Test Interactions .....	28
<b>10</b>	<b>ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY .....</b>	<b>28</b>
10.1	Mechanism of Action .....	28
10.2	Pharmacodynamics .....	29
10.3	Pharmacokinetics .....	30
<b>11</b>	<b>STORAGE, STABILITY AND DISPOSAL .....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS .....</b>	<b>33</b>
	<b>PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>CLINICAL TRIALS .....</b>	<b>34</b>
14.1	Clinical Trials by Indication .....	34
	Severe Eosinophilic Asthma .....	34
	Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps .....	40
	Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis .....	44
	Hypereosinophilic Syndrome .....	49
<b>15</b>	<b>MICROBIOLOGY .....</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY .....</b>	<b>51</b>
	<b>PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>53</b>
	<b>PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>60</b>
	<b>INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE - Pre-Filled Autoinjector .....</b>	<b>67</b>
	<b>INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE – 100 mg/mL Pre-Filled Syringe (SAFETY SYRINGE) .....</b>	<b>74</b>
	<b>INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE – 40 mg/0.4 mL Pre-Filled Syringe (SAFETY SYRINGE) .....</b>	<b>80</b>

## PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

### 1 INDICATIONS

#### Severe Eosinophilic Asthma

Nucala (mepolizumab for injection, mepolizumab injection) is indicated as add-on maintenance treatment for adults, adolescents, and children (aged 6 years and older) with severe eosinophilic asthma who:

- are inadequately controlled with high-dose inhaled corticosteroids (patients  $\geq 18$  years of age) or medium-to-high-dose inhaled corticosteroids (patients 6-17 years of age) and an additional asthma controller(s) (e.g., LABA); and
- have a blood eosinophil count of  $\geq 150$  cells/ $\mu\text{L}$  (0.15 GI/L) at initiation of treatment with Nucala OR  $\geq 300$  cells/ $\mu\text{L}$  (0.3 GI/L) in the past 12 months.

**Nucala is not indicated for the relief of acute bronchospasm or status asthmaticus (See [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS](#)).**

#### Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps

Nucala is indicated as add-on maintenance treatment with intranasal corticosteroids in adult patients with severe chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps (CRSwNP) inadequately controlled by intranasal corticosteroids alone.

#### Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis

Nucala is indicated as an add-on to corticosteroids for the treatment of adult patients with eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis (EGPA).

#### Hypereosinophilic Syndrome

Nucala is indicated as an add-on to standard therapy for the treatment of adult patients with hypereosinophilic syndrome (HES) for  $\geq 6$  months without an identifiable non-hematologic secondary cause.

#### **1.1 Pediatrics**

Severe Eosinophilic Asthma: Nucala is not indicated in patients under 6 years of age. There is limited efficacy and safety experience with Nucala in patients less than 18 years of age (see [14 CLINICAL TRIALS](#)).

Dosing in children was derived using modelling and simulation of adult and pediatric PK data (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps: Nucala is not indicated in patients under 18 years of age.

Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis: Nucala is not indicated in patients under 18 years of age.

Hypereosinophilic Syndrome: Nucala is not indicated in patients under 18 years of age.

## 1.2 Geriatrics

There is limited efficacy and safety experience with Nucala in patients over 65 years of age (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

## 2 CONTRAINDICATIONS

Nucala is contraindicated in patients who are hypersensitive to mepolizumab, to any ingredient(s) in the formulations, or component(s) of the containers. For a complete listing, see [6 DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING](#).

## 4 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

### 4.1 Dosing Considerations

Nucala should only be administered as a subcutaneous injection.

Nucala is intended for use under the guidance of a physician who is experienced in the monitoring of signs and symptoms of hypersensitivity after administration of biologic agents.

#### Lyophilized powder

Nucala (mepolizumab for injection) should be reconstituted and administered by a qualified healthcare professional who is prepared to manage anaphylaxis that can be life-threatening (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS](#)). Following reconstitution, Nucala should be used immediately upon withdrawal from the vial into a syringe (see [4.4 Administration](#)).

This dosage form is acceptable to deliver a 40 mg and 100 mg dose.

#### Solution in 100 mg/mL pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe (safety syringe)

Nucala (mepolizumab injection) may be self-administered by the patient or administered by a caregiver if their healthcare professional determines that it is appropriate and the patient or caregiver are trained in injection techniques (see [4.4 Administration](#)).

The 100 mg/mL pre-filled autoinjector and pre-filled syringe deliver a 100 mg dose of mepolizumab, and are not suitable for those who require a 40 mg dose of mepolizumab (i.e. children 6 to 11 years of age with severe eosinophilic asthma).

#### Solution in 40 mg/0.4 mL pre-filled syringe (safety syringe)

Nucala (mepolizumab injection) must be administered by a healthcare professional or a caregiver. It may be administered by a caregiver if a healthcare professional determines that it is appropriate and the caregiver is trained in injection techniques (see [4.4 Administration](#)).

The 40 mg/0.4 mL pre-filled syringe delivers a 40 mg dose of mepolizumab and is only for use in children aged 6 to 11 years of age with severe eosinophilic asthma.

## 4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment

### Severe Eosinophilic Asthma

Adults and Adolescents (≥ 12 years of age):

The recommended dose of Nucala is 100 mg administered subcutaneously once every 4 weeks.

Children (6-11 years of age):

The recommended dose of Nucala is 40 mg administered subcutaneously once every 4 weeks.

**Only the lyophilized powder formulation or the 40 mg/0.4 mL pre-filled syringe can provide the recommended 40 mg dose for children 6 to 11 years of age (see [4.4 Administration](#)).**

Each vial of lyophilized powder should be used for a single patient, and any remainder in the vial should be discarded.

**Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps:** The recommended dose of Nucala is 100 mg administered subcutaneously once every 4 weeks.

### Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis:

The recommended dose of Nucala is 300 mg administered subcutaneously once every 4 weeks.

The 300 mg dose for treatment of Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis requires the administration of 3 separate 100 mg injections (see [4.4 Administration](#)).

### Hypereosinophilic Syndrome:

The recommended dose of Nucala is 300 mg administered subcutaneously once every 4 weeks.

The 300 mg dose for treatment of hypereosinophilic syndrome requires the administration of 3 separate 100 mg injections (see [4.4 Administration](#)).

### Geriatrics

No dosage adjustment is required for elderly patients (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

### Pediatrics

Severe Eosinophilic Asthma: Nucala is not indicated in patients under 6 years of age.

Dosing in children was derived using modelling and simulation of adult and pediatric PK data (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps: Nucala is not indicated in patients under 18 years of age.

Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis: Nucala is not indicated in patients under 18 years of age.

Hypereosinophilic Syndrome: Nucala is not indicated in patients under 18 years of age.

#### **Hepatic Insufficiency**

Dosage adjustments in patients with hepatic impairment are unlikely to be required (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

#### **Renal Insufficiency**

Dosage adjustments in patients with renal impairment are unlikely to be required (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

### **4.3 Reconstitution**

#### Lyophilized powder

**Instructions for reconstitution:** Nucala does not contain a preservative, therefore, reconstitution should be carried out by a healthcare professional under aseptic conditions.

1. Reconstitute the Nucala powder in the vial with 1.2 mL of sterile Water for Injection, preferably using a 2 to 3 mL syringe and a 21 gauge to 27 gauge needle. The reconstituted solution will contain a concentration of 100 mg/mL mepolizumab and may appear colourless to pale yellow or pale brown. Do not mix with other medications.
2. The stream of sterile Water for Injection should be directed vertically onto the centre of the lyophilized cake. Allow the vial to sit at room temperature during reconstitution, gently swirling the vial for 10 seconds with circular motion at 15-second intervals until the powder is dissolved. Reconstitution is typically complete within 5 minutes after the sterile water has been added, but it may take additional time.

*Note: **Do not shake** the reconstituted solution during the procedure as this may lead to excessive foaming or precipitation.*

3. If a mechanical reconstitution device (swirler) is used to reconstitute Nucala, reconstitution can be accomplished by swirling at 450 rpm for no longer than 10 minutes. Alternatively, swirling at 1000 rpm for no longer than 5 minutes is acceptable.
4. Visually inspect the reconstituted Nucala for particulate matter and clarity prior to use. The solution should be clear to opalescent, and colourless to pale yellow or pale brown, free of visible particles. Small air bubbles or mild foaming are expected, however, and are acceptable. If particulate matter remains in the solution, or if the solution appears cloudy or milky, the solution must not be used.
5. If more than one vial is required for administration of the prescribed dosage, repeat steps 1 to 4.

6. If the reconstituted solution of Nucala in the vial is not used immediately:
- Store below 30°C.
  - Do not freeze.
  - Discard if not used within 8 hours of reconstitution.

#### 4.4 Administration

##### Lyophilized powder

**Instructions for administration of each 100 mg dose:** For subcutaneous administration, a 1 mL polypropylene syringe fitted with a disposable needle 21 gauge to 27 gauge x 0.5 inch (13 mm) should preferably be used.

1. Just prior to administration, remove 1 mL of reconstituted Nucala. Do not shake the reconstituted Nucala solution during the procedure as this could lead to product foaming or precipitation.
2. Administer the 1 mL injection (equivalent to 100 mg mepolizumab) subcutaneously into the upper arm, thigh, or abdomen.

If more than one vial is required for administration of the prescribed dosage, repeat steps 1 to 2. Injection sites should be at least 5 cm apart.

**Instructions for administration of each 40 mg dose:** For subcutaneous administration, a 1 mL polypropylene syringe fitted with a disposable needle 21 gauge to 27 gauge x 0.5 inch (13 mm) should preferably be used.

1. Just prior to administration, remove 0.4 mL of reconstituted Nucala. **Do not shake** the reconstituted Nucala solution during the procedure as this could lead to product foaming or precipitation. Dispose of the remaining solution.
2. Administer the 0.4 mL injection (equivalent to 40 mg mepolizumab) subcutaneously into the upper arm, or thigh.

##### Solution in pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe (safety syringe)

A patient may self-inject or the caregiver may administer Nucala injection subcutaneously after the healthcare professional determines it is appropriate. The healthcare professional should provide the patient or caregiver with proper training in injection technique and on the instructions for administration prior to use.

The 100 mg/mL pre-filled autoinjector and pre-filled syringe deliver a 100 mg dose of mepolizumab, and are not suitable for those who require a 40 mg dose of mepolizumab.

The 40 mg/0.4 mL pre-filled syringe delivers a 40 mg dose of mepolizumab and is suitable for those who require this dose, i.e. children 6 to 11 years of age with severe eosinophilic asthma.

Ensure the respective PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION and INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE are followed.



### Instructions for administration:

1. Remove the pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe from the refrigerator and allow it to sit at room temperature for 30 minutes prior to injection. Do not warm Nucala in any other way.
2. Prior to administration, visually inspect the window of the pre-filled autoinjector or the pre-filled syringe for particulate matter or discoloration. Nucala injection should be clear to opalescent, colourless to pale yellow or pale brown in color. Do not use Nucala injection if the product exhibits discoloration, cloudiness, or particulate matter. Do not use the Nucala pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe if dropped on a hard surface.
3. Administer the subcutaneous injection into the thigh or abdomen, avoiding the 5 cm (2 inches) around the navel. The upper arm can also be used if a caregiver administers the subcutaneous injection.
4. For use in EGPA and HES, make sure the injection sites for each subcutaneous injection are separated by at least 5 cm (2 inches).
5. Never give injections into areas where the skin is tender, bruised, red, or hard.

### 4.5 Missed Dose

#### Lyophilized powder

If a dose is missed or the patient is unable to attend an appointment for one of the injections, the missed dose should be administered as soon as possible.

#### Solution in pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe (safety syringe)

If a dose is missed, instruct the patient or patient caregiver to administer a dose as soon as possible. Thereafter, the patient can resume dosing on the usual day of administration. If the next dose is already due, then administer as planned.

## 5 OVERDOSAGE

There is no clinical experience with overdose of Nucala.

Single doses of up to 1500 mg were administered intravenously in a clinical trial to patients with eosinophilic disease without evidence of dose-related toxicities.

### Treatment

There is no specific treatment for an overdose with Nucala. If overdose occurs, the patient should be treated supportively with appropriate monitoring as necessary.

Further management should be as clinically indicated or as recommended by the national poisons centre, where available.

For management of a suspected drug overdose, contact your regional poison control centre.

## 6 DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING

To help ensure the traceability of biologic products, including biosimilars, health professionals should recognise the importance of recording both the brand name and the non-proprietary (active ingredient) name as well as other product-specific identifiers such as the Drug Identification Number (DIN) and the batch/lot number of the product supplied.

**Table 1 Dosage Forms, Strengths, Composition and Packaging**

Route of Administration	Dosage Form / Strength	Non-medicinal Ingredients
subcutaneous injection	Lyophilized powder for subcutaneous injection. Each single-use vial contains 100 mg/mL mepolizumab after reconstitution.	Heptahydrate, polysorbate 80, sodium phosphate dibasic, and sucrose.
	Solution for subcutaneous injection. Each single-use pre-filled autoinjector contains 100 mg/mL mepolizumab. Single-use pre-filled syringes contain either 40 mg/ 0.4 mL or 100 mg/mL mepolizumab.	Citric acid monohydrate, EDTA disodium dihydrate, polysorbate 80, sodium phosphate dibasic heptahydrate, and sucrose.

Nucala is available in the following formats:

### Lyophilized powder

Nucala is available as a sterile preservative-free, lyophilized powder for subcutaneous injection. Nucala is presented in a single-use 10 mL type I glass vial with a bromobutyl rubber (latex-free) stopper and a grey aluminum overseal with a plastic flip-cap.

Each single-use vial contains 144 mg of lyophilized mepolizumab. Upon reconstitution with 1.2 mL of sterile Water for Injection, USP, each vial delivers 100 mg mepolizumab in 1 mL at a pH of 7.0.

This dosage form is acceptable to deliver a 40 mg dose or a 100 mg dose.

### Solution in pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringes (safety syringe)

Nucala is available as a sterile, clear to opalescent, colourless to pale yellow or pale brown, preservative-free solution for subcutaneous use. It is supplied in the following formats:

- A single-dose, 1-mL, pre-filled autoinjector with a fixed 29 gauge, half-inch needle;
- A single-dose, 1-mL, pre-filled syringe with a fixed 29 gauge, half inch needle with a needle guard.

- A single dose, 0.4 mL, pre-filled syringe with a fixed 29 gauge, half inch needle with a needle guard.

Each 1 mL pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe delivers 100 mg mepolizumab at a pH of 6.3. Neither are suitable for those who require a 40 mg dose of mepolizumab.

Each 0.4 mL pre-filled syringe delivers 40 mg mepolizumab at a pH of 6.3, which is suitable for those who require a 40 mg dose of mepolizumab.

## **Description**

Nucala (mepolizumab for injection and mepolizumab injection) is a humanised IgG1 kappa monoclonal antibody that binds with high affinity and specificity to soluble interleukin-5 (IL-5). Mepolizumab has a molecular weight of approximately 149 kDa and is produced by recombinant DNA technology in Chinese hamster ovary cells.

## **7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**

### **General**

#### Acute Asthma Symptoms or Deteriorating Disease

Nucala should not be used to treat acute asthma exacerbations.

Asthma-related adverse events or exacerbations may occur during treatment with Nucala. Patients should be instructed to seek medical advice if their asthma remains uncontrolled or worsens after initiation of treatment with Nucala.

#### Corticosteroid Reduction

Abrupt discontinuation of corticosteroids after initiation of Nucala therapy is not recommended. Reductions in corticosteroid doses, if required, should be gradual and performed under the supervision of a physician.

#### Hypereosinophilic Syndrome Subgroup Diagnosis

Due to the differential treatment regimens between HES subgroups, genetic testing for the FIP1L1-PDGFR $\alpha$  mutation should be completed to aid in the determination of HES variant and to guide optimal treatment decision.

### **Immune**

#### Hypersensitivity and Administration-Related Reactions

Acute and delayed systemic reactions, including hypersensitivity reactions (e.g., anaphylaxis, urticaria, angioedema, rash, bronchospasm, hypotension), have occurred following administration of Nucala. These reactions generally occur within hours of administration, but in some instances had a delayed onset (i.e., days). These reactions may occur for the first time after a long duration of treatment.

## Parasitic Infections

Eosinophils may be involved in the immunological response to some helminth infections. Patients with pre-existing helminth infections were excluded from participation in the clinical program. Patients with pre-existing helminth infections should be treated for their infection prior to initiating therapy with Nucala. If patients become infected whilst receiving treatment with Nucala and do not respond to recommended anti-helminth treatment, temporary discontinuation of Nucala should be considered.

## Opportunistic Infection by Herpes Zoster

In controlled clinical trials, two serious adverse reactions of herpes zoster occurred in subjects treated with Nucala compared with 1 in placebo (see [8 ADVERSE REACTIONS](#)). Consider varicella vaccination if medically appropriate prior to starting therapy with Nucala.

### **7.1 Special Populations**

#### **7.1.1 Pregnant Women**

No studies have been conducted with Nucala in pregnant women, and there are no fertility data in humans (see [16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY](#)). In clinical trials there were too few pregnancies reported to inform on maternal and fetal health and development outcomes.

Nucala should not be used by pregnant women, unless the expected benefit to the mother justifies the potential risk to the fetus. Women should be advised to contact their physicians if they become pregnant while receiving Nucala, or during the 4 months after treatment is stopped.

#### **7.1.2 Breast-feeding**

There are no data regarding the presence of mepolizumab in human milk, the effects on the breastfed infant, or the effects on milk production (see [16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY](#)).

A decision should be made whether to discontinue breast-feeding or discontinue Nucala, taking into account the importance of breast-feeding to the infant and the importance of the drug to the mother.

#### **7.1.3 Pediatrics**

##### **Pediatrics (< 18 years of age):**

Patients less than 6 years of age were not included in the severe eosinophilic asthma clinical trials with Nucala. There is limited efficacy and safety experience with Nucala in pediatric patients less than 18 years of age. A total of 28/1327 (2.1%) patients age 12 to 17 years old were enrolled in the placebo-controlled severe asthma clinical trials with Nucala; and 36 patients age 6 to 11 years old were enrolled in the uncontrolled severe asthma clinical trial with Nucala.

Patients less than 18 years of age were not included in the chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps clinical trial with Nucala.

Patients less than 18 years of age were not included in the eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis clinical trial with Nucala.

Nucala is not indicated for hypereosinophilic syndrome in patients under 18 years of age.

#### **7.1.4 Geriatrics**

There is limited efficacy and safety experience with Nucala in patients over 65 years of age.

Severe eosinophilic asthma: A total of 119/1,327 (9.0%) patients age 65 and older were enrolled in the placebo-controlled severe asthma clinical trials with Nucala.

CRSwNP: A total of 56/407 (14%) patients age 65 and older were enrolled in the chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps clinical trial with Nucala.

EGPA: A total of 17/136 (13%) patients age 65 and older were enrolled in the eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis clinical trial with Nucala.

HES: A total of 14/108 (13%) patients age 65 and older were enrolled in the hypereosinophilic syndrome clinical trial with Nucala.

No dosage adjustment is required in patients 65 years or older (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

## **8 ADVERSE REACTIONS**

### **8.1 Adverse Reaction Overview**

In clinical studies that enrolled adult and adolescent patients with severe eosinophilic asthma, the most commonly reported adverse drug reactions (events considered to be possibly related to treatment with mepolizumab) during treatment with Nucala were headache, injection site reaction, and back pain. In a clinical study that enrolled children with severe eosinophilic asthma, the most commonly reported adverse drug reactions were headache, injection site reaction, abdominal pain upper, eczema, and pharyngitis.

In a clinical study that enrolled adult patients with chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps, the most commonly reported adverse drug reaction during treatment with Nucala was headache.

In a clinical study that enrolled adult patients with eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis, the most commonly reported adverse drug reaction during treatment with Nucala was headache.

In a clinical study that enrolled adult patients with hypereosinophilic syndrome, the most commonly reported adverse drug reaction during treatment with Nucala was headache.

Hypersensitivity reactions, including anaphylaxis, swelling of the face, mouth, and/or tongue; fainting, dizziness, or lightheadedness; hives; breathing problems; and rash have been reported within hours or days of receiving treatment with Nucala.

## 8.2 Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions

Clinical trials are conducted under very specific conditions. The adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials; therefore, may not reflect the rates observed in practice and should not be compared to the rates in the clinical trials of another drug. Adverse reaction information from clinical trials may be useful in identifying and approximating rates of adverse drug reactions in real-world use.

### Severe Eosinophilic Asthma

#### Adults and Adolescents (≥ 12 years of age)

The safety of mepolizumab has been studied in three randomized, placebo-controlled, multicentre clinical trials of 24 to 52 weeks duration and three open-label, uncontrolled, extension studies with a median treatment duration of 2.8 years (range 4 weeks to 4.5 years). A total of 1,327 adult and adolescent patients with severe eosinophilic asthma received either a subcutaneous (SC) dose or an intravenous (IV) dose of mepolizumab or placebo during randomized controlled trials. The safety profile was comparable between groups that received mepolizumab SC (Nucala 100 mg) or IV (75 mg, 250 mg and 750 mg).

Two of the three placebo-controlled studies (MEA115588 and MEA115575) included Nucala 100 mg SC. Adverse events from the placebo-controlled studies that were reported by 1% or more of patients with Nucala 100 mg SC and that were reported more frequently than placebo (≥1% difference from placebo) are presented in [Table 2](#).

**Table 2 On-treatment Adverse Events with ≥1% incidence with Nucala and ≥1% more common with Nucala than placebo in adult and adolescent subjects with severe eosinophilic asthma from placebo-controlled studies (MEA115588 and MEA115575)**

Adverse Events <sup>1</sup>	Nucala 100 mg SC (N = 263) n (%)	Placebo (N = 257) n (%)
<b>Eye disorders</b>		
Lacrimation increased	4 (1.5%)	0
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>		
Gastroesophageal reflux disease	8 (3.0%)	3 (1.2%)
Dry mouth	4 (1.5%)	0
Gastrointestinal disorder	3 (1.1%)	0
<b>General disorders and administration site conditions</b>		
Injection site reaction <sup>2</sup>	21 (8.0%)	8 (3.1%)
Chest pain	5 (1.9%)	2 (0.8%)
Local swelling	3 (1.1%)	0
<b>Infections and infestations</b>		
Urinary tract infection	10 (3.8%)	5 (1.9%)
Pharyngitis	7 (2.7%)	4 (1.6%)
<b>Injury, poisoning and procedural complications</b>		
Ligament sprain	3 (1.1%)	0
<b>Musculoskeletal and connective tissue</b>		

<b>Adverse Events<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Nucala 100 mg SC (N = 263) n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo (N = 257) n (%)</b>
<b>disorders</b>		
Arthralgia	16 (6.1%)	13 (5.1%)
Back pain	16 (6.1%)	9 (3.5%)
Muscle spasms	7 (2.7%)	1 (0.4%)
Musculoskeletal pain	4 (1.5%)	1 (0.4%)
Neck pain	4 (1.5%)	0
Musculoskeletal stiffness	3 (1.1%)	0
Tendonitis	3 (1.1%)	0
<b>Nervous system disorders</b>		
Headache	53 (20.2%)	47 (18.3%)
<b>Psychiatric disorders</b>		
Insomnia	7 (2.7%)	3 (1.2%)
<b>Reproductive system and breast disorders</b>		
Dysmenorrhoea	3 (1.1%)	0
<b>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</b>		
Nasal congestion	7 (2.7%)	2 (0.8%)
Rhinorrhoea	5 (1.9%)	1 (0.4%)
<b>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</b>		
Eczema	11 (4.2%)	2 (0.8%)

<sup>1</sup> MedDRA Version 16.1

<sup>2</sup> The most common symptoms associated with subcutaneous injections included: pain, erythema, swelling, itching, and burning sensation.

Adverse drug reactions in adult and adolescent patients (events considered to be possibly related to treatment with mepolizumab) were identified following evaluation of all data from the three randomized placebo-controlled trials and include: headache (very common;  $\geq 1/10$ ) and pharyngitis, lower respiratory tract infection, urinary tract infection, nasal congestion, upper abdominal pain, eczema, back pain, pyrexia, and injection site reactions (all common;  $\geq 1/100$  to  $< 1/10$ ).

The safety profile of Nucala in a select subset of adult and adolescent subjects with severe eosinophilic asthma (n=998) who were tolerant to Nucala and entered the open-label, uncontrolled, extension studies, and were treated with Nucala 100mg SC every 4 weeks for a median of 2.8 years (range 4 weeks to 4.5 years), was consistent to that observed in the placebo-controlled studies.

#### **Pediatric Population (6 to 17 years of age)**

The safety of mepolizumab in adolescents (12-17 years of age) with severe eosinophilic asthma has been studied in 37 patients enrolled in four placebo-controlled studies, including 27 enrolled in two of these studies (MEA115588 and MEA115575); safety data from these 27 adolescent patients are presented within the adult and adolescent dataset above.

The safety of mepolizumab in children (6 to 11 years of age) with severe eosinophilic asthma has been studied in 36 patients in an uncontrolled, open-label study (200363). Patients received Nucala 40 mg SC

(for a weight <40 kg) or 100 mg SC (for a weight ≥40 kg) once every 4 weeks, for 12 weeks (short-term phase). After a treatment interruption of 8 weeks, 30 children resumed Nucala treatment for a further 52 weeks (long-term phase). No additional adverse reactions were reported in children treated with Nucala compared to those reported in adult and adolescent patients enrolled in the severe asthma trials. Adverse events from this study that were reported in more than 1 patient receiving Nucala are presented in [Table 3](#).

**Table 3 On-treatment Adverse Events, occurring in >1 child (6-11 years of age) with Severe Eosinophilic Asthma (Study 200363)**

Short-Term Phase (12 weeks)		Long-Term Phase (52 weeks)	
Adverse Events <sup>1</sup>	Nucala SC (N=36) n (%)	Adverse Events <sup>2</sup>	Nucala SC (N=30) n (%)
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>			
Nausea	3 (8)	Abdominal pain upper	3 (10)
Constipation	2 (6)	Constipation	2 (7)
Vomiting	2 (6)	Diarrhoea	2 (7)
<b>General disorders and administration site conditions</b>			
Injection site reaction	5 (14)	Pyrexia	2 (7)
Pain	2 (6)	-	-
<b>Infections and infestations</b>			
Nasopharyngitis	4 (11)	Bronchitis	9 (30)
Upper respiratory tract infection	3 (8)	Nasopharyngitis	6 (20)
Lower respiratory tract infection	2 (6)	Upper respiratory tract infection	5 (17)
Sinusitis	2 (6)	Influenza	4 (13)
Viral upper respiratory tract infection	2 (6)	Pharyngitis	3 (10)
-	-	Viral upper respiratory tract infection	3 (10)
-	-	Conjunctivitis	2 (7)
-	-	Ear infection	2 (7)
-	-	Gastroenteritis	2 (7)
-	-	Impetigo	2 (7)
-	-	Lower respiratory tract infection	2 (7)
-	-	Rhinitis	2 (7)
<b>Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders</b>			
-	-	Back pain	2 (7)
<b>Nervous system disorders</b>			
Headache	5 (14)	Headache	8 (27)
Dizziness	2 (6)	-	-
<b>Psychiatric disorders</b>			
-	-	Aggression	2 (7)
<b>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</b>			
Asthma	4 (11)	Asthma	7 (23)
Wheezing	3 (8)	Cough	3 (10)
Oropharyngeal pain	2 (6)	Epistaxis	3 (10)
Pharyngeal erythema	2 (6)	-	-



Short-Term Phase (12 weeks)		Long-Term Phase (52 weeks)	
<b>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</b>			
Rash	2 (6)	Eczema	3 (10)
-	-	Dermatitis atopic	2 (7)
-	-	Rash	2 (7)

<sup>1</sup> MedDRA Version 19.1

<sup>2</sup> MedDRA Version 20.1

### Supplemental Adverse Event Information

The adult and adolescent data summarized below are from three completed placebo-controlled randomized clinical trials of 24 to 52 weeks duration that enrolled subjects with severe eosinophilic asthma who received either mepolizumab (Nucala 100 mg SC or mepolizumab 75, 250 or 750 mg IV) or placebo. Data are presented for both the Nucala (100 mg SC) treatment group and for all subjects receiving any dose of mepolizumab (referred to as the ‘mepolizumab all doses combined’ treatment group). Additionally, data from children (6 to 11 years of age) are presented for study 200363.

#### Fatalities

In placebo-controlled studies that enrolled adults and adolescents, 5 subjects died: 3 subjects (<1%) receiving mepolizumab (severe acute pancreatitis and septic shock in 1 subject receiving 250 mg IV; asthma in 1 subject receiving 250 mg IV; asphyxia due to suicide in 1 subject receiving 750 mg IV) and 2 subjects (<1%) receiving placebo (road traffic accident; aspiration and gastrointestinal hemorrhage). None of the deaths were considered related to study medication by the investigator.

There were no deaths reported in children receiving Nucala from study 200363.

#### Serious Adverse Events

In placebo-controlled studies that enrolled adults and adolescents, serious adverse events were reported in 6% of subjects receiving Nucala, 10% of subjects in the ‘mepolizumab all doses combined’ group, and 15% of subjects receiving placebo. Serious adverse events of asthma occurred in 2% of subjects receiving Nucala, 5% of subjects in the ‘mepolizumab all doses combined’ group, and 9% of subjects receiving placebo.

Serious adverse events were reported in 17% and 23% of children receiving Nucala in the short- and long-term phases of study 200363, respectively. Serious adverse events of asthma occurred in 8% and 17% of subjects, respectively.

#### Adverse Events leading to withdrawal from clinical trial

In placebo-controlled studies that enrolled adults and adolescents, 2% of subjects receiving Nucala and 3% of subjects in the ‘mepolizumab all doses combined’ group withdrew due to an adverse event compared with 3% of subjects receiving placebo. The most frequent AE leading to withdrawal was asthma, which was reported by <1% of subjects in both the ‘mepolizumab all doses combined’ and placebo groups; no subjects receiving Nucala withdrew due to asthma. Adverse events leading to withdrawal in subjects receiving Nucala included atrial flutter (1 subject), injection site reaction (1

subject) and urticaria (1 subject). An additional subject was withdrawn after receiving one dose of Nucala due to a pre-existing medical condition of left bundle branch block. Adverse events leading to withdrawal in the 'mepolizumab all doses combined' group occurring in more than one subject included hypersensitivity (3 subjects: 1 received 250 mg IV and 2 received 750 mg IV) and arthralgia (2 subjects: 1 received 75 mg IV and 1 received 250 mg IV).

One child receiving Nucala withdrew from study 200363 due to worsening asthma.

### Immunogenicity

The detection of anti-drug antibody formation is highly dependent on the sensitivity and specificity of the assay. Additionally, the observed incidence of antibody (including neutralizing antibody) positivity in an assay may be influenced by several factors, including assay methodology, sample handling, timing of sample collection, concomitant medications and underlying disease.

In placebo-controlled clinical studies that enrolled adults and adolescents, 15/260 (6%) subjects treated with Nucala 100 mg SC every 4 weeks had detectable anti-mepolizumab antibodies after having received at least one dose of Nucala and neutralizing antibodies were detected in one adult subject receiving Nucala. In children from study 200363, 2/35 (6%) subjects had detectable anti-mepolizumab antibodies after having received at least one dose of Nucala during the short-term (12-week) phase of the study; no children had detectable neutralizing antibodies. No children had detectable anti-mepolizumab antibodies during the long-term (52-week) phase of the study.

Overall, the clinical impact of the presence of anti-mepolizumab antibodies is not known.

The immunogenicity profile of Nucala in a select subset of adult and adolescent subjects with severe eosinophilic asthma (n=998) who were tolerant to Nucala and entered the open-label, uncontrolled, extension studies was consistent to that observed in the placebo-controlled studies; 60/992 (6%) subjects treated with Nucala had detectable anti-mepolizumab antibodies. All subjects were negative for neutralizing antibodies.

### Adverse Events of Special Interest

**Systemic Allergic Reactions:** In adults and adolescents, systemic hypersensitivity reactions were reported by 1% of subjects receiving Nucala, 1% of subjects in the 'mepolizumab all doses combined' group and 2% of subjects receiving placebo. All hypersensitivity reactions were reported as mild or moderate severity.

Systemic hypersensitivity events were reported in 3% and 7% of children in the short- and long-term phases of study 200363, respectively. In the short-term phase, one child reported pruritus that was mild in intensity. In the long-term phase, one child reported rash and pruritus that were moderate in intensity, and one child reported a serious event of anaphylactic shock (anaphylactic shock due to peanut allergy) that was severe in intensity; anaphylactic shock was considered unrelated to Nucala. All events resolved without Nucala interruption.

**Infections:** In adults and adolescents, overall infections were reported with similar frequency in the Nucala (52%), 'mepolizumab all doses combined' (57%), and placebo (58%) treatment groups. Serious infections were reported by 3% of subjects in the Nucala, 'mepolizumab all doses combined', and

placebo treatment groups. Serious infectious adverse events that were reported in more than one subject in the 'mepolizumab all doses combined' group included pneumonia (4 subjects: 1 received Nucala, 1 received 75 mg IV, 2 received 750 mg IV compared to 3 who received placebo); lobar pneumonia (2 subjects received 75 mg compared to 1 who received placebo), and herpes zoster (2 subjects received Nucala compared to 0 in the placebo group). Opportunistic infections were infrequent and were reported in <1% of subjects in the placebo group and in 1% of subjects receiving Nucala. One subject receiving Nucala reported a helminth infection of parasitic gastroenteritis, which resolved with treatment; Nucala was continued.

Infection adverse events were reported in 50% and 73% of children treated with Nucala in the short- and long-term phases of study 200363, respectively. Of these infections, 8% and 3% were serious, respectively.

**Cardiovascular Events:** In adults and adolescents, cardiac events were reported in 3% of placebo and 'mepolizumab all doses combined' patients, and 2% of patients that received mepolizumab 100 mg SC/75 mg IV. Serious cardiac events were reported in <1% of subjects in the Nucala, 'mepolizumab all doses combined', and placebo treatment groups.

Vascular events were reported with similar frequency in the Nucala (3%), 'mepolizumab all doses combined' (5%), and placebo (6%) treatment groups. Serious vascular events were reported in <1% in the 'mepolizumab all doses combined' group and 0% in both the Nucala and placebo treatment groups.

No on-treatment cardiovascular events were reported in children enrolled in study 200363.

**Injection Site Reactions:** In adults and adolescents, injection site reactions were reported more frequently in the Nucala group (8%) compared with the 'mepolizumab all doses combined', and placebo treatment groups (3% in both). Symptoms included mild or moderate rash, itching, swelling, burning, and pain at the injection site.

Injection site reactions were reported in 14% and 0% of children treated with Nucala in the short- and long-term phases of study 200363, respectively. Symptoms were mild and included erythema, swelling, rash, itching, pain, and injection site wheal.

**Neoplasms and Malignancies:** In adults and adolescents, neoplasms were reported in 2% of subjects in the placebo group and <1% of subjects in both the Nucala and the 'mepolizumab all doses combined' groups. Malignancies were reported in 3 subjects (<1%) in the placebo group and 2 subjects (<1%) in the 'mepolizumab all doses combined' group; no malignancies were reported in subjects receiving Nucala. Malignancies reported during the studies included basal cell carcinoma, basosquamous carcinoma, prostate cancer, uterine cancer, and squamous cell carcinoma.

No neoplasms or malignancies were reported in children enrolled in study 200363.

#### Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions in Subjects with Severe Eosinophilic Asthma

In addition to the adverse events shown in [Table 2](#), adverse events reported less commonly (defined as <1% in the 'mepolizumab all doses combined' treatment group) from the placebo-controlled severe

asthma clinical trials in adults and adolescents and were reported in 2 or more patients receiving Nucala compared to no reports in patients receiving placebo are summarized below.

**Blood and lymphatic system disorders:** iron deficiency anemia

**Endocrine disorders:** cushingoid

**Eye disorders:** lacrimation increased

**Gastrointestinal disorder:** dry mouth, gastrointestinal disorder

**Injury, poisoning and procedural complications:** administration related reaction, wrist fracture, stress fracture

**Metabolism and nutrition disorders:** diabetes mellitus, hypoglycemia, vitamin B12 deficiency

**Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders:** musculoskeletal stiffness

**Renal and urinary disorders:** pollakiuria

**Skin and subcutaneous disorder:** miliaria

**Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps**

The safety of Nucala has been studied in a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, multicentre, 52-week treatment trial. A total of 407 adult subjects with CRSwNP were evaluated. Subjects received 100 mg of Nucala or placebo subcutaneously once every 4 weeks. Adverse events from this study that were reported by 3% or more of patients treated with Nucala 100 mg SC and that were reported more frequently than placebo ( $\geq 1\%$  difference from placebo) are presented in [Table 4](#).

**Table 4 On-treatment Adverse Events with ≥3% incidence with Nucala 100 mg SC and ≥1% more common with Nucala than placebo in adult subjects with CRSwNP**

Adverse Events <sup>1</sup>	Nucala 100 mg SC (N =206) n (%)	Placebo (N = 201) n (%)
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>		
Abdominal pain upper	7 (3%)	5 (2%)
Diarrhea	6 (3%)	4 (2%)
<b>Infections and infestations</b>		
Nasopharyngitis	52 (25%)	46 (23%)
<b>Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders</b>		
Arthralgia	13 (6%)	5 (2%)
<b>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</b>		
Oropharyngeal pain	16 (8%)	10 (5%)
Nasal Dryness	6 (3%)	1 (<1%)
<b>General disorders and administration site conditions</b>		
Pyrexia	6 (3%)	5 (2%)
<b>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</b>		
Rash	6 (3%)	2 (<1%)

<sup>1</sup> MedDRA Version 22.1

No additional adverse drug reactions (events considered to be possibly related to treatment with Nucala 100 mg SC) were identified to those reported in the severe asthma trials.

#### Fatalities

No fatal serious adverse events were reported during the 52-week treatment period of study 205687.

#### Serious Adverse Events

On-treatment serious adverse events from placebo-controlled study 205687 were reported in 6% of subjects receiving Nucala 100mg SC and 6% of subjects receiving placebo.

#### Immunogenicity

In subjects treated with Nucala 100 mg SC in study 205687, 6/196 (3%) had detectable anti-mepolizumab antibodies. No neutralizing antibodies were detected in any subjects with CRSwNP.

#### Adverse Events of Special Interest

**Systemic Reactions:** In study 205687, the percentage of patients who experienced systemic (allergic [type I hypersensitivity] and other) reactions was <1% in the group receiving Nucala 100 mg and <1% in the placebo group. Systemic allergic (type I hypersensitivity) reactions were reported in 2 patients (<1%) in the group receiving Nucala 100 mg and no patients in the placebo group. The manifestations of systemic allergic (type I hypersensitivity) reactions included urticaria, erythema, and rash and 1 of the 3

reactions occurred on the day of dosing. Other systemic reactions were reported by no patients in the group receiving Nucala 100 mg and <1% of patients in the placebo group.

**Injection Site Reaction:** Injection site reactions occurred at a rate of 2% in patients receiving Nucala 100 mg compared with <1% in patients receiving placebo. Common symptoms included erythema/redness and itching/pruritus.

#### **Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions in Subjects with CRSwNP**

In addition to the events shown in [Table 4](#), adverse events reported less commonly (defined as <3% in the 'mepolizumab' treatment group) from the placebo-controlled 205687 clinical trial and were reported in 2 or more patients receiving Nucala compared to no reports in patients receiving placebo are summarized below.

**Blood and lymphatic disorders:** anemia

**Gastrointestinal disorders:** abdominal discomfort, gastritis erosive

**General disorders and administration site conditions:** oedema peripheral

**Infections and infestations:** conjunctivitis, hordeolum, oral candidiasis, otitis media chronic

**Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders:** intervertebral disc protrusion

**Neoplasms:** skin papilloma

**Nervous system disorders:** facial paralysis, hyposmia, paraesthesia

**Reproductive system and breast disorders:** uterine polyp

**Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders:** rhinitis allergic, dyspnea

**Skin and subcutaneous disorder:** erythema

#### **Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis**

The safety of Nucala has been studied in a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, multicentre, 52-week treatment trial. A total of 136 subjects with EGPA were evaluated. Subjects received 300 mg of Nucala or placebo subcutaneously once every 4 weeks. Adverse events from this study that were reported by 5% or more of patients treated with Nucala 300 mg SC and that were reported more frequently than placebo ( $\geq 1\%$  difference from placebo) are presented in [Table 5](#).

**Table 5 On-treatment Adverse Events with ≥5% incidence with Nucala and ≥1% more common with Nucala than placebo in subjects with EGPA**

<b>Adverse Events<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Nucala 300 mg SC (N =68) n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo (N = 68) n (%)</b>
<b>Ear and labyrinth disorders</b>		
Vertigo	5 (7%)	1 (1%)
<b>Eye disorders</b>		
Vision blurred	4 (6%)	2 (3%)
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>		
Diarrhea	12 (18%)	8 (12%)
Vomiting	11 (16%)	4 (6%)
<b>General disorders and administration site conditions</b>		
Injection site reaction <sup>2</sup>	9 (13%)	7 (10%)
Asthenia	5 (7%)	3 (4%)
<b>Infections and infestations</b>		
Sinusitis	14 (21%)	11 (16%)
Upper respiratory tract infection	14 (21%)	11 (16%)
Urinary tract infection	5 (7%)	4 (6%)
Acute sinusitis	6 (9%)	2 (3%)
Rhinitis	5 (7%)	3 (4%)
Fungal skin infection	4 (6%)	3 (4%)
Gastroenteritis	5 (7%)	2 (3%)
Oral herpes	4 (6%)	3 (4%)
<b>Investigations</b>		
Alanine aminotransferase increased	5 (7%)	0
Weight increased	4 (6%)	1 (1%)
<b>Injury, poisoning and procedural complications</b>		
Ligament sprain	4 (6%)	1 (1%)
<b>Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders</b>		
Arthralgia	15 (22%)	12 (18%)
Back pain	9 (13%)	6 (9%)
Neck pain	8 (12%)	2 (3%)
Musculoskeletal pain	6 (9%)	2 (3%)
<b>Nervous system disorders</b>		
Headache	22 (32%)	12 (18%)
Paraesthesia	4 (6%)	3 (4%)
<b>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</b>		
Oropharyngeal pain	8 (12%)	5 (7%)
<b>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</b>		
Rash	9 (13%)	6 (9%)
Pruritus	6 (9%)	1 (1%)
Urticaria	4 (6%)	1 (1%)

<sup>1</sup> MedDRA Version 19.0

<sup>2</sup> The most common symptoms associated with subcutaneous injections included: erythema, bruising, pain, swelling, and warm to touch.

No additional adverse drug reactions (events considered to be possibly related to treatment with mepolizumab) were identified to those reported in the severe asthma trials.

### Fatalities

In clinical studies that included patients with EGPA, 2 subjects receiving Nucala died (fatal cardiac arrest in both cases). One death occurred in an open-label long-term access program containing subjects that participated in the placebo-controlled trial. Neither death was considered related to study medication by the investigators.

### Serious Adverse Events

Serious adverse events were reported in 18% of subjects receiving Nucala and 26% of subjects receiving placebo.

### Adverse Events leading to withdrawal from clinical trial

Two subjects (3%) receiving Nucala and 1 (1%) subject receiving placebo withdrew due to an adverse event. Adverse events leading to withdrawal in subjects receiving Nucala included cardiac arrest (1 subject) and hypersensitivity (1 subject). Adverse events leading to withdrawal in subjects receiving placebo included pneumonia (1 subject).

### Immunogenicity

In subjects treated with Nucala 1/68 (1%) had detectable anti-mepolizumab antibodies. No neutralizing antibodies were detected in any subjects with EGPA.

### Adverse Events of Special Interest

**Systemic Allergic Reactions:** Systemic hypersensitivity reactions were reported in 4% of subjects that received Nucala and in 1% of subjects that received placebo. One subject receiving Nucala reported a hypersensitivity reaction that was serious and severe, but was not considered anaphylaxis. Symptoms associated with this reaction included malaise, hypertension, chills, pallor, cold extremities, warm sensation in trunk and neck, dyspnea, and stridor. Two of the four reported events of hypersensitivity occurred on the day of dosing.

**Infections:** Overall infections were reported with similar frequency in the Nucala (84%) and placebo (78%) treatment groups. Serious infections were reported in 6% of subjects in the Nucala treatment group and 15% of subjects in the placebo treatment group. Events considered to represent potential opportunistic infections were reported in 7% of subjects receiving Nucala and in 3% of subjects in the placebo group.



**Cardiovascular Events:** Cardiac events were reported in 6% of subjects that received Nucala and 9% subjects that received placebo. Serious cardiac events were reported in 1% of subjects in the Nucala treatment group and 3% of subjects in the placebo treatment group.

**Injection Site Reaction:** Injection site reactions were reported at a rate of 15% in subjects treated with Nucala compared with 13% in subjects treated with placebo. Common symptoms included erythema, bruising, pain, swelling, and warm to touch.

**Neoplasms and Malignancies:** Neoplasms were reported in 1% of subjects in the Nucala group and 4% of subjects in the placebo group. Malignancies were reported in no subjects receiving Nucala and 2 subjects (3%) in the placebo group.

#### Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions in Subjects with EGPA

In addition to the events shown in [Table 5](#), adverse events reported less commonly (defined as <5% in the 'mepolizumab' treatment group) from the placebo-controlled MEA115921 clinical trial and were reported in 2 or more patients receiving Nucala compared to no reports in patients receiving placebo are summarized below.

**Blood and lymphatic disorders:** anemia

**Ear and labyrinth disorders:** deafness, tinnitus

**Endocrine disorders:** adrenal insufficiency, steroid withdrawal syndrome

**Eye disorders:** eye pruritic, eye pain

**Gastrointestinal disorder:** hemorrhoids

**Immune system disorders:** food allergy

**Infections and infestations:** candida infection, herpes simplex, pharyngitis, influenza like illness

**Injury, poisoning and procedural complications:** muscle strain, skin abrasion

**Investigations:** aspartate aminotransferase increased, gamma-glutamyltransferase increased

**Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders:** bursitis

**Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders:** nasal polyps, pulmonary pain, rhinitis allergic

**Skin and subcutaneous disorder:** skin lesion, rash pruritic

**Vascular disorders:** hot flush

#### Hypereosinophilic Syndrome

The safety of Nucala has been studied in a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, multicentre, 32-week treatment trial. A total of 108 subjects with HES were evaluated. Subjects received 300 mg of

Nucala or placebo subcutaneously once every 4 weeks. Adverse events from this study that were reported by 5% or more of patients treated with Nucala 300 mg SC and that were reported more frequently than placebo ( $\geq 1\%$  difference from placebo) are presented in [Table 6](#).

**Table 6 On-treatment Adverse Events with  $\geq 5\%$  incidence with Nucala 300 mg SC and  $\geq 1\%$  more common with Nucala than placebo in subjects with HES**

<b>Adverse Events<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Nucala 300 mg SC (N =54) n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo (N = 54) n (%)</b>
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>		
Vomiting	4 (7%)	3 (6%)
Nausea	3 (6%)	2 (4%)
Constipation	3 (6%)	1 (2%)
<b>General disorders and administration site conditions</b>		
Pyrexia	4 (7%)	2 (4%)
Influenza like illness	3 (6%)	2 (4%)
Injection site reaction <sup>2</sup>	3 (6%)	2 (4%)
<b>Infections and infestations</b>		
Upper respiratory tract infection	8 (15%)	2 (4%)
Urinary tract infection	5 (9%)	0
Influenza	3 (6%)	1 (2%)
<b>Injury, poisoning and procedural complications</b>		
Contusion	4 (7%)	1 (2%)
<b>Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders</b>		
Pain in extremity	6 (11%)	2 (4%)
Myalgia	4 (7%)	3 (6%)
Musculoskeletal chest pain	3 (6%)	0
<b>Nervous system disorders</b>		
Dizziness	4 (7%)	3 (6%)
Hypoaesthesia	3 (6%)	1 (2%)
Paraesthesia	3 (6%)	0
<b>Reproductive system and breast disorders</b>		
Vaginal haemorrhage	3 (6%)	0
<b>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</b>		
Dyspnoea	3 (6%)	2 (4%)
Nasal obstruction	3 (6%)	2 (4%)
<b>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</b>		
Alopecia	4 (7%)	0

<sup>1</sup> MedDRA Version 22.0

<sup>2</sup> The symptoms associated with subcutaneous injections were reported as burning, hematoma, pruritis and rash.

No additional adverse drug reactions (events considered to be possibly related to treatment with mepolizumab) were identified to those reported in the severe asthma trials.

Following the pivotal placebo-controlled, 32-week study (study 200622), in patients who tolerated Nucala 300 mg SC (or who switched from placebo) and who agreed to continue into a 20 week open label extension study (study 205203), the safety profile of Nucala in HES patients (n=102) was similar.

### Fatalities

In two placebo-controlled clinical studies (study 200622 with Nucala SC 300 mg and another study with mepolizumab IV 750 mg), 2/97 subjects receiving Nucala died (fatal HES flare, pneumonia, respiratory failure, and septic shock for one subject [Nucala SC 300 mg], and fatal cardiac arrest for the other subject [mepolizumab IV 750 mg]). Neither death was considered related to study medication by the investigators.

### Serious Adverse Events

Serious adverse events from the two placebo-controlled studies were reported in 18% of subjects receiving Nucala and 14% of subjects receiving placebo.

### Immunogenicity

In subjects treated with Nucala 300 mg SC in study 200622, 1/53 (2%) had detectable anti-mepolizumab antibodies. No neutralizing antibodies were detected in any subjects with HES.

In HES patients (n=102) enrolled in a 20-week open label extension study no subjects treated with Nucala had detectable anti-mepolizumab antibodies.

### Adverse Events of Special Interest

**Systemic Allergic Reactions:** No systemic allergic (type I hypersensitivity) reactions were reported in study 200622. Other systemic reactions were reported by 1 (2%) patient in the group receiving 300 mg of Nucala (multifocal skin reaction on the day of dosing) and no patients in the placebo group.

**Injection Site Reaction:** Injection site reactions were reported at a rate of 7% in subjects treated with Nucala 300 mg SC in study 200622, compared with 4% in subjects treated with placebo. Common symptoms included erythema, bruising, pain, swelling, and warm to touch.

### Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions in Subjects with HES

In addition to the events shown in [Table 6](#), adverse events reported less commonly (defined as <5% in the 'mepolizumab' treatment group) from the placebo-controlled 200622 clinical trial and were reported in 2 or more patients receiving Nucala compared to no reports in patients receiving placebo are summarized below.

**Cardiac disorders:** palpitations

**Ear and labyrinth disorders:** tinnitus

**General disorders and administration site conditions:** malaise

**Infections and infestations:** erysipelas, respiratory tract infection, tooth infection

**Injury, poisoning and procedural complications:** skin abrasion

**Skin and subcutaneous disorder:** hyperhidrosis

### **8.3 Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions**

See Section [8.2 Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions](#).

### **8.5 Post-Market Adverse Reactions**

The following adverse reactions have been identified during post-approval use of Nucala:

**Immune System Disorders:** Hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylaxis.

## **9 DRUG INTERACTIONS**

### **9.2 Drug Interactions Overview**

No formal interaction studies have been performed with Nucala.

### **9.4 Drug-Drug Interactions**

Interactions with other drugs have not been formally studied.

### **9.5 Drug-Food Interactions**

Interactions with food have not been studied, as Nucala is administered subcutaneously.

### **9.6 Drug-Herb Interactions**

Interactions with herbal products have not been studied.

### **9.7 Drug-Laboratory Test Interactions**

Interactions with laboratory tests have not been established.

## **10 ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**

### **10.1 Mechanism of Action**

Mepolizumab is a targeted anti-interleukin-5 (IL-5) IgG1 kappa monoclonal antibody. IL-5 is the major cytokine responsible for the growth and differentiation, recruitment, activation, and survival of eosinophils. Mepolizumab binds to soluble IL-5 with high affinity (a dissociation constant of 100 pM), preventing IL-5 from binding to the alpha chain of the IL-5 receptor complex expressed on the eosinophil cell surface, thereby reducing the production and survival of eosinophils. Inflammation is an important component in the pathogenesis of asthma, chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps and eosinophilic

granulomatosis with polyangiitis. The reduction of eosinophilic inflammation may play an important role in eliciting a therapeutic effect in the treatment of severe eosinophilic asthma, chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps and eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis; however, the precise mechanism of mepolizumab action has not been definitively established.

## 10.2 Pharmacodynamics

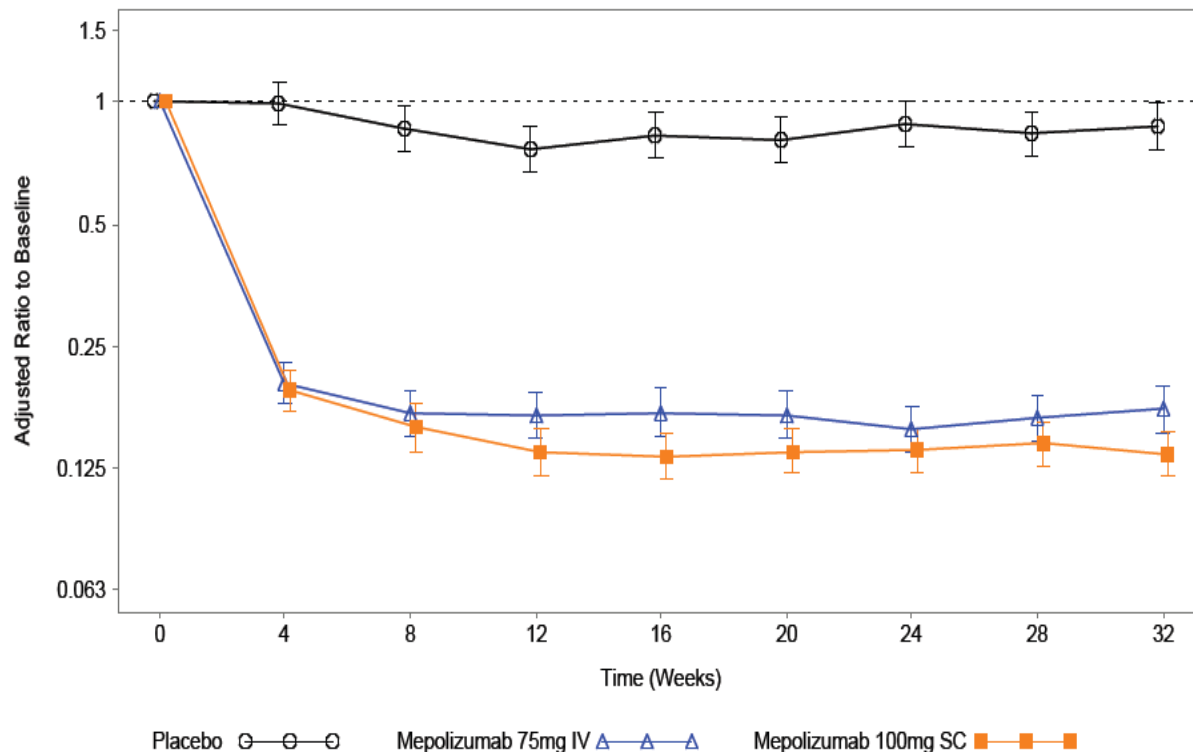
**Severe Eosinophilic Asthma:** Following treatment with mepolizumab, dose-dependent pharmacodynamic responses, i.e. reductions in blood eosinophil levels from baseline, were observed in adult asthma patients with mean baseline blood eosinophil levels greater than 300 cells/ $\mu$ L (ranged 150 – 2420 cells/ $\mu$ L). Subjects were assigned to receive one of four mepolizumab treatments (administered every 4 weeks for a total of three doses): 12.5 mg SC, 125 mg SC, 250 mg SC, or 75 mg IV. Sixty-six (66) of the 70 randomized subjects completed the trial. A reduction in blood eosinophil levels was observed in all treatment groups by Day 3. On Day 84 (4 weeks post-last dose), model-estimated inhibition of blood eosinophils was 57% (95% CI: 42, 69), 86% (95% CI: 83, 88), 86% (95% CI: 83, 89), and 88% (95% CI: 85, 90) in the 12.5 mg SC, 75 mg IV, 125 mg SC, and 250 mg SC treatment groups, respectively. The SC model-estimated doses to provide 50% and 90% of maximal inhibition of blood eosinophils at Day 84 were 11 and 99 mg, respectively.

In adults and adolescents, following SC administration of mepolizumab 100 mg every 4 weeks for 32 weeks, blood eosinophils were reduced to a geometric mean count of 40 cells/ $\mu$ L, which corresponds to a geometric mean reduction of 84% compared with placebo. Consistent results were observed following mepolizumab IV administration at 75 mg and SC administration at 100 mg ([Figure 1](#)). The magnitude of blood eosinophil reduction in a select subset of adult and adolescent subjects with severe eosinophilic asthma (n=998) who were tolerant to Nucala and entered the open-label, uncontrolled, extension studies and were treated with Nucala 100 mg SC for a median of 2.8 years (range 4 weeks to 4.5 years) was consistent with that observed in the placebo-controlled studies.

In children (n = 29), following either mepolizumab 40 mg (for a weight < 40 kg) or 100 mg (for a weight  $\geq$  40 kg) administered subcutaneously every 4 weeks for 52 weeks, blood eosinophils were reduced to a geometric mean count of 48 cells/ $\mu$ L (85% reduction from baseline) and 44 cells/ $\mu$ L (87% reduction from baseline), respectively.

In adults, adolescents, and children, the magnitude of reduction was observed at the first post-dose measurement interval (4 weeks) and was maintained throughout the treatment period.

**Figure 1 Reduction in blood eosinophils from baseline over 32 weeks (MENZA in adults and adolescents)**



**Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps:** Following SC administration of mepolizumab 100 mg every 4 weeks for 52 weeks in subjects with CRSwNP, blood eosinophils were reduced to a geometric mean count of 60 cells/ $\mu$ L. This equates to a geometric mean reduction of 81% at Week 4 compared to placebo which was maintained at 83% at Week 52 (see [14 CLINICAL TRIALS](#)).

**Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis:** Following SC administration of mepolizumab 300 mg every 4 weeks for 52 weeks in subjects with EGPA, blood eosinophils were reduced to a geometric mean count of 38 cells/ $\mu$ L. There was a geometric mean reduction of 83% compared to placebo and this magnitude of reduction was observed within 4 weeks of treatment (see [14 CLINICAL TRIALS](#)).

**Hypereosinophilic Syndrome:** Following SC administration of mepolizumab 300 mg every 4 weeks for 32 weeks in subjects with HES, blood eosinophils were reduced to a geometric mean count of 70 cells/ $\mu$ L and a geometric mean reduction of 92% compared to placebo was observed and this magnitude of reduction was observed within 2 weeks of treatment (see [14 CLINICAL TRIALS](#)). This magnitude of reduction was similar following a 20 week open-label extension study in patients that continued mepolizumab treatment.

### 10.3 Pharmacokinetics

Following SC dosing in subjects with moderate/severe asthma, mepolizumab exhibited approximately dose-proportional pharmacokinetics over a dose range of 12.5 mg to 250 mg.

In population pharmacokinetic analysis, the pharmacokinetics of mepolizumab in subjects with CRSwNP dosed at 100 mg SC is consistent with that reported in subjects with asthma.

In population pharmacokinetic analysis, the pharmacokinetics of mepolizumab in subjects with EGPA or HES dosed at 300 mg SC is consistent with that reported in subjects with asthma. Systemic exposure following administration of mepolizumab 300 mg SC in subjects with EGPA or HES was approximately 3 times that of mepolizumab 100 mg administered SC in subjects with severe asthma.

Following a single 100 mg SC administration in healthy subjects, mepolizumab systemic exposure was comparable between formulations.

#### **Absorption:**

Following SC administration to healthy subjects or patients with asthma, mepolizumab was absorbed slowly with a median time to reach maximum plasma concentration ( $T_{max}$ ) ranging from 4 to 8 days.

Following a single 250 mg subcutaneous administration in the abdomen, thigh or arm of healthy subjects, mepolizumab absolute bioavailability was 64%, 71% and 75%, respectively. In patients with asthma, the absolute bioavailability of mepolizumab administered SC in the arm ranged from 74%-80%.

Following repeat SC administration every 4 weeks, steady-state is reached by 16 weeks and there is approximately a two-fold accumulation at steady state.

#### **Distribution:**

Following a single IV administration of mepolizumab to patients with asthma, the mean volume of distribution is 55 to 85 mL/kg.

#### **Metabolism:**

Mepolizumab is a humanized IgG1 monoclonal antibody degraded by proteolytic enzymes which are widely distributed in the body and not restricted to hepatic tissue.

#### **Elimination:**

Following SC administration of mepolizumab, the mean terminal half-life ( $t_{1/2}$ ) ranged from 16 to 22 days. In a population pharmacokinetic analysis, the estimated mepolizumab systemic clearance was 3.1 mL/day/kg.

#### **Special Populations and Conditions**

- **Pediatrics (6 to 11 years of age):** Mepolizumab pharmacokinetics following SC administration in subjects 6 to 11 years of age with severe eosinophilic asthma ( $n = 36$ ) was investigated in the 12-week treatment phase of the uncontrolled, open-label study (200363). Exposures (as measured by AUC) following SC administration of either 40 mg (for a weight < 40 kg) or 100 mg (for a weight  $\geq$  40 kg) were 1.32 and 1.97 times of that observed in adults and adolescents administered 100 mg. Based on a population pharmacokinetic model updated by these results, simulation of a 40 mg SC dose every 4 weeks in children,

irrespective of weight, resulted in predicted exposures similar to those observed in adults and adolescents.

- **Geriatrics (≥ 65 years of age):** No formal studies have been conducted in elderly patients. However, in the population pharmacokinetic analysis, there were no indications of an effect of age (range included 12-82 years) on the pharmacokinetics of mepolizumab.
- **Ethnic Origin:** A population pharmacokinetics analysis of mepolizumab data indicated that there was no significant effect of race and gender on mepolizumab clearance.
- **Hepatic Insufficiency:** No formal studies have been conducted to investigate the effect of hepatic impairment on the pharmacokinetics of mepolizumab. Since mepolizumab is degraded by widely distributed proteolytic enzymes, not restricted to hepatic tissue, changes in hepatic function are unlikely to have any effect on the elimination of mepolizumab.
- **Renal Insufficiency:** No formal studies have been conducted to investigate the effect of renal impairment on the pharmacokinetics of mepolizumab. Based on population pharmacokinetic analyses, mepolizumab clearance was comparable between patients with creatinine clearance values between 50-80 mL/min and patients with normal renal function. There are limited data available in patients with creatinine clearance values <50 mL/min; however, mepolizumab is not cleared renally.

## 11 STORAGE, STABILITY AND DISPOSAL

### Lyophilized powder

#### **Unopened vial**

Store in the original carton below 25° C until use. Do not freeze. Protect from light.

#### **Reconstituted solution**

After reconstitution with Water for Injection, the product is stable for up to 8 hours when stored below 30°C. Do not freeze. During administration, protection from light is not necessary. Any unused concentrate or solution remaining after 8 hours must be discarded.

### Solution in pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe (safety syringe)

Store in the original carton to protect from light. The pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe should be stored refrigerated (2°C to 8°C), but if necessary can be removed from the refrigerator and kept in the unopened carton for up to 7 days at below 30°C, when protected from light. Do not freeze. Discard if unopened carton is left out of the refrigerator for more than 7 days.

The pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe must be administered within 8 hours once the carton is opened. Discard if not administered within 8 hours.



## **12 SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS**

Do not mix the reconstituted Nucala solution for injection with other medicinal products.

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

## PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

### 13 PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION

#### Drug Substance

**Proper name:** Mepolizumab

**Chemical name:** Not applicable. Mepolizumab is not a chemical. It is an immunoglobulin (recombinant human IgG1 monoclonal antibody)

**Molecular formula and molecular mass:** C<sub>6476</sub>H<sub>10084</sub>N<sub>1732</sub>O<sub>2028</sub>S<sub>46</sub> (without oligosaccharide). The polypeptide molecular mass is 146 kDa and the carbohydrate molecular mass is approximately 3 kDa resulting in a total estimated molecular mass of 149 kDa for mepolizumab.

**Structural formula:** Mepolizumab is a humanized IgG1 kappa immunoglobulin and consists of two heavy chains of 449 amino acids and two light chains of 220 amino acids. The heavy and light chains are covalently linked by a single disulfide bond and the heavy chains are linked to each other by two disulfide bonds resulting in a typical IgG molecule.

**Physicochemical properties:** Mepolizumab is a clear to opalescent, colourless to pale yellow or pale brown solution.

#### Product Characteristics:

Mepolizumab is a humanized monoclonal antibody (IgG1, kappa) produced by recombinant DNA technology in Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cells. Mepolizumab is expressed as a soluble glycoprotein secreted into an animal component free cell culture medium, purified and formulated to produce bulk drug substance (BDS).

### 14 CLINICAL TRIALS

#### 14.1 Clinical Trials by Indication

##### Severe Eosinophilic Asthma

The efficacy and safety of adjunctive mepolizumab treatment in severe eosinophilic asthma was evaluated in two phase III, randomized, double-blind, parallel-group clinical trials of 24 to 32 weeks' duration in 711 subjects aged 12 years and older, including 27 adolescents ([Table 7](#)).

- Exacerbation trial (MENSA) – 75 mg IV or 100 mg SC vs. placebo
- Oral corticosteroid (OCS) reduction trial (SIRIUS) – 100 mg SC vs. placebo

These clinical trials were designed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of mepolizumab administered once every 4 weeks in subjects with severe eosinophilic asthma not adequately controlled on high-dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) (an equivalent of  $\geq 1000$   $\mu$ g fluticasone propionate/day for subjects 18 years of age and older) or medium-dose ICS (an equivalent of  $\geq 500$   $\mu$ g fluticasone propionate/day for subjects 12 to 17 years of age) and an additional controller(s) (e.g., long-acting beta-agonist (LABA), leukotriene

receptor antagonist (LTRA), and/or theophylline) with or without oral corticosteroids (OCS)). In SIRIUS, all subjects were required to be on regular maintenance treatment with OCS.

An open-label, uncontrolled clinical trial evaluated the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics (12 week duration) and safety (52 week duration) of mepolizumab treatment in 36 children (6 to 11 years of age) with severe eosinophilic asthma.

**Table 7 Summary of Trial Designs in Severe Eosinophilic Asthma**

Study #	Trial design	Dosage, route of administration and duration	Study subjects (n)	Mean age (Range)	Gender
MEA115588 (MENSA)	32-week, multicentre, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, double-dummy, parallel-group study of the efficacy and safety of mepolizumab adjunctive therapy in subjects with severe eosinophilic asthma	Nucala 100 mg SC Mepolizumab 75 mg IV <sup>1</sup> Placebo  Duration: 32 weeks	n=194 n=191 n=191  Total: 576	50 years (12-82)	Female: 329 (57%)  Male: 247 (43%)
MEA115575 (SIRIUS)	24-week, multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel group study of mepolizumab adjunctive therapy to reduce oral corticosteroid use in subjects with severe eosinophilic asthma	Nucala 100 mg SC Placebo  Duration: 24 weeks	n=69 n=66  Total: 135	50 years (16-74)	Female: 74 (55%)  Male: 61 (45%)
200363	An open-label, uncontrolled, study to characterize the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of mepolizumab administered SC in children from 6 to 11 years of age with severe eosinophilic asthma	Nucala 40 mg SC (for a weight < 40 kg) or Nucala 100 mg SC (for a weight ≥ 40 kg)  Duration: 12 weeks (short-term phase)  52 weeks (long-term phase)	n=36   n=30	8.6 years (5-12)  8.6 years (6-12)	Female: 11 (31%) Male: 25 (69%)  Female: 10 (33%) Male: 20 (67%)

IV = intravenous; SC = subcutaneous

<sup>1</sup>Nucala is not indicated for intravenous use and should only be administered by the SC route.

## **MEpolizumab as adjunctive therapy iN patients with Severe Asthma (MENSA) Study**

### **Study Design**

MENSA was a 32-week, randomized, double-blind, parallel-group study evaluating the efficacy and safety of mepolizumab 75 mg IV or Nucala 100 mg SC vs. placebo administered every four weeks in the add-on treatment of severe eosinophilic asthma in 576 subjects (Table 7). MENSA was the only pivotal exacerbation study to evaluate the direct effect of SC dosing on the exacerbation rate. The 100 mg SC and 75 mg IV doses were chosen to provide consistent systemic mepolizumab exposure and reduction of blood eosinophils over the treatment period (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

Subjects had a history of two or more asthma exacerbations in the past 12 months despite regular use of high-dose ICS (or medium-dose ICS for adolescents) plus an additional controller(s) (e.g., LABA, LTRA, and/or theophylline) with or without OCS. Additionally, subjects had blood eosinophils of  $\geq 150$  cells/ $\mu\text{L}$  ( $\geq 0.15$  GI/L) at initiation (within 6 weeks of first dose) or blood eosinophils of  $\geq 300$  cells/ $\mu\text{L}$  ( $\geq 0.3$  GI/L) within 12 months of enrollment.

The primary endpoint was the frequency of clinically significant exacerbations of asthma, defined as worsening of asthma requiring use of oral/systemic corticosteroids and/or hospitalization and/or emergency room visits. For subjects on maintenance OCS, an exacerbation requiring OCS was defined as the use of oral/systemic corticosteroids at least double the existing maintenance dose for at least 3 days.

During the study, the percentage of patients who discontinued treatment and withdrew prematurely from the Nucala 100 mg SC group, mepolizumab 75 mg IV group, and placebo group was 5%, 8% and 6%, respectively. The most common reason for discontinuation of treatment was patients withdrawing consent (3% overall).

### **Patient Demographics and Baseline Characteristics**

Demographics and baseline characteristics were balanced between treatment groups (Table 8). During the trial, subjects continued their baseline asthma therapy, including high-dose ICS (or medium-dose ICS for adolescents), with an additional controller(s). Additionally, 24% of the subjects were on maintenance OCS (median 10.0 mg/day).

**Table 8 Summary of Patient Demographics and Baseline Characteristics**

	<b>Nucala 100 mg SC N=194</b>	<b>Mepolizumab 75 mg IV N=191</b>	<b>Placebo N=191</b>
Mean age in years (range)	51 (12 - 81)	50 (13 - 82)	49 (12 - 76)
Gender, n (%)			
Male	78 (40)	85 (45)	84 (44)
Female	116 (60)	106 (55)	107 (56)
Mean duration of asthma in years (SD)	20.5 (12.9)	19.8 (14.0)	19.5 (14.6)
Mean % Predicted pre-bronchodilator FEV <sub>1</sub> (SD)	59.3 (17.6)	61.4 (18.3)	62.4 (18.1)
Geometric mean baseline blood eosinophil count (SD on log scale) - GI/L	0.29 (1.050)	0.28 (0.987)	0.32 (0.938)
Mean number of exacerbations in the previous year (SD)	3.8 (2.7)	3.5 (2.2)	3.6 (2.8)

**Study Results**

The reduction in the rate of clinically significant exacerbations of asthma was statistically significant ( $p < 0.001$ ) for both mepolizumab treatment groups compared with placebo (Table 9).

Compared with placebo, the reduction in the rate of exacerbations that required hospitalization or emergency room visits was statistically significant for Nucala 100 mg SC, but not for mepolizumab 75 mg IV (Table 9). Additionally, the rate of clinically significant exacerbations requiring hospitalization per year in the Nucala 100 mg SC, mepolizumab 75 mg IV, and placebo treatment groups were 0.03, 0.06 and 0.10, respectively.

**Table 9 Summary of Primary and Secondary Endpoints at Week 32<sup>1</sup>**

	<b>Nucala 100 mg SC N= 194</b>	<b>Mepolizumab 75 mg IV N = 191</b>	<b>Placebo N= 191</b>
<b>Frequency of Clinically Significant Exacerbations (Primary Endpoint)</b>			
Exacerbation rate per year	0.83	0.93	1.74
Percent reduction vs. placebo	53%	47%	-
Rate ratio (95% CI)	0.47 (0.35, 0.64)	0.53 (0.40, 0.72)	
p-value <sup>2</sup>	<0.001	<0.001	
<b>Frequency of Clinically Significant Exacerbations Requiring Hospitalizations/Emergency Room Visits (Secondary Endpoint)</b>			
Exacerbation rate per year	0.08	0.14	0.20
Percent reduction vs. placebo	61%	32%	-
Rate ratio (95% CI)	0.39 (0.18, 0.83)	0.68 (0.33, 1.41)	
p-value <sup>2</sup>	0.015	0.299	

<sup>1</sup>Analysis was performed using a negative binomial model, which included covariates for treatment, use of maintenance oral corticosteroids, geographic region, number of exacerbations in the previous year, and baseline percentage of the predicted FEV<sub>1</sub>.

<sup>2</sup>Type 1 error rate was controlled using a closed-testing procedure.

At Week 32, the mean change from baseline in pre-bronchodilator FEV<sub>1</sub> in the Nucala 100 mg SC, mepolizumab 75 mg IV, and placebo treatment groups were 183 mL, 186 mL and 86 mL, respectively.

Health-related quality of life was measured using St. Georges Respiratory Questionnaire (SGRQ). At Week 32, mean changes from baseline in SGRQ scores in the Nucala 100 mg SC, mepolizumab 75 mg IV, and placebo treatment groups were -16.0, -15.4 and -9.0, respectively.

## **Steroid Reduction with mepolizumab Study (SIRIUS) Study**

### **Study Design**

SIRIUS was a 24-week, randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, parallel group study that evaluated the effect of Nucala 100 mg administered subcutaneously (SC) on reducing the requirement for maintenance oral corticosteroids (OCS) while maintaining asthma control in patients with severe eosinophilic asthma. A total 135 subjects were enrolled in the study (Table 10).

Subjects were required to have blood eosinophils of  $\geq 150$  cells/ $\mu$ L at initiation (within 6 weeks of dosing) or blood eosinophils of  $\geq 300$  cells/ $\mu$ L within 12 months of enrollment. Similar to MENSA, subjects had a documented requirement for high-dose ICS (or medium-dose ICS for adolescents) with an additional controller(s) in the previous year. Additionally, all subjects were required to be on regular maintenance treatment with OCS (5 to 35 mg/day prednisone or equivalent). No exacerbation history was required; however the majority of patients (84%) had a history of at least one exacerbation in the previous year.

The study included a run-in optimization phase of 3-8 weeks, in which subjects' OCS dose was adjusted weekly, according to a pre-defined schedule, to establish the lowest dose of OCS required to maintain asthma control (hereafter referred to as baseline dose). Subjects were then randomized to receive either adjunctive Nucala 100 mg SC or placebo treatment once every 4 weeks for 24 weeks. Reduction of the OCS dose occurred every 4 weeks (between Week 4 and Week 20) according to predefined schedule, and taking into account asthma control and adrenal insufficiency. The OCS dose was reduced until zero, or to the lowest possible dose required to maintain control during the 20 week OCS reduction phase. No further adjustment was made to the OCS dose following Week 20.

The primary endpoint was the percent reduction of OCS dose over Weeks 20 to 24 compared with the dose of OCS established during the run-in optimization phase at the start of the study. Predefined categories included percent reductions ranging from 90-100% reduction, to no decrease in the OCS dose from the end of the optimisation phase.

During the study, the percentage of patients who discontinued treatment and withdrew prematurely from the Nucala 100 mg SC group and placebo group was 4% and 6%, respectively. The most common reason for discontinuation of treatment was due to adverse events (5% placebo, 4% Nucala 100 mg SC).

### **Patient Demographics and Baseline Characteristics**

Demographics and baseline characteristics were balanced between treatment groups (Table 10). With the exception of OCS, subjects continued their baseline asthma therapy throughout the trial i.e. high-dose ICS (or medium-dose ICS for adolescents) with an additional controller(s).

**Table 10 Summary of Patient Demographics and Baseline Characteristics**

	<b>Nucala 100 mg SC N=69</b>	<b>Placebo N=66</b>
Mean age in years (range)	50 (16 - 74)	50 (28 - 70)
Gender, n (%)		
Male	25 (36)	36 (55)
Female	44 (64)	30 (45)
Mean duration of asthma in years (SD)	17.4 (11.8)	20.1 (14.4)
Mean % Predicted pre-bronchodilator FEV <sub>1</sub> (SD)	59.6 (17.0)	57.8 (18.5)
Geometric mean baseline blood eosinophil count (SD on log scale) - GI/L	0.25 (1.245)	0.23 (1.001)
Mean number of exacerbations in the previous year (SD)	3.3 (3.4)	2.9 (2.8)
Mean baseline daily OCS dose (mg)	12.4	13.2

**Study Results**

Subjects receiving Nucala 100 mg SC achieved greater reductions in OCS dose compared to subjects receiving placebo, while maintaining asthma control ([Table 11](#)).

**Table 11 Percent Reduction in OCS from Baseline at Weeks 20-24**

	<b>Nucala 100 mg SC N= 69</b>	<b>Placebo N= 66</b>
<b>Percent Reduction in OCS from Baseline at Weeks 20-24 (%)</b>		
90% - 100%	16 (23%)	7(11%)
75% - <90%	12 (17%)	5 (8%)
50% - <75%	9 (13%)	10 (15%)
>0% - <50%	7 (10%)	7(11%)
No decrease in OCS/lack of asthma control/withdrawal from treatment	25 (36%)	37 (56%)

For Weeks 20-24, 37 (54%) subjects in the Nucala 100 mg SC group versus 22 (33%) subjects in the placebo group achieved ≥50% reduction in the daily OCS dose; 37 (54%) subjects in the Nucala 100 mg SC group versus 21 (32%) subjects in the placebo group achieved a reduction in the daily OCS dose to ≤5.0 mg; and 10 (14%) subjects in the Nucala 100 mg SC group achieved a total (100%) reduction in OCS dose to 0 mg compared with 5 (8%) subjects in the placebo group.

Pediatrics

In the double-blind placebo-controlled study MENSA ([Table 7](#)), there were 25 adolescents (12 to 17 years of age); 9 received mepolizumab 75 mg IV, 7 received Nucala 100 mg SC, and 9 received placebo. Adolescents had a reduction in the rate of clinically significant exacerbation that trended in favour of mepolizumab.

Study 200363 was a multi-centre, open-label, uncontrolled, study that enrolled 36 children (6 to 11

years of age) with severe eosinophilic asthma. Subjects received 40 mg SC of Nucala (for a weight < 40 kg) or 100 mg SC of Nucala (for a weight ≥ 40 kg). The short-term phase (12 weeks) characterized the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of mepolizumab in children (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#) and [10.2 Pharmacodynamics](#)). Following a treatment interruption of 8 weeks, the long-term phase (52 weeks) assessed safety and tolerability.

The efficacy of Nucala in children (6 to 11 years of age) for a 40 mg SC dose is extrapolated from efficacy in adults and adolescents with support from population pharmacokinetic analyses and pharmacodynamic analyses. The disease course, pathophysiology, and drug effects in children are assumed to be sufficiently consistent to adults and adolescents at the same exposure levels.

## **Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps**

### **Study Design**

The efficacy and safety of Nucala 100 mg SC as an adjunct to maintenance treatment of patients with CRSwNP was evaluated in a phase III, multi-centre, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of 52 weeks duration in 407 patients aged 18 years and older. Subjects received Nucala 100 mg SC or placebo once every 4 weeks while continuing intranasal corticosteroid therapy (see [Table 12](#)). Patients must have received background intranasal corticosteroid for ≥8 weeks pre screening. Patients had recurrent CRSwNP, having had at least 1 surgery for the removal of nasal polyps within the previous 10 years. Patients were required to have nasal polyps symptoms with a nasal obstruction visual analog scale (VAS) score of >5 out of a maximum score of 10, an overall symptoms VAS score >7 out of a maximum score of 10, and an endoscopic bilateral nasal polyp score (NPS) of ≥5 out of a maximum score of 8 (with a minimum score of 2 in each nasal cavity).

The co-primary endpoints were change from baseline to week 52 in total endoscopic NPS (0 to 8 scale) as graded by independent blinded assessors and change from baseline in nasal obstruction VAS score (0 to 10 scale) during weeks 49 to 52. For NPS, polyps on each side of the nose were graded on a categorical scale (0 = no polyps, 1 = small polyps in the middle meatus not reaching below the inferior border of the middle concha, 2 = polyps reaching below the lower border of the middle turbinate, 3 = large polyps reaching the lower border of the inferior turbinate or polyps medial to the middle concha, 4 = large polyps causing almost complete congestion/obstruction of the inferior meatus). The total score was the sum of the right and left scores. Nasal obstruction VAS score was reported daily by the patients (0 to 10 scale [0 = none, 10 = as bad as you can imagine]).



**Table 12 Summary of Trial Design for 205687**

Study #	Trial design	Dosage, route of administration and duration	Study subjects (n)	Mean age (Range)	Gender
205687	52-week, multi-centre, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of Nucala 100 mg SC in subjects with CRSwNP with concomitant background intranasal corticosteroid therapy.	Nucala 100 mg SC Placebo  Duration: 52 weeks	n=206 n=201  Total: 407	49 (18-82)	Female: 143 (35%)  Male: 264 (65%)

SC = subcutaneous; CRSwNP = chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps.

**Patient Demographics and Baseline Characteristics**

The baseline characteristics of subjects in this trial are provided in [Table 13](#). See Study Results section for baseline and Week 52 values for efficacy endpoints including endoscopic NPS, symptom visual analog scale [VAS] scores, and SNOT-22.

**Table 13 Summary of baseline characteristics**

	Nucala 100 mg SC N=206	Placebo N=201
<b>Duration (y) of CRSwNP, mean (SD)</b>	11.36 (8.522)	11.46 (8.273)
<b>History of ≥3 surgeries for nasal polyps in previous 10 years, n (%)</b>	51 (24)	73 (35)
<b>OCS use (≥1 course) in previous 12 months, n (%)</b>	106 (51)	91 (45)
<b>Geometric mean eosinophil count at baseline, cells/mcL (95% CI)</b>	390	410
<b>Asthma, n (%)</b>	140 (68)	149 (74)
<b>AERD, n (%)</b>	45 (22)	63 (31)

CRSwNP = chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps, SD = standard deviation, OCS = oral corticosteroid, AERD = aspirin-exacerbated respiratory disease.

## Study Results

### Results of Study 205687 in patients with CRSwNP

The results for the co-primary and key secondary endpoints in CRSwNP are presented in [Table 14](#).

**Table 14 Analyses of co-primary and key secondary endpoints (Intent To Treat population<sup>a</sup>)**

	<b>Mepolizumab 100 mg SC (N=206)</b>	<b>Placebo (N=201)</b>
<b>Co-primary endpoint: Total Endoscopic Score at week 52<sup>b</sup></b>		
Median score at baseline (min, max)	5.0 (2, 8)	6.0 (0, 8)
Median change from baseline	-1.0	0.0
Adjusted treatment difference in medians (95% CI) <sup>c</sup>	-0.73 (-1.11, -0.34) <sup>d</sup>	
<b>Co-primary endpoint: Nasal obstruction VAS score (weeks 49 to 52)<sup>b</sup></b>		
Median score at baseline (min, max)	9.01 (6.54, 10.00)	9.14 (5.31, 10.00)
Median change from baseline	-4.41	-0.82
Adjusted treatment difference in medians (95% CI) <sup>c</sup>	-3.14 (-4.09, -2.18) <sup>d</sup>	
<b>Key secondary endpoint: NP surgery at week 52<sup>e,f</sup></b>		
Patients having surgery by Week 52	18 (9%)	46 (23%)
Hazard ratio (95% CI) <sup>g</sup>	0.43 (0.25, 0.76)	

VAS = visual analogue scale

<sup>a</sup> Intent to treat population: Randomised subjects who received at least one dose of study treatment

<sup>b</sup> Subjects with nasal surgery/sinuplasty prior to visit assigned their worst observed score prior to nasal surgery/sinuplasty. Those who withdrew from study with no nasal surgery/sinuplasty assigned their worst observed score prior to study withdrawal.

<sup>c</sup> Quantile regression model with covariates of treatment group, geographic region, baseline score and log(e) baseline blood eosinophil count.

<sup>d</sup> p < 0.001 based on Wilcoxon rank-sum test.

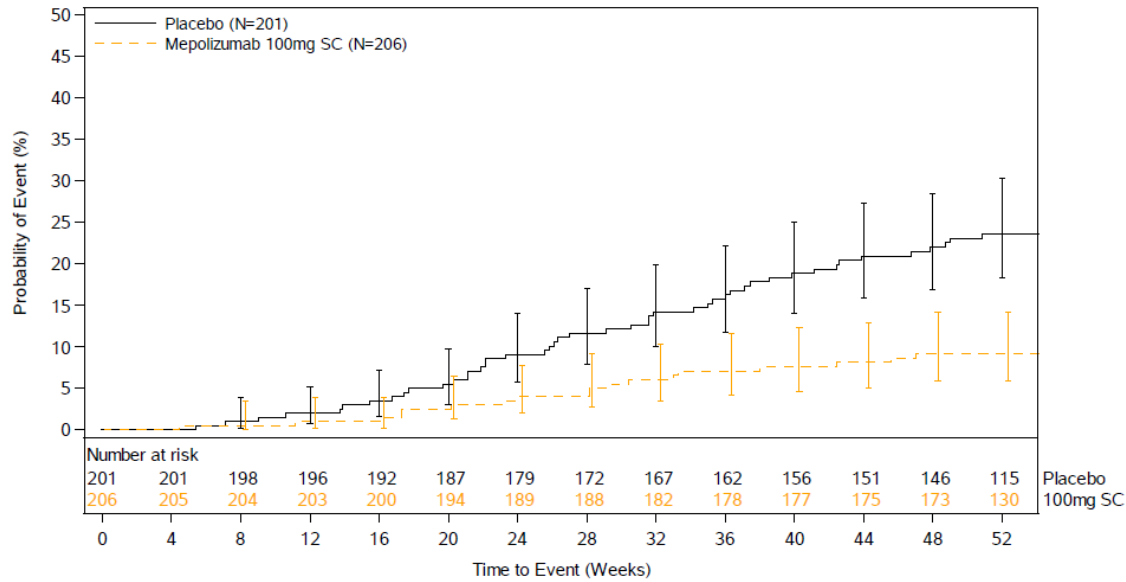
<sup>e</sup> NP surgery was defined as any procedure involving instruments resulting in incision and removal of tissue [polypectomy] in the nasal cavity.

<sup>f</sup> A pre-defined hierarchical testing procedure was used to control overall Type I error for secondary endpoints; see Table 15 for additional secondary endpoints included in the testing procedure.

<sup>g</sup> Cox Proportional Hazards model with covariates of treatment group, geographic region, baseline total endoscopic score, baseline nasal obstruction VAS score, log(e) baseline blood eosinophil count and number of previous surgeries (1, 2, >2 as ordinal). p=0.003.

The key secondary endpoint was the time to first NP surgery up to Week 52 (see [Figure 2](#)).

**Figure 2 Kaplan Meier Curve for Time to First Nasal Polyps surgery**



**Results of Secondary Endpoints**

Data from the other secondary endpoints are presented in [Table 15](#).

All VAS scores were collected daily by the patients and reported on a 0 to 10 scale (0 = none, 10 = as bad as you can imagine). SNOT-22 is a disease-specific measure of health-related quality of life that includes 22 items assessing symptoms and symptom impact associated with CRSwNP, with each item scored from 0 (no problem) to 5 (problem as bad as it can be) and with a total score ranging from 0 to 110.

**Table 15 Results of secondary endpoints in the Intent To Treat population<sup>a</sup>**

	<b>Nucala 100 mg SC (N=206)</b>	<b>Placebo (N=201)</b>
<b>Overall VAS Score (Weeks 49-52)<sup>b</sup></b>		
Median score at baseline (min, max)	9.12 (7.17, 10.00)	9.20 (7.21, 10.00)
Median change from baseline	-4.48	-0.90
Adjusted treatment difference in medians (95% CI) <sup>c</sup>	-3.18 (-4.10, -2.26) <sup>d</sup>	
<b>SNOT-22 Total Score at Week 52<sup>b</sup></b>		
n	205	198
Median score at baseline (min, max)	64.0 (17, 105)	64.0 (19, 110)
Median change from baseline	-30.0	-14.0
Adjusted treatment difference in medians (95% CI) <sup>c</sup>	-16.49 (-23.57, -9.42) <sup>d</sup>	
<b>Patients Requiring Systemic Steroids for Nasal Polyps up to Week 52</b>		
Number of patients with ≥1 course	52 (25)	74 (37)
Odds Ratio to Placebo (95% CI) <sup>e</sup>	0.58 (0.36, 0.92)	
<b>Composite VAS Score - Nasal Symptoms (Weeks 49-52)<sup>b,f</sup></b>		
Median score at baseline (min, max)	9.11 (4.91, 10.00)	9.18 (6.03, 10.00)
Median change from baseline	-3.96	-0.89

	<b>Nucala 100 mg SC (N=206)</b>	<b>Placebo (N=201)</b>
Adjusted treatment difference in medians (95% CI) <sup>c</sup>	-2.68 (-3.44, -1.91) <sup>d</sup>	
<b>Loss of Smell VAS Score (Weeks 49-52)<sup>b</sup></b>		
Median score at baseline (min, max)	9.97 (0.94, 10.00)	9.97 (6.69, 10.00)
Median change from baseline	-0.53	0.00
Adjusted treatment difference in medians (95% CI) <sup>c</sup>	-0.37 (-0.65, -0.08) <sup>d</sup>	

VAS = visual analogue scale, SNOT-22 = Sino-Nasal Outcome Test

<sup>a</sup> Intent to treat population: Randomised subjects who received at least one dose of study treatment. Multiplicity controlled through testing of secondary endpoints following a pre-defined hierarchical testing procedure.

<sup>b</sup> Patients with nasal surgery/sinuplasty prior to visit assigned their worst observed score prior to nasal surgery/sinuplasty. Those who withdrew from study with no nasal surgery/sinuplasty assigned their worst observed score prior to study withdrawal.

<sup>c</sup> Quantile regression model with covariates of treatment group, geographic region, baseline score and log(e) baseline blood eosinophil count.

<sup>d</sup> p<0.001 based on Wilcoxon rank-sum test.

<sup>e</sup> Logistic regression model with covariates of treatment group, geographic region, number of OCS courses for NP in last 12 months (0, 1, >1 as ordinal), baseline total endoscopic score, baseline nasal obstruction VAS score and log(e) baseline blood eosinophil count. p=0.020.

<sup>f</sup> Composite VAS score comprised of individual VAS scores of nasal obstruction, nasal discharge, mucus in the throat and loss of smell.

### *Endpoints in patients with Asthma*

In 289 (71%) patients with co-morbid asthma, pre-specified analyses showed improvements consistent with those seen in the ITT population in the co-primary endpoints of change from baseline in total endoscopic NP score at Week 52 and change from baseline nasal obstruction VAS Score during Weeks 49-52.

Improvements (decreases) were seen in Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ-5) and asthma exacerbations from post-hoc analyses. For ACQ-5 at Week 52 the mean (SE) changes from baseline were -1.12 (0.095) and -0.46 (0.093) in the mepolizumab and placebo treatment groups respectively

Six (4%) patients who received mepolizumab had 6 asthma exacerbations and 11 (7%) patients in the placebo group had 20 exacerbations up to Week 52.

### **Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis**

#### **Study Design**

The efficacy and safety of mepolizumab as an adjunct to oral corticosteroids for the treatment of patients with EGPA was evaluated in a phase III, multi-centre, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of 52 weeks duration in 136 subjects aged 18 years and older. Subjects received 300 mg of Nucala or placebo administered subcutaneously once every 4 weeks, while maintaining stable oral corticosteroid therapy (Table 16). Starting at Week 4, oral corticosteroid dose could be tapered during the treatment period at the discretion of the investigator. The co-primary endpoints were: 1) the total accrued duration of remission over the 52-week treatment period, defined as Birmingham Vasculitis Activity Score (BVAS) = 0 (no active vasculitis) plus oral corticosteroid dose ≤4 mg/day

(prednisolone/prednisone); and 2) the proportion of subjects in remission at both Week 36 and Week 48 of treatment. Relapse of disease was defined as worsening or persistence of active disease since the last visit warranting: i) an increased dose of OCS therapy (>4 mg/day); OR ii) an increased dose or addition of immunosuppressive therapy; OR iii) hospitalization related to EGPA worsening. Worsening of active disease was characterized by: i) active vasculitis (BVAS >0); OR ii) active asthma symptoms and/or signs with a corresponding worsening in ACQ-6 score; OR iii) active nasal and/or sinus disease with a corresponding worsening in at least one of the sino-nasal symptom questions.

**Table 16 Summary of Trial Design for MEA115921**

Study #	Trial design	Dosage, route of administration and duration	Study subjects (n)	Mean age (Range)	Gender
MEA115921	52-week, multi-centre, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of mepolizumab in subjects with a history of relapsing or refractory EGPA on stable oral corticosteroid therapy with or without concomitant stable immunosuppressant therapy <sup>a</sup> .	Nucala 300 mg SC Placebo  Duration: 52 weeks	n=68 n=68  Total: 136	48.5 (20-71)	Female: 80 (59%)  Male: 56 (41%)

SC = subcutaneous; EGPA = Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis.

<sup>a</sup> Excluding cyclophosphamide.

### Patient Demographics and Baseline Characteristics

The demographics and baseline characteristics of subjects in this trial are provided in [Table 17](#).

**Table 17 Summary of Patient Demographics and Baseline Characteristics**

	Nucala 300 mg SC N=68	Placebo N=68
Mean age (y)	48.7	48.2
Female, n (%)	42 (62)	38 (56)
White, n (%)	64 (94)	61 (90)
Duration (y) of EGPA, mean (SD)	5.24 (4.398)	5.85 (4.855)
History of ≥1 confirmed relapse in past 2 years, n (%)	51 (75)	49 (72)

	<b>Nucala 300 mg SC N=68</b>	<b>Placebo N=68</b>
<b>History/presence of Asthma plus Eosinophilia (&gt;1.0x10<sup>9</sup>/L), n (%)</b>	68 (100)	68 (100)
Sino-nasal abnormality	64 (94)	64 (94)
Pulmonary infiltrates, non-fixed	50 (74)	48 (71)
Biopsy evidence <sup>1</sup>	25 (37)	31 (46)
Neuropathy, Mono or Poly <sup>2</sup>	32 (47)	24 (35)
ANCA positive (MPO or PR3)	13 (19)	13 (19)
Cardiomyopathy <sup>3</sup>	13 (19)	7 (10)
Palpable purpura	9 (13)	8 (12)
Alveolar hemorrhage <sup>4</sup>	3 (4)	1 (1)
Glomerulonephritis <sup>5</sup>	1 (1)	0
<b>Refractory disease, n (%)</b>	34 (50)	40 (59)
Recurrence of EGPA symptoms, n (%)	33 (49)	35 (51)
Failed induction treatment, n (%)	1 (1)	5 (7)
<b>Baseline BVAS, median (range)</b>	1 (0-22)	2 (0-19)
<b>Baseline oral corticosteroid<sup>a</sup> daily dose (mg), median (range)</b>	12 (7.5-40)	11 (7.5-50.0)
<b>Receiving immunosuppressive therapy, n (%)</b>	41 (60)	31 (46)
<b>Baseline ACQ-6 Score Category<sup>6,7</sup>, n (%)</b>		
≤0.75	23 (34)	19 (28)
>0.75 to <1.5	19 (28)	21 (31)
≥1.5	26 (38)	28 (41)

<sup>1</sup> A biopsy showing histopathological evidence of eosinophilic vasculitis, or perivascular eosinophilic infiltration, or eosinophil-rich granulomatous inflammation

<sup>2</sup> Motor deficit or nerve conduction abnormality

<sup>3</sup> Established by echocardiography or MRI

<sup>4</sup> Determined by bronchoalveolar lavage

<sup>5</sup> Hematuria, red blood cell casts, proteinuria

<sup>6</sup> ACQ-6 score ≤0.75 = well controlled asthma, >0.75 to <1.5 = some lack of asthma control, ≥1.5 = not well controlled asthma.

<sup>7</sup> Summarized *post-hoc*.

<sup>a</sup> Prednisone or prednisolone equivalent.

<sup>b</sup> Excluding cyclophosphamide.

ANCA = anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies; EGPA = eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis; SD = standard deviation;

MPO = myeloperoxidase (ANCA-MPO); PR3 = proteinase 3 (ANCA-PR3).

## Study Results

### Remission

Subjects receiving 300 mg of Nucala achieved a significantly greater accrued time in remission compared with placebo (odds ratio: 5.9 [95% CI: 2.7, 13.0]; p<0.001). Additionally, a significantly larger proportion

of subjects receiving 300 mg of Nucala achieved remission at both Week 36 and Week 48 compared with placebo (odds ratio: 16.7 [95% CI: 3.6, 77.7];  $p < 0.001$ ) (Table 18).

**Table 18 Analyses of Co-Primary Endpoints**

	Number (%) of Subjects	
	Nucala 300 mg n = 68	Placebo n = 68
<b>Accrued duration of remission over 52 weeks</b>		
0 weeks	32 (47)	55 (81)
>0 to <12 weeks	8 (12)	8 (12)
12 to <24 weeks	9 (13)	3 (4)
24 to <36 weeks	10 (15)	0
≥36 weeks	9 (13)	2 (3)
Odds ratio (mepolizumab/placebo) <sup>a</sup>	5.91 <sup>b</sup>	
95% CI	2.68, 13.03	
P value	<0.001	
<b>Proportion of subjects in remission at Weeks 36 and 48</b>		
Subjects in remission at Weeks 36 and 48 (%)	22 (32)	2 (3)
Odds ratio (mepolizumab/placebo) <sup>a</sup>	16.74	
95% CI	3.61, 77.56	
P value	<0.001	

<sup>a</sup>An odds ratio >1 favors mepolizumab.

<sup>b</sup> Obtained using a proportional odds regression model for ordered categorical data (incremental 12-week durations).

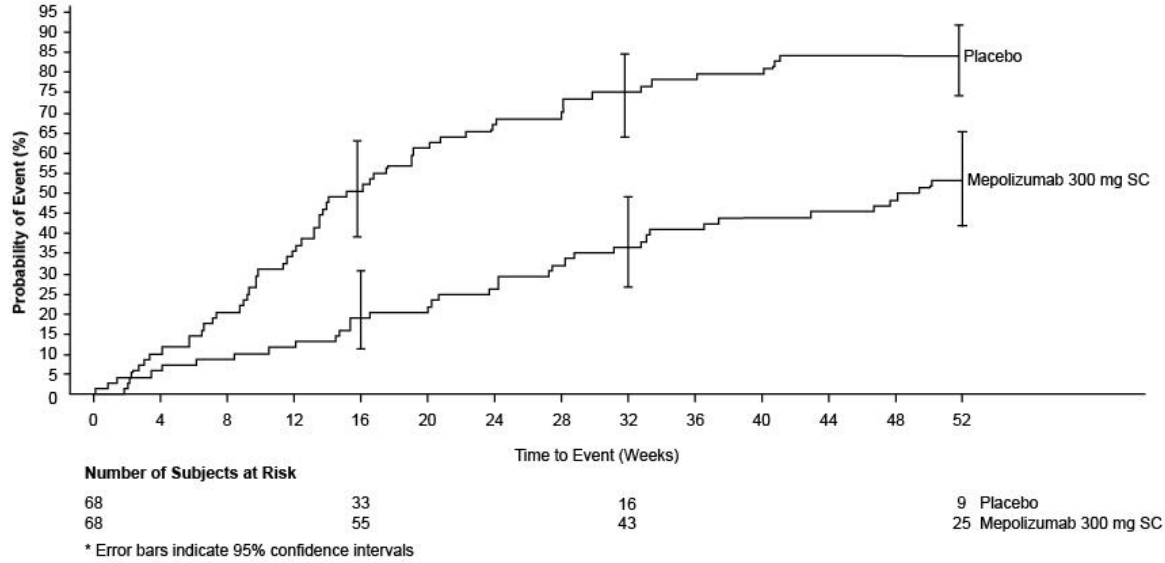
Statistically significant differences in favour of mepolizumab for these endpoints were also demonstrated by the European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) definition of remission (i.e., BVAS = 0 plus oral corticosteroid dose ≤7.5 mg/day (prednisolone/prednisone)).

A larger proportion of subjects receiving 300 mg of Nucala (n=13; 19%) achieved remission within the first 24 weeks of treatment and remained in remission for the remainder of the 52-week treatment period compared with placebo (n=1; 1%).

### Relapse

The time to first relapse was significantly longer for subjects receiving 300 mg of Nucala compared with placebo (hazard ratio: 0.32 [95% CI: 0.21, 0.50];  $p < 0.001$ ) (Figure 3). The incidence and number of each potential cause for relapse (i.e., vasculitis, asthma, sino-nasal) were lower in subjects treated with mepolizumab compared with placebo.

**Figure 3 Kaplan-Meier Plot of Time to First Relapse**



Oral Corticosteroid Reduction

Subjects receiving 300 mg of Nucala had a significantly greater reduction in average daily oral corticosteroid dose compared with subjects receiving placebo during Weeks 48 to 52 (odds ratio: 0.20 [95% CI 0.09, 0.41];  $p < 0.001$ ) (Table 19).

**Table 19 Average Daily Oral Corticosteroid Dose during Weeks 48 to 52**

Average Daily Oral Corticosteroid Dose	Number (%) of Subjects	
	Nucala 300 mg Subcutaneous n = 68	Placebo n = 68
0	12 (18)	2 (3)
>0 to ≤4.0 mg	18 (26)	3 (4)
>4.0 to ≤7.5 mg	10 (15)	18 (26)
>7.5 mg	28 (41)	45 (66)
Comparison: mepolizumab/placebo <sup>a</sup>		
Odds ratio	0.20	
95% CI	0.09, 0.41	
P value	<0.001	

<sup>a</sup> Analyzed using a proportional odds model with covariates of treatment group, baseline oral corticosteroid daily dose, baseline BVAS, and region. An odds ratio <1 favors mepolizumab.



## Hypereosinophilic Syndrome

### Study Design

The efficacy and safety of mepolizumab as an adjunct to standard therapy for the treatment of patients with HES was evaluated in a phase III, multi-centre, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of 32 weeks duration in 108 subjects aged 12 years and older (Table 20). Subjects received 300 mg of Nucala or placebo administered subcutaneously once every 4 weeks while continuing their stable HES therapy. Standard HES therapy could include OCS and immunosuppressive or cytotoxic therapy, and subjects must have been on stable HES therapy for the 4 weeks prior to randomization. Subjects with non-hematologic secondary HES (e.g., drug hypersensitivity, parasitic helminth infection, HIV infection, non-hematologic malignancy) or FIP1L1-PDGFR $\alpha$  kinase-positive HES were excluded from the trial. Subjects entering the study had experienced at least two HES flares within the past 12 months and had a blood eosinophil count  $\geq$  1000 cells/ $\mu$ L during screening. Historical HES flares for the trial entry criteria were defined as HES-related worsening of clinical symptoms or blood eosinophil counts requiring an escalation in therapy.

The primary endpoint of study 200622 was the proportion of subjects who experienced a HES flare during the 32-week treatment period. A HES flare was defined as worsening of clinical signs and symptoms of HES or increasing blood eosinophils (on  $\geq$  2 occasions), resulting in the need to increase OCS (by at least 10 mg/day) or increase/add cytotoxic or immunosuppressive HES therapy.

**Table 20** Summary of Trial Design for 200622

Study #	Trial design	Dosage, route of administration and duration	Study subjects (n)	Mean age (Range)	Gender
200622	32-week, multi-centre, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of mepolizumab in subjects with a history of relapsing or refractory HES on stable oral corticosteroid therapy with or without cytotoxic or immunosuppressive HES therapy	Nucala 300 mg SC Placebo  Duration: 32 weeks	n=54 n=54  Total: 108	46.0 (12-82)	Female: 57 (53%)  Male: 51 (47%)

SC = subcutaneous; HES = Hypereosinophilic Syndrome.

### Patient Demographics and Baseline Characteristics

The demographics and baseline characteristics of subjects in this trial are provided in Table 21.

**Table 21 Summary of Baseline Characteristics**

	<b>Nucala 300 mg SC N=54</b>	<b>Placebo N=54</b>
<b>Duration (y) of HES, mean (SD)</b>	5.45 (5.079)	5.66 (8.035)
<b>Number of HES flares in past 12 months, mean (SD)</b>	2.7 (1.28)	2.7 (1.02)
<b>History/presence of HES plus Eosinophilia (&gt;1.0x10<sup>9</sup>/L), n (%)</b>	54 (100)	54 (100)
Abdominal pain or bloating	16 (30)	24 (44)
Breathing symptoms	30 (56)	30 (56)
Chills or sweats	10 (19)	5 (9)
Muscle or joint pain	24 (44)	20 (37)
Nasal or sinus symptoms	22 (41)	19 (35)
Skin symptoms	25 (46)	28 (52)
<b>Baseline HES Therapy, n (%)</b>	54 (50)	54 (50)
Any baseline HES therapy, n (%)	50 (93)	49 (91)
Oral corticosteroids, n (%)	40 (74)	38 (70)
<b>Cytotoxic/immunosuppressive therapy, n (%)</b>	14 (26)	9 (17)
<b>Other HES therapy<sup>a</sup></b>	22 (41)	19 (35)
<b>Baseline oral corticosteroid<sup>b</sup> daily dose (mg), median (range)</b>	5.6 (0-50.0)	5.6 (0-25.0)

<sup>a</sup> Examples of ‘other’ HES therapy include but is not limited to beclometasone dipropionate, formoterol fumarate, omeprazole, salbutamol, tiotropium bromide, triamcinolone acetonide, cetirizine.

<sup>b</sup> Prednisone or prednisolone equivalent.

HES = hypereosinophilic syndrome; SD = standard deviation.

## Study Results

The primary endpoint compared subjects who experienced a HES flare or withdrew from the study in the mepolizumab and placebo treatment groups over the 32-week treatment period. Secondary endpoints were time to first HES flare, proportion of subjects who experienced a HES flare during Week 20 through Week 32, rate of HES flares, and change from baseline in fatigue severity (Brief Fatigue Inventory [BFI]) item 3 (see [Table 22](#)).

**Table 22 Results of Efficacy Endpoint/Analysis in the Intent to Treat population (Study 200622)**

	<b>Mepolizumab N= 54</b>	<b>Placebo N= 54</b>
<b>Primary Efficacy Endpoint</b>		
<b>Proportion of subjects who experienced a HES flare</b>		
Subjects with ≥1 HES flare or who withdrew from study (%)	15 (28)	30 (56)
Subjects with ≥1 HES flare (%)	14 (26)	28 (52)

	<b>Mepolizumab</b> N= 54	<b>Placebo</b> N= 54
Subjects with no HES flare who withdrew (%)	1 (2)	2 (4)
Risk difference <sup>a</sup> (95% CI)	-29% (-47%, -11%)	
p-value <sup>a</sup>	0.001	
<b>Secondary Efficacy Endpoints <sup>b</sup></b>		
<b>Time to first HES flare</b>		
Median time to HES flare (days)	Median not reached	172
Hazard ratio <sup>c</sup> (95% CI)	0.34 (0.18, 0.67)	
p-value <sup>c</sup>	0.002	
<b>HES flares during week 20 and up to and including week 32</b>		
Subjects with ≥1 HES flare or who withdrew from study (%)	9(17)	19 (35)
Risk difference <sup>a</sup> (95% CI)	-18% (-34%, -2%)	
p-value <sup>a</sup>	0.027	
<b>Rate of HES flares</b>		
Estimated mean rate/year	0.50	1.46
Rate ratio <sup>d</sup> (95% CI)	0.34 (0.19, 0.63)	
p-value <sup>d</sup>	<0.001	
<b>Change from baseline in fatigue severity based on Brief Fatigue Inventory (BFI) Item 3 (worst level of fatigue during past 24 hours) at week 32 <sup>e</sup></b>		
Median change in BFI item 3	-0.66	0.32
p-value <sup>f</sup>	0.036	

<sup>a</sup> Generalised linear regression model for probability of HES flare adjusted for baseline OCS dose and region.

<sup>b</sup> Multiplicity was controlled using a hierarchical, closed testing procedure.

<sup>c</sup> Cox proportional hazards regression model adjusted for baseline OCS dose and region.

<sup>d</sup> Negative binomial regression model adjusted for baseline OCS dose and region.

<sup>e</sup> Brief Fatigue Inventory (BFI) Item 3 asks subjects to record their fatigue severity by having them rate their worst level of fatigue during the past 24 hours (scale: 0 = no fatigue to 10 = as bad as you can imagine). Patients with missing data included with worst observed value.

<sup>f</sup> Wilcoxon Rank Sum p-value

## 15 MICROBIOLOGY

No microbiological information is required for this drug product.

## 16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

Intravenous and subcutaneous administrations to monkeys were associated with reductions in peripheral and lung eosinophil counts, with no toxicological findings. Eosinophils have been associated with immune system responses to some parasitic infections. Studies conducted in mice treated with

anti-IL-5 antibodies or genetically deficient in IL-5 or eosinophils have not shown impaired ability to clear parasitic infections.

### **Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis and Impairment of Fertility and Reproduction**

Long-term animal studies have not been performed to evaluate the carcinogenic potential of mepolizumab. The mutagenic potential of mepolizumab was not evaluated. The role of IL-5 and eosinophils in tumor surveillance is poorly characterized. However, there is no evidence of defective tumor surveillance in IL-5-deficient or eosinophil-deficient mice.

There was no effect of anti-IL-5 antibodies on male and female mice on mating, fertility, and gonadal function or on early embryonic or embryofetal development in pregnant females. Studies in mice did not include a littering or functional F1 assessment. In cynomolgus monkeys, mepolizumab had no effect on pregnancy or on embryonic/fetal and postnatal development (including immune function) of the offspring. Examinations for internal or skeletal malformations were not performed. Data in monkeys demonstrate that mepolizumab crosses the placenta. Concentrations of mepolizumab were approximately 2.4 times higher in infants than in mothers for several months post-partum and did not affect the immune system of the infants. Mepolizumab was excreted into the milk of cynomolgus monkeys at concentrations that were less than 0.5% of those detected in plasma and there were no post-natal developmental effects in breastfed monkey offspring.

## **PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION**

### **READ THIS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF YOUR MEDICINE**

**Pr**NUCALA [*new-ka' la*]

#### **Mepolizumab for Injection**

#### **100 mg/mL lyophilized powder for subcutaneous injection**

Read this carefully before you start receiving **Nucala** and each time you receive treatment. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about this drug. Talk to your healthcare professional about your medical condition and treatment and ask if there is any new information about **Nucala**.

#### **What is Nucala used for?**

##### **Severe Eosinophilic Asthma**

Nucala (mepolizumab for injection) is a prescription medicine used in addition to other asthma medicines to treat adults, adolescents (12-17 years of age), and children (6-11 years of age) with severe eosinophilic asthma, whose asthma is not controlled with their current asthma medicines, such as high-dose inhalers. Severe eosinophilic asthma is a type of severe asthma in which there is a presence of eosinophils (a type of white blood cell). Eosinophils are associated with inflammation of the airways that can cause your asthma to get worse or can increase the number of asthma attacks. Nucala helps prevent the number of asthma attacks.

Nucala is not used to treat acute asthma symptoms, such as a sudden asthma attack.

##### **Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps (CRSwNP)**

CRSwNP is a condition in which people have too many eosinophils (a type of white blood cell) in the blood, nose and sinuses. This can cause symptoms such as a blocked nose and loss of smell, and soft jelly-like growths (called nasal polyps) to form inside the nose.

Nucala reduces the number of eosinophils in the blood and can reduce the size of your polyps, relieve your nasal congestion and help avoid or delay surgery for nasal polyps.

##### **Eosinophilic Granulomatosis and Polyangiitis (EGPA)**

EGPA is a condition where people have inflammation of the blood vessels (vasculitis) due to too many eosinophils (a type of white blood cell) in the blood and tissues. EGPA most commonly affects the lungs and sinuses but often also affects other organs including the skin, heart, kidneys, nerves or bowels. The most common symptoms include extreme fatigue, muscle and joint pain, weight loss, nasal sinus symptoms, and difficulty breathing.

In adults, Nucala, used in addition to corticosteroids, can reduce EGPA symptoms and delay flare-up of these symptoms. Nucala can also help reduce the daily dose of corticosteroids you need to control your symptoms.

### **Hypereosinophilic Syndrome (HES)**

HES is a condition in which there are a high number of eosinophils in the blood. These cells can damage organs in the body, particularly the heart, lungs, nerves, and skin. The most common symptoms of a HES flare include abdominal pain or bloating, difficulty breathing, chills or sweats, muscle or joint pain and nasal sinus symptoms.

In adults, Nucala reduces the number of eosinophils in the blood and helps reduce symptoms and prevents flares.

### **How does Nucala work?**

Nucala contains the active substance, mepolizumab, a monoclonal antibody that works by blocking a specific protein called interleukin-5. By blocking the action of interleukin-5, Nucala limits the production of more eosinophils from the bone marrow and lowers the number of eosinophils in the blood, lungs and tissues.

### **What are the ingredients in Nucala?**

Medicinal ingredients: The active substance is mepolizumab.

Non-medicinal ingredients: The other ingredients are polysorbate 80, sodium phosphate dibasic heptahydrate, and sucrose.

### **Nucala comes in the following dosage form:**

Lyophilized powder for subcutaneous injection; each single-use vial contains 144 mg of mepolizumab (100 mg/mL when reconstituted).

### **Do not use Nucala if:**

- you are **allergic** to mepolizumab or any of the other ingredients of this medicine. **Talk to your doctor** about whether this may apply to you.

### **To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you use Nucala.**

- Medicines of this type (monoclonal antibodies) can cause severe allergic reactions when injected into the body (see **What are the possible side effects from using Nucala?**). If you have had a similar reaction before, tell your doctor before you are given Nucala.
- Nucala does not treat acute asthma symptoms, such as a sudden asthma attack. Therefore, Nucala should not be used to treat such symptoms.
- Tell your doctor if your asthma symptoms remain uncontrolled or get worse while being treated with Nucala.
- Tell your doctor if you are taking corticosteroids or other medicines for the treatment of asthma, Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps, Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis, or Hypereosinophilic Syndrome. **Do not suddenly stop taking** your corticosteroids or other medicines once you have started Nucala. Corticosteroids must be stopped gradually, under the supervision of your doctor.

- There are different treatments available for hypereosinophilic syndrome depending on the type of disease, as such, talk to your doctor about genetic testing to guide optimal treatment decision.

**Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if you:**

- have an existing parasitic infection, live in a region where infections caused by parasites are common, or if you are travelling to such a region. Nucala may weaken your resistance to such infections. Parasitic infections should be treated prior to starting treatment with Nucala.
- have or have not had chickenpox (varicella) or shingles, or if you have or have not received a chickenpox or shingles vaccine.

**Pregnancy and breast-feeding:**

- If you are pregnant, think you may be pregnant, or are planning to become pregnant, **tell your doctor** before using this medicine. You should not use this medicine if you are pregnant, unless this is considered necessary by your doctor.
- If you become pregnant while being treated with Nucala or within 4 months of stopping treatment with Nucala, tell your doctor immediately.
- It is not known whether the ingredients of Nucala can pass into breast milk. **If you are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed, you must tell your doctor** before being treated with Nucala.

**Other warnings you should know about:**

Nucala should not be given to children under 6 years of age for the treatment of severe eosinophilic asthma and should not be given to children and adolescents under 18 years of age for the treatment of CRSwNP, EGPA or HES.

**Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take, including any drugs, vitamins, minerals, natural supplements or alternative medicines.**

**How to take Nucala:**

Nucala is given to you as an injection just under the skin (subcutaneously) by a healthcare professional, who is experienced in the monitoring and treatment of signs and symptoms of allergic reactions.

**Usual dose:**

**Severe Eosinophilic Asthma**

- **Adults and adolescents (12 years of age and older):** The recommended dose of Nucala for severe eosinophilic asthma in adults and adolescents is 100 mg, given as 1 injection under the skin (subcutaneous) every four weeks.
- **Children (6 to 11 years of age):** The recommended dose of Nucala for severe eosinophilic asthma for children is 40 mg, given as 1 injection under the skin (subcutaneous) every four weeks. This dose is prepared using the Nucala lyophilized powder for subcutaneous injection.

### **Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps**

The recommended dose of Nucala for CRSwNP in adults is 100 mg, given as 1 injection under the skin (subcutaneous) every four weeks.

### **Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis**

The recommended dose of Nucala for EGPA in adults is 300 mg, given as 3 injections under the skin (subcutaneous) every four weeks.

### **Hypereosinophilic Syndrome**

The recommended dose of Nucala for HES in adults is 300 mg, given as 3 injections under the skin (subcutaneous) every four weeks.

Do not stop receiving injections of Nucala unless advised by your doctor. Interrupting or stopping the treatment with Nucala may cause your symptoms to become worse or occur more frequently. If your symptoms get worse when being treated with Nucala, immediately tell your doctor.

### **Overdose:**

If you think you, or a person you are caring for, have taken too much Nucala, contact a healthcare professional, hospital emergency department, or regional poison control centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

### **Missed Dose:**

If a dose of Nucala is missed, contact your healthcare professional, such as doctor or nurse, as soon as possible to re-schedule your appointment.

### **What are possible side effects from using Nucala?**

These are not all the possible side effects you may have when taking Nucala. If you experience any side effects not listed here, contact your healthcare professional.

Like all medicines, Nucala can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. The side effects caused by Nucala are usually mild to moderate but can occasionally be serious.

#### Allergic or Allergic-like reactions

- Some people may have allergic or allergic-like reactions that may be severe (e.g. anaphylaxis). These reactions often occur within minutes to hours after the injection, but sometimes symptoms can start several days later. You may experience this type of reaction even if it is not your first injection of Nucala.

#### Symptoms can include:

- becoming very wheezy, cough, difficulty breathing, chest tightness
- fainting, dizziness, suddenly feeling weak or lightheaded (due to a drop in blood pressure)
- swelling of your eyelids, face, lips, tongue, mouth, and other areas of the body (angioedema) skin rash, hives, redness



**Stop taking Nucala and seek medical attention immediately if you think you (or your child) may be having a reaction.**

If you (or your child) may have had a similar reaction before (see also **To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take Nucala**), **tell your doctor before you are given Nucala.**

**Very common side effects (may affect more than 1 in 10 people):**

- Headache
- Joint Pain
- Sinus Infection
- Cough, sore throat, runny nose, nasal congestion (common cold, chest cold, upper respiratory tract infection)
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Back pain
- Rash
- Neck pain
- Mouth and/or throat pain
- Injection site reaction (pain, redness, swelling, itching, and burning sensation of the skin near where the injection was given)
- Flu (influenza)
- Difficulty breathing (wheezing, cough, shortness of breath)

**Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people):**

- Nausea
- Constipation
- Bleeding nose (epistaxis)
- Eye or ear infection
- Skin infection (impetigo)
- Pain
- Anger (aggression)
- Dizziness
- Throat redness
- Rash (atopic dermatitis)
- Sore throat (pharyngitis)
- Congestion, cough, discomfort, fever (lower respiratory tract infection)
- Stuffy and/or runny nose, sneezing (nasal congestion, rhinitis)
- Stomach pain or discomfort in the upper area of the stomach (upper abdominal pain)
- Itchy red patches on the skin (eczema)
- Urinary tract infection (blood in urination, painful and frequent urination, fever, pain in lower back)
- High temperature (fever)
- Muscle and/or bone pain
- Sensation of spinning or feeling off balance, dizziness (vertigo)
- Lack of energy, muscle weakness
- Sensation of tingling and/or numbness (paraesthesia)

- Blurry vision

**Tell your healthcare professional immediately if you get any of these symptoms, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet.**

<b>Serious side effects and what to do about them</b>			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
Sudden, severe allergic reaction (e.g. anaphylaxis): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• skin rash (hives) or redness</li> <li>• swelling, sometimes of the face or mouth (angioedema)</li> <li>• becoming very wheezy, coughing or having difficulty breathing</li> <li>• suddenly feeling weak or light headed (may lead to collapse or loss of consciousness)</li> </ul>			✓

If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, tell your healthcare professional.

#### **Reporting Side Effects**

You can report any suspected side effects associated with the use of health products to Health Canada by:

- Visiting the Web page on Adverse Reaction Reporting (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada.html>) for information on how to report online, by mail or by fax; or
- Calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.

*NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.*

#### **Storage:**

- Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
- Do not use this medicine after the expiry date that is stated on the label.
- The expiry date refers to the last day of the stated month.
- Store in the original carton to protect from light.
- Store below 25°C. Discard unused drug if reconstituted more than 8 hours.
- Do not shake or freeze.

#### **If you want more information about Nucala:**

- Talk to your healthcare professional.

- Find the full product monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals and includes this Patient Medication Information by visiting the <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada.html> Health Canada website: (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/drug-products/drug-product-database.html>); the manufacturer's website [www.gsk.ca](http://www.gsk.ca); or, by calling 1-800-387-7374.

This leaflet was prepared by GlaxoSmithKline Inc.

**Last Revised:** November 28, 2023

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## **PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION**

### **READ THIS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF YOUR MEDICINE**

**Pr**NUCALA [*new-ka' la*]

#### **Mepolizumab Injection**

**100 mg/mL solution for subcutaneous injection (pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe (safety syringe))**

**40 mg/0.4 mL solution for subcutaneous injection (pre-filled syringe (safety syringe))**

Read this carefully before you start taking **Nucala** and each time you get a refill. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about this drug. Talk to your healthcare professional about your medical condition and treatment and ask if there is any new information about **Nucala**.

#### **What is Nucala used for?**

##### **Severe Eosinophilic Asthma**

Nucala (mepolizumab injection) is a prescription medicine used in addition to other asthma medicines to treat adults and adolescents (12-17 years of age) with severe eosinophilic asthma, whose asthma is not controlled with their current asthma medicines, such as high-dose inhalers. Severe eosinophilic asthma is a type of severe asthma in which there is a presence of eosinophils (a type of white blood cell). Eosinophils are associated with inflammation of the airways that can cause your asthma to get worse or can increase the number of asthma attacks. Nucala helps prevent the number of asthma attacks.

Nucala is not used to treat acute asthma symptoms, such as a sudden asthma attack.

##### **Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps (CRSwNP)**

CRSwNP is a condition in which people have too many eosinophils (a type of white blood cell) in the blood, nose and sinuses. This can cause symptoms such as a blocked nose and loss of smell, and soft jelly-like growths (called nasal polyps) to form inside the nose.

Nucala reduces the number of eosinophils in the blood and can reduce the size of your polyps, relieve your nasal congestion and help avoid or delay surgery for nasal polyps.

##### **Eosinophilic Granulomatosis and Polyangiitis (EGPA)**

EGPA is a condition where people have inflammation of the blood vessels (vasculitis) due to too many eosinophils (a type of white blood cell) in the blood and tissues. EGPA most commonly affects the lungs and sinuses but often also affects other organs including the skin, heart, kidneys, nerves or bowels. The most common symptoms include extreme fatigue, muscle and joint pain, weight loss, nasal sinus symptoms, and difficulty breathing.

In adults, Nucala, used in addition to corticosteroids, can reduce EGPA symptoms and delay flare-up of these symptoms. Nucala can also help reduce the daily dose of corticosteroids you need to control your symptoms.

### **Hypereosinophilic Syndrome (HES)**

HES is a condition in which there are a high number of eosinophils in the blood. These cells can damage organs in the body, particularly the heart, lungs, nerves, and skin. The most common symptoms during a HES flare include abdominal pain or bloating, breathlessness, chills or sweats, muscle or joint pain and sinonasal symptoms.

In adults, Nucala reduces the number of eosinophils in the blood and helps reduce symptoms and prevents flares.

### **How does Nucala work?**

Nucala contains the active substance, mepolizumab, a monoclonal antibody that works by blocking a specific protein called interleukin-5. By blocking the action of interleukin-5, Nucala limits the production of more eosinophils from the bone marrow and lowers the number of eosinophils in the blood, lungs and tissues.

### **What are the ingredients in Nucala?**

Medicinal ingredients: The active substance is mepolizumab.

Non-medicinal ingredients: The other ingredients are citric acid monohydrate, EDTA disodium dihydrate, polysorbate 80, sodium phosphate dibasic heptahydrate, and sucrose.

### **Nucala comes in the following dosage forms:**

A solution for subcutaneous injection in pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe. Each autoinjector contains 100 mg/mL of mepolizumab and pre-filled syringes contain either 100 mg/mL or 40 mg/0.4 mL of mepolizumab.

### **Do not use Nucala if:**

- you are **allergic** to mepolizumab or any of the other ingredients of this medicine. **Talk to your doctor** about whether this may apply to you.

### **To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you use Nucala.**

- Medicines of this type (monoclonal antibodies) can cause severe allergic reactions when injected into the body (see **What are the possible side effects from using Nucala?**). If you have had a similar reaction before, tell your doctor before you are given Nucala.
- Nucala does not treat acute asthma symptoms, such as a sudden asthma attack. Therefore, Nucala should not be used to treat such symptoms.
- Tell your doctor if your asthma symptoms remain uncontrolled or get worse while being treated with Nucala.
- Tell your doctor if you are taking corticosteroids or other medicines for the treatment of asthma, Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps, Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis, or Hypereosinophilic Syndrome. **Do not suddenly stop taking** your corticosteroids or other medicines once you have started Nucala. Corticosteroids must be stopped gradually, under the supervision of your doctor.

- There are different treatments available for hypereosinophilic syndrome depending on the type of disease, as such, talk to your doctor about genetic testing to guide optimal treatment decision.

**Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if you:**

- have an existing parasitic infection, live in a region where infections caused by parasites are common, or if you are travelling to such a region. Nucala may weaken your resistance to such infections. Parasitic infections should be treated prior to starting treatment with Nucala.
- have or have not had chickenpox (varicella) or shingles, or if you have or have not received a chickenpox or shingles vaccine.

**Pregnancy and breast-feeding:**

- If you are pregnant, think you may be pregnant, or are planning to become pregnant, **tell your doctor** before using this medicine. You should not use this medicine if you are pregnant, unless this is considered necessary by your doctor.
- If you become pregnant while being treated with Nucala or within 4 months of stopping treatment with Nucala, tell your doctor immediately.
- It is not known whether the ingredients of Nucala can pass into breast milk. **If you are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed, you must tell your doctor** before being treated with Nucala.

**Other warnings you should know about:**

Nucala should not be given to children under 6 years of age for the treatment of severe eosinophilic asthma and should not be given to children and adolescents under 18 years of age for the treatment of CRSwNP, EGPA or HES. The pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe should not be used in children.

**Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take or have recently taken, including drugs, natural supplements or alternative medicines.**

**How to take Nucala:**

100 mg/mL pre-filled auto-injector or pre-filled syringe (safety syringe)

Nucala is a solution for injection in a single-dose pre-filled autoinjector or a single-dose pre-filled syringe, which can be given by a healthcare professional, you, or your caregiver. Your healthcare professional will decide if you or your caregiver can inject Nucala. If appropriate, they will provide training to show you or your caregiver the correct way to give the injections before you use Nucala. Read the Instructions for Use (IFU) that comes with Nucala 100 mg/mL autoinjector or pre-filled syringe for instructions about the correct way to give yourself an injection.

- Nucala is given by injection under the skin (subcutaneously).
- You can inject Nucala under your skin in your stomach area (abdomen) or upper leg (thigh). Your caregiver can also inject Nucala into your upper arm. You should not give injections into areas where the skin is tender, bruised, red, or hard.

### 40 mg/0.4 mL pre-filled syringe (safety syringe)

Nucala is a solution for injection in a single-dose pre-filled syringe, which must be given by a healthcare professional or a caregiver. Your healthcare professional will decide if you can inject Nucala to the child you are caring for. If appropriate, they will provide training to show you the correct way to use Nucala. Read the Instructions for Use (IFU) that comes with Nucala 40 mg/0.4 mL pre-filled syringe for instructions about the correct way to give a child an injection.

- Nucala is given by injection under the skin (subcutaneously).
- You can inject Nucala under the child's skin in the stomach area (abdomen), upper leg (thigh), or upper arm. You should not give injections into areas where the skin is tender, bruised, red, or hard.

### **Usual dose:**

#### **Severe Eosinophilic Asthma**

- **Adults and adolescents (12 years of age and older):** The recommended dose of Nucala for severe eosinophilic asthma in adults and adolescents is 100 mg, given as 1 injection under the skin (subcutaneous) every four weeks.
- **Children (6 to 11 years of age):** Only the lyophilized powder for subcutaneous injection and the 40 mg/0.4 mL pre-filled syringe can provide the correct dose for children. The 100 mg/mL pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe should not be used in children. The recommended dose of Nucala for severe eosinophilic asthma in children is 40 mg, given as 1 injection under the skin (subcutaneous) every four weeks.

#### **Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps**

The recommended dose of Nucala for CRSwNP in adults is 100 mg, given as 1 injection under the skin (subcutaneous) every four weeks.

#### **Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis**

The recommended dose of Nucala for EGPA in adults is 300 mg, given as 3 injections under the skin (subcutaneous) every four weeks.

#### **Hypereosinophilic Syndrome**

The recommended dose of Nucala for HES in adults is 300 mg, given as 3 injections under the skin (subcutaneous) every four weeks.

Do not stop using Nucala unless advised by your doctor. Interrupting or stopping the treatment with Nucala may cause your symptoms to become worse or occur more frequently. If your symptoms get worse when being treated with Nucala, immediately tell your doctor.

### **Overdose:**

If you think you, or a person you are caring for, have taken too much Nucala, contact a healthcare professional, hospital emergency department, or regional poison control centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

### **Missed Dose:**

If you or your caregiver forget to give an injection of Nucala:

You should inject the next dose of Nucala as soon as you remember. Then, you can resume dosing on the usual day of administration. If you do not notice that you have missed a dose until it is already time for your next dose, then just inject the next dose as planned. If you are not sure what to do, ask your healthcare professional, such as doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

### **What are possible side effects from using Nucala?**

These are not all the possible side effects you may have when taking Nucala. If you experience any side effects not listed here, contact your healthcare professional.

Like all medicines, Nucala can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. The side effects caused by Nucala are usually mild to moderate but can occasionally be serious.

Allergic or Allergic-like reactions:

- Some people may have allergic or allergic-like reactions that may be severe (e.g. anaphylaxis). These reactions often occur within minutes to hours after the injection, but sometimes symptoms can start several days later. You may experience this type of reaction even if it is not your first injection of Nucala.

Symptoms can include:

- becoming very wheezy, cough, difficulty breathing, chest tightness
- fainting, dizziness, suddenly feeling weak or lightheaded (due to a drop in blood pressure)
- swelling of your eyelids, face, lips, tongue, mouth, and other areas of the body (angioedema) skin rash, hives, redness

**Stop taking Nucala and seek medical attention immediately if you think you (or your child) may be having a reaction.**

If you (or your child) may have had a similar reaction before (see also **To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take Nucala**), **tell your doctor before you are given Nucala.**

Very common side effects (may affect more than 1 in 10 people):

- Headache
- Joint Pain
- Sinus Infection
- Cough, sore throat, runny nose, nasal congestion (Upper respiratory tract infection)
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Back pain
- Rash
- Neck pain



- Mouth and/or throat pain
- Injection site reaction (pain, redness, swelling, itching, and burning sensation of the skin near where the injection was given)

Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people):

- Sore throat (pharyngitis)
- Congestion, cough, discomfort, fever (lower respiratory tract infection)
- Stuffy nose (nasal congestion)
- Stomach pain or discomfort in the upper area of the stomach (upper abdominal pain)
- Itchy red patches on the skin (eczema)
- Urinary tract infection (blood in urination, painful and frequent urination, fever, pain in lower back)
- High temperature (fever)
- Muscle and/or bone pain
- Sensation of spinning or feeling off balance, dizziness (Vertigo)
- Lack of energy, muscle weakness
- Sensation of tingling and/or numbness (Paraesthesia)
- Blurry vision

**Tell your healthcare professional immediately if you get any of these symptoms**, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet.

<b>Serious side effects and what to do about them</b>			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
Sudden, severe allergic reaction (e.g. anaphylaxis): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• skin rash (hives) or redness</li> <li>• swelling, sometimes of the face or mouth (angioedema)</li> <li>• becoming very wheezy, coughing or having difficulty breathing</li> <li>• suddenly feeling weak or light headed (may lead to collapse or loss of consciousness)</li> </ul>			✓

If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, tell your healthcare professional.

### Reporting Side Effects

You can report any suspected side effects associated with the use of health products to Health Canada by:

- Visiting the Web page on Adverse Reaction Reporting (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada.html>) for information on how to report online, by mail or by fax; or
- Calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.

*NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.*

### Storage:

- Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
- Do not use this medicine after the expiry date that is stated on the label. The expiry date refers to the last day of the stated month.
- Store in the original carton to protect from light.
- Store refrigerated (2°C to 8°C).
- If necessary, can be removed from the refrigerator and kept in the unopened carton for up to 7 days at below 30°C. **Discard if the unopened carton is left out of the refrigerator for more than 7 days.**
- The pre-filled autoinjector or pre-filled syringe must be administered within 8 hours once the carton is opened. Discard if not administered within 8 hours.
- Do not shake or freeze.

### If you want more information about Nucala:

- Talk to your healthcare professional.
- Find the full product monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals and includes this Patient Medication Information by visiting the <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada.html> Health Canada website: (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/drug-products/drug-product-database.html>); the manufacturer's website [www.gsk.ca](http://www.gsk.ca); or, by calling 1-800-387-7374.

This leaflet was prepared by GlaxoSmithKline Inc.

**Last Revised:** November 28, 2023

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## NUCALA (mepolizumab injection)

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE - PRE-FILLED AUTOINJECTOR

#### Administer once every four weeks

These INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE should be read together with the rest of the PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION in your Nucala package. Contact your healthcare professional if you have any questions about Nucala.

Follow these instructions on how to use the pre-filled autoinjector. Failure to follow these instructions may affect proper function of the pre-filled autoinjector. You should also receive training on how to use the pre-filled autoinjector. Nucala pre-filled autoinjector is for use **under the skin only** (subcutaneous).

#### How to store Nucala

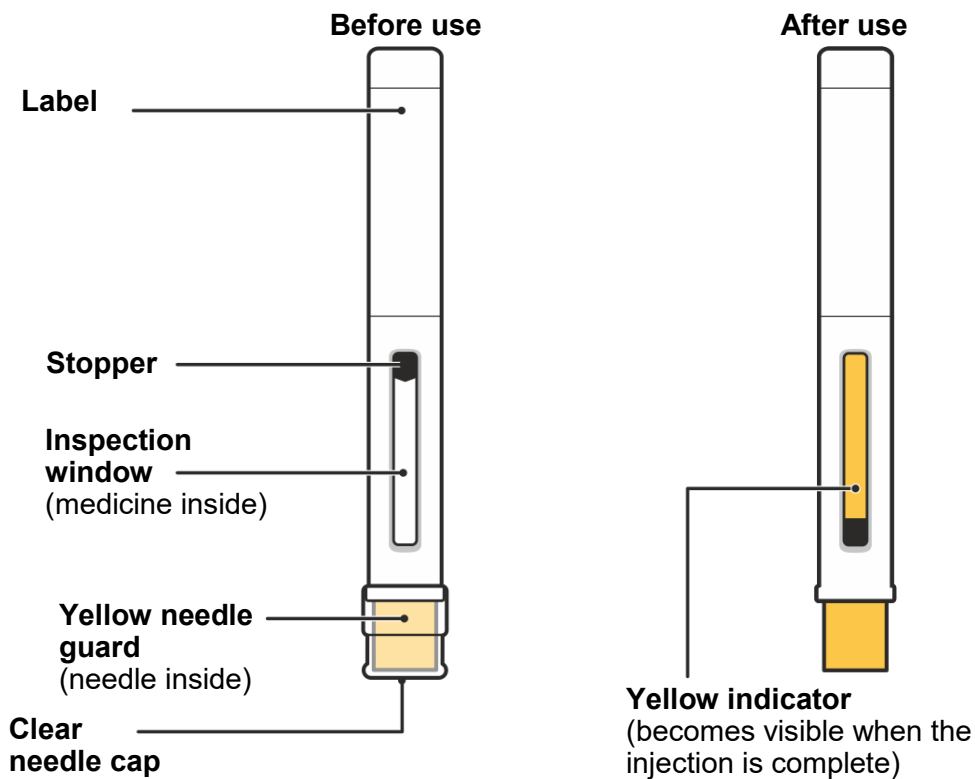
- Keep refrigerated before use.
- Do not freeze.
- Keep in the carton to protect from light.
- Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
- If necessary, the pre-filled autoinjector may be kept at below 30°C, for no more than 7 days, when stored in the original carton. Throw it away if it has not been used within 7 days.
- The autoinjector must be used within 8 hours once the carton is opened. Discard if not used within 8 hours.
- Do not store it above 30°C.

#### Before you use Nucala

The pre-filled autoinjector should be used only once and then discarded.

- **Do not** share your Nucala pre-filled autoinjector with another person.
- **Do not** shake the autoinjector.
- **Do not** use the autoinjector if dropped onto a hard surface.
- **Do not** use the autoinjector if it appears damaged.
- **Do not** remove the needle cap until just before your injection.

Figure A. Nucala autoinjector parts

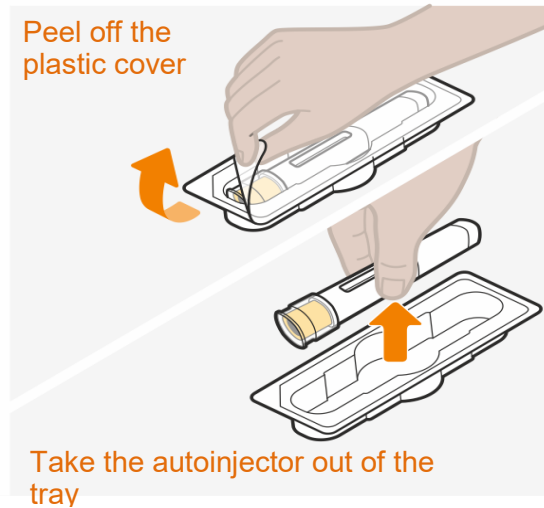
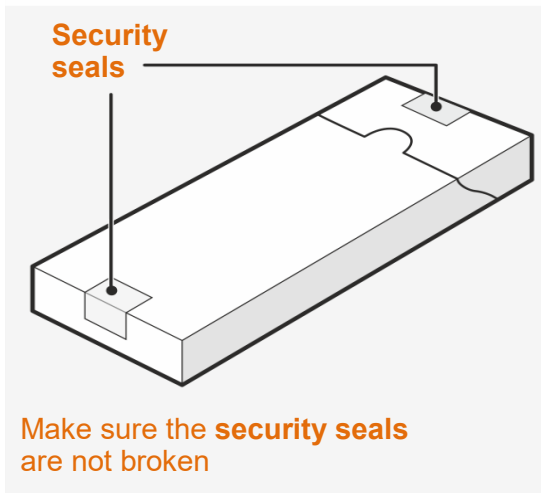


### Gather Supplies

Find a comfortable, well-lit and clean surface. Make sure you have within reach:

- Nucala pre-filled autoinjector
- Alcohol wipe (not included)
- Gauze pad or cotton ball (not included)

## 1. Prepare the Nucala autoinjector

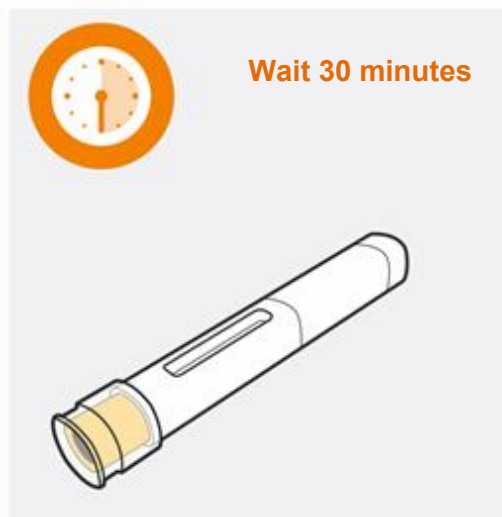
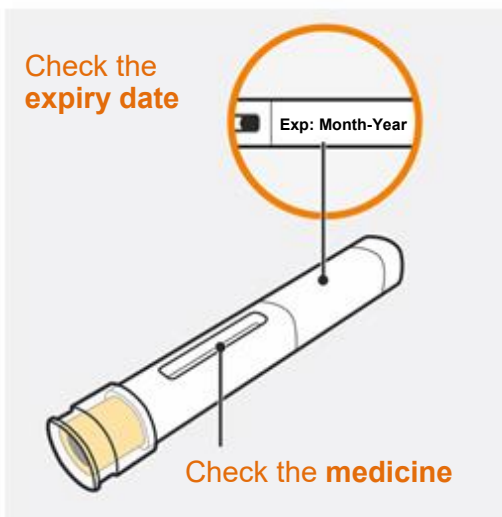


- Take the carton out of the refrigerator. Check the security seals are not broken.
- Remove the tray from the carton.
- Peel back the film cover from the tray.
- Holding the middle of the autoinjector, carefully take it out of the tray.
- Place the autoinjector on a clean, flat surface, at room temperature, away from direct sunlight and out of the reach of children.

**Do not** use the autoinjector if the security seal on the carton is broken.

**Do not** remove the needle cap at this stage.

## 2. Inspect and wait 30 minutes before use



- Check the expiry date on the label of the autoinjector.

- Look in the inspection window to check that the liquid is clear (free from cloudiness or particles) and colourless or pale yellow to pale brown.
- It is normal to see one or more air bubbles.
- Wait 30 minutes (and no more than 8 hours) before use.

**Do not** use if the expiry date has passed.

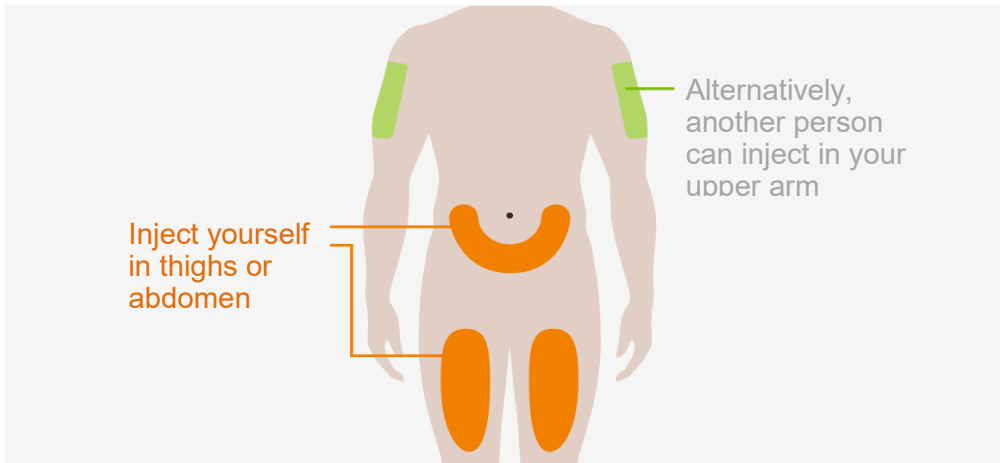
**Do not** warm the autoinjector in a microwave, hot water, or direct sunlight.

**Do not** inject if the solution looks cloudy or discoloured, or has particles.

**Do not** use the autoinjector if left out of the carton for more than 8 hours.

**Do not** remove the needle cap during this step.

### 3. Choose your injection site

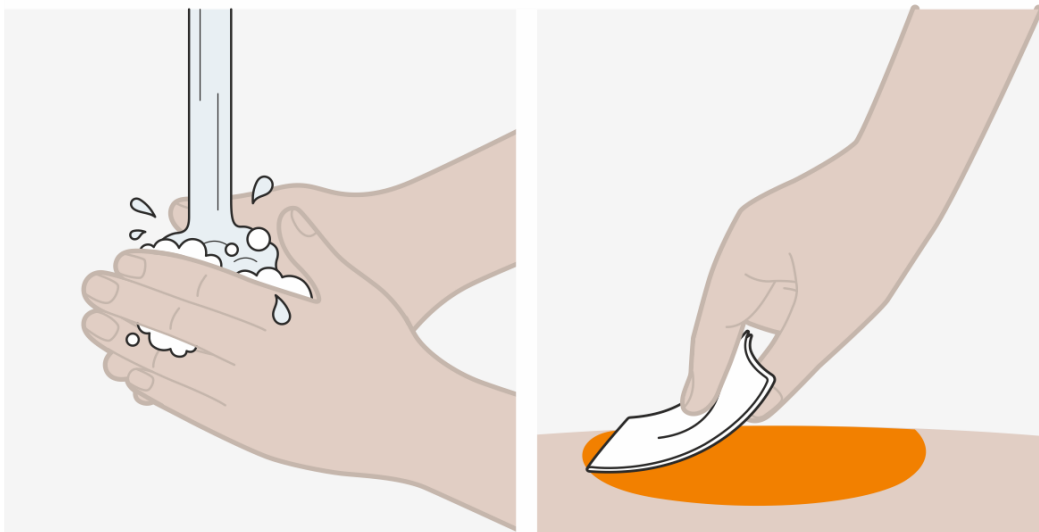


- You can inject Nucala into your thighs or abdomen.
- If someone else gives you the injection, they can also use your upper arm.
- If you need more than one injection to complete your dose then leave at least 5 cm (2 inches) between each injection site.

**Do not** inject where your skin is bruised, tender, red or hard.

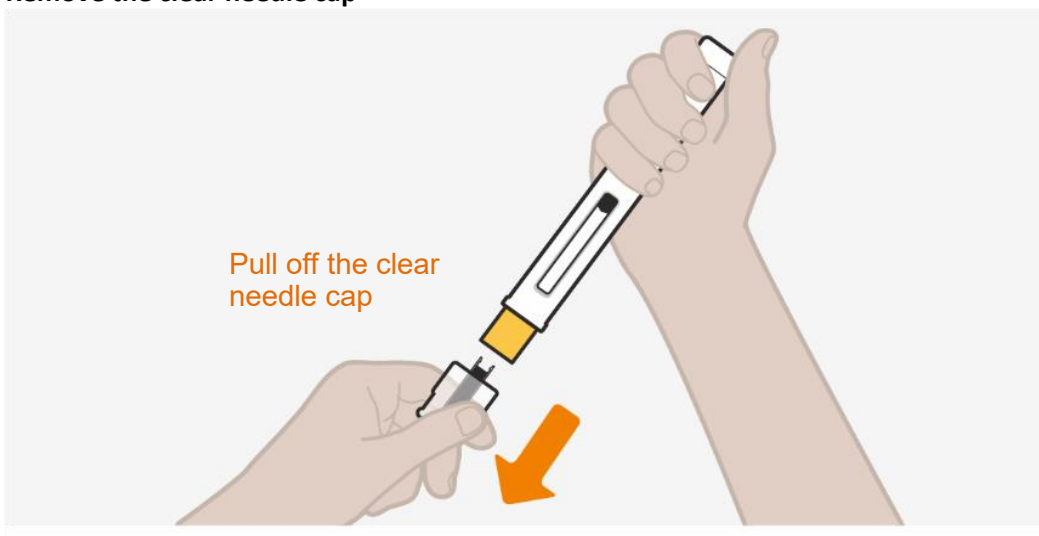
**Do not** inject within 5 cm (2 inches) of your navel (belly button).

#### 4. Clean your injection site



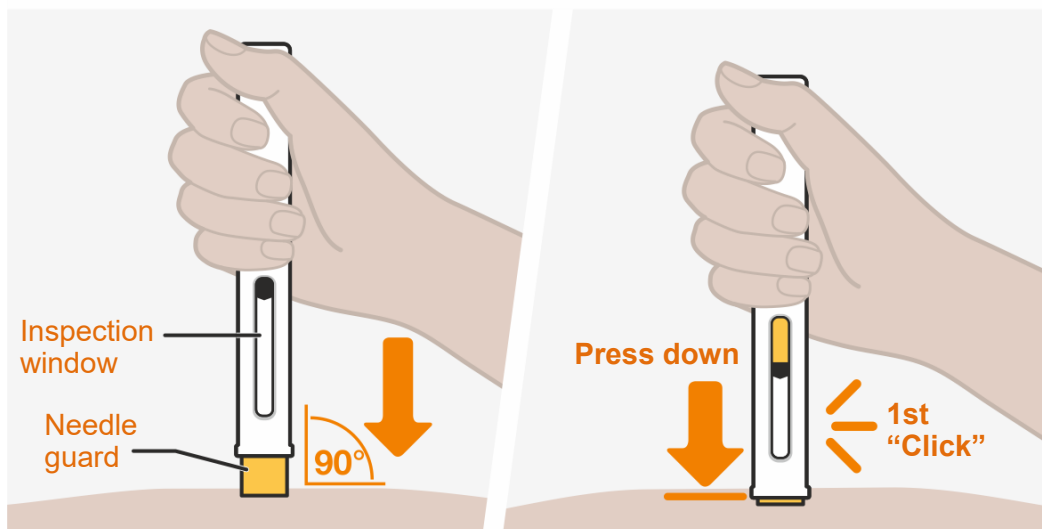
- Wash your hands with soap and water.
  - Clean your injection site by wiping the skin with an alcohol wipe and allowing the skin to air dry.
- Do not** touch your injection site again until you have finished your injection.

#### 5. Remove the clear needle cap



- Remove the clear needle cap from the autoinjector by firmly pulling it straight off.
  - Do not worry if you see a drop of liquid at the end of the needle. This is normal.
  - Inject straight after removing the needle cap, and always within 5 minutes.
- Do not** touch the yellow needle guard with your fingers. This could activate the autoinjector too soon and may cause a needle injury.
- After removal, do not put the needle cap back onto the autoinjector, as it may accidentally start the injection.

## 6. Start your injection

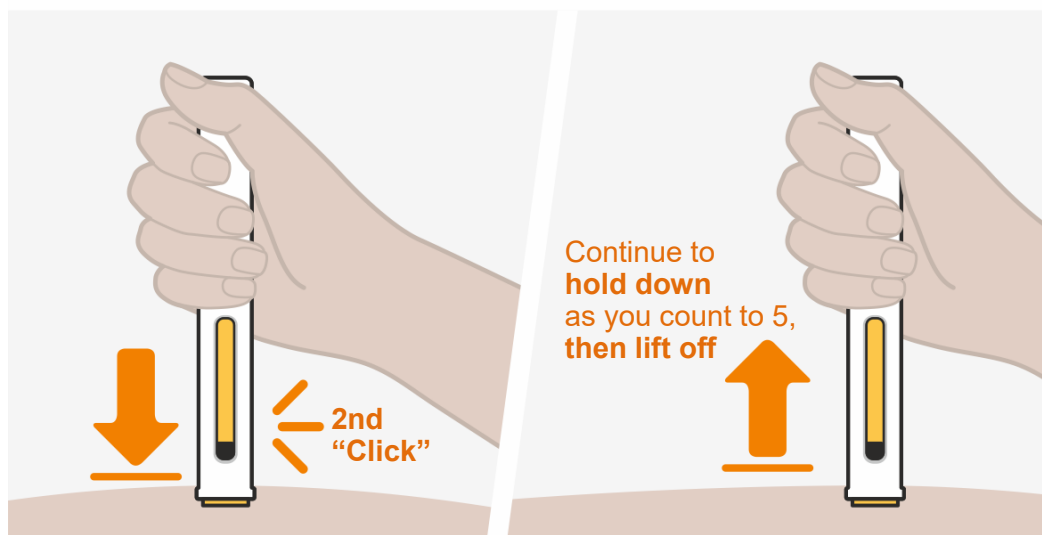


- Hold the autoinjector with its inspection window facing towards you, so you can see it, and with the yellow needle guard facing down.
- Place the autoinjector straight onto your injection site with the yellow needle guard flat against the surface of your skin, as shown.
- To start your injection, push the autoinjector down all the way and keep it held down against your skin. The yellow needle guard will slide up into the autoinjector.
- You should hear the 1st “click” to tell you your injection has started.
- The yellow indicator will move down through the inspection window as you receive your dose.

**Do not** lift the autoinjector from your skin at this stage, as that may mean you don’t get your full dose of medicine. Your injection may take up to 15 seconds to complete.

**Do not** use the autoinjector if the yellow needle guard doesn’t slide up as described. Dispose of it (see **Dispose of the used autoinjector** step), and start again with a new autoinjector.

## 7. Hold the autoinjector in place to complete your injection





- Continue to hold the autoinjector down until you hear the 2<sup>nd</sup> “click”, and the stopper and yellow indicator have stopped moving and fill the inspection window.
- Continue to hold the autoinjector in place while you count to 5. Then lift the autoinjector away from your skin.
- If you do not hear the 2<sup>nd</sup> “click”:
  - Check that the inspection window is filled with the yellow indicator.
  - If you are not sure, hold the autoinjector down for another 15 seconds to make sure the injection is complete.

**Do not** lift the autoinjector until you are sure you have completed your injection.

- You may notice a small drop of blood at the injection site. This is normal. Press a cotton ball or gauze on the area for a few moments if necessary.

**Do not** rub your injection site.

#### **8. Dispose of the used autoinjector**

- Dispose of the used autoinjector and needle cap according to local requirements. Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist for advice if necessary.
- Keep your used autoinjectors and needle caps out of the reach of children.

## NUCALA (mepolizumab injection)

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE – 100 mg/mL PRE-FILLED SYRINGE (SAFETY SYRINGE)

#### Administer once every four weeks

These INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE should be read together with the rest of the PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION in your Nucala package. Contact your healthcare professional if you have any questions about Nucala.

Follow these instructions on how to use the pre-filled syringe. Failure to follow these instructions may affect proper function of the pre-filled syringe. You should also receive training on how to use the pre-filled syringe. Nucala pre-filled syringe is for **use under the skin only** (subcutaneous).

#### How to store Nucala

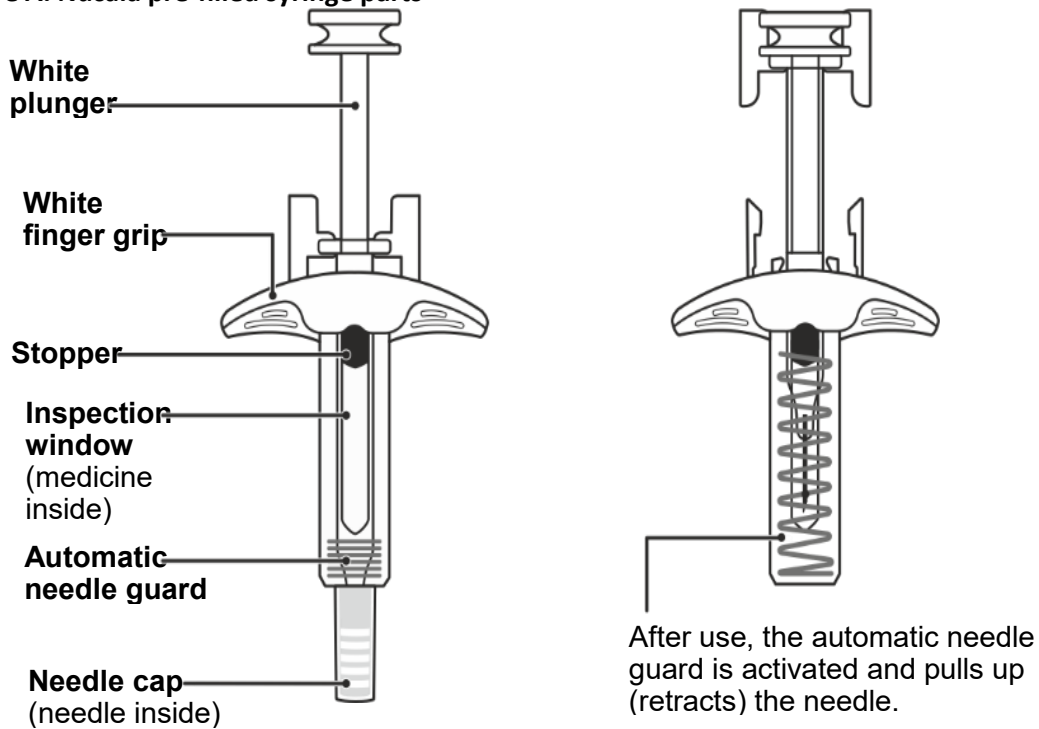
- Keep refrigerated before use.
- Do not freeze.
- Keep in the carton to protect from light.
- Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
- If necessary, the pre-filled safety syringe may be kept at below 30°C, for no more than 7 days, when stored in the original carton. Throw it away if it has not been used within 7 days.
- The pre-filled syringe must be used within 8 hours once the carton is opened. Discard if not used within 8 hours.
- Do not store it above 30°C.

#### Before you use Nucala

The pre-filled syringe should be used only once and then discarded.

- **Do not** share your Nucala pre-filled safety syringe with another person.
- **Do not** shake the syringe.
- **Do not** use the syringe if dropped onto a hard surface.
- **Do not** use the syringe if it appears damaged.
- **Do not** remove the needle cap until just before your injection.

Figure A. Nucala pre-filled syringe parts

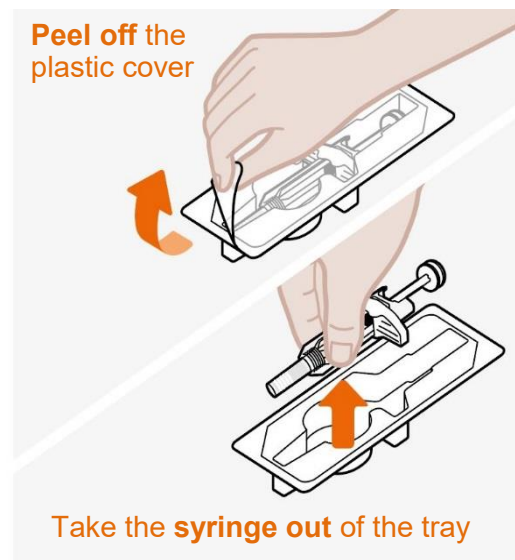
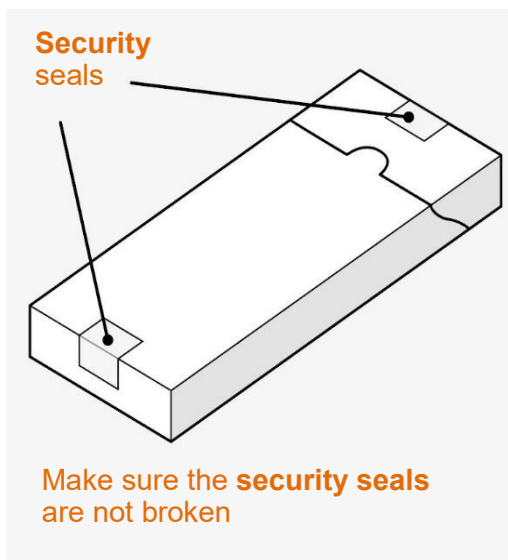


### Gather Supplies

Find a comfortable, well-lit and clean surface. Make sure you have within reach:

- Nucala pre-filled syringe
- Alcohol wipe (not included)
- Gauze pad or cotton ball (not included)

### 1. Prepare the Nucala pre-filled syringe



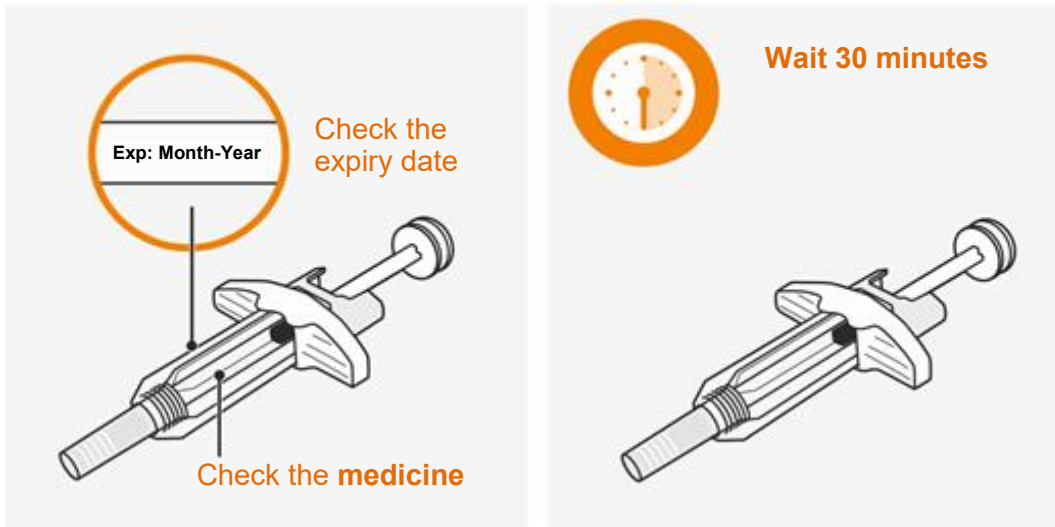
- Take the carton out of the refrigerator. Check the security seals are not broken.

- Remove the tray from the carton.
- Peel back the film cover from the tray.
- Holding the middle of the syringe, carefully take it out of the tray.
- Place the syringe on a clean, flat surface, at room temperature, away from direct sunlight and out of the reach of children.

**Do not** use the syringe if the security seal on the carton is broken.

**Do not** remove the needle cap at this stage.

## 2. Inspect and wait 30 minutes before use



- Check the expiry date on the label of the syringe.
- Look in the inspection window to check that the liquid is clear (free from cloudiness or particles) and colourless or pale yellow or pale brown.
- It is normal to see one or more air bubbles.
- Wait 30 minutes (and no more than 8 hours) before use.

**Do not** use if the expiry date has passed.

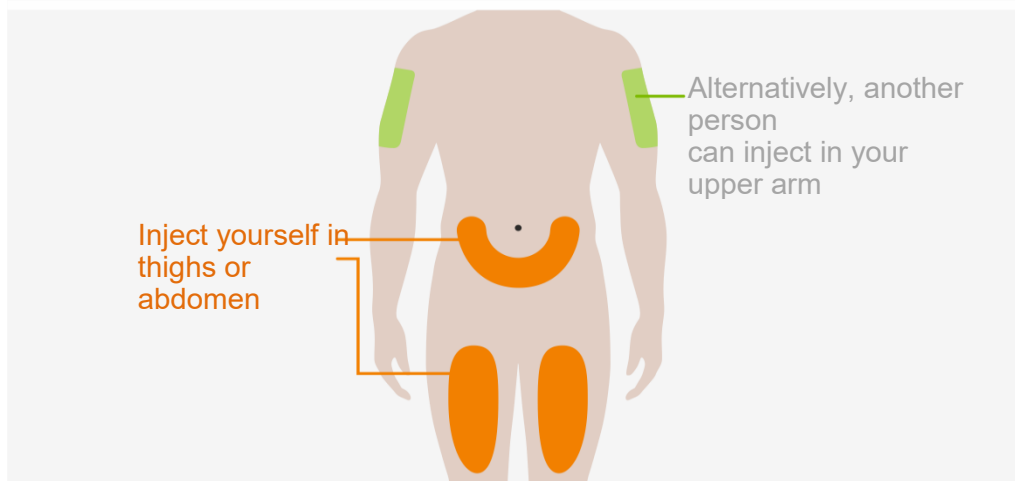
**Do not** warm the syringe in a microwave, hot water, or direct sunlight.

**Do not** inject if the solution looks cloudy or discoloured, or has particles.

**Do not** use the syringe if left out of the carton for more than 8 hours.

**Do not** remove the needle cap during this step.

### 3. Choose your injection site

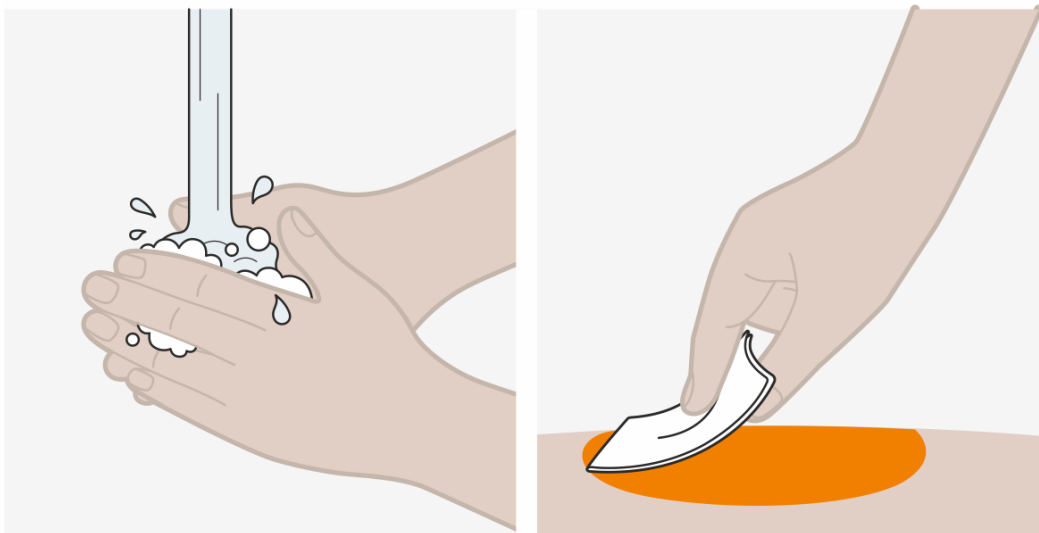


- You can inject Nucala into your thighs or abdomen.
- If someone else gives you the injection, they can also use your upper arm.
- If you need more than one injection to complete your dose then leave at least 5 cm (2 inches) between each injection site.

**Do not** inject where your skin is bruised, tender, red or hard.

**Do not** inject within 5 cm (2 inches) of your navel (belly button).

### 4. Clean your injection site



- Wash your hands with soap and water.
- Clean your injection site by wiping the skin with an alcohol wipe and allowing the skin to air dry.

**Do not** touch your injection site again until you have finished your injection.

## 5. Remove the needle cap



- Remove the needle cap from the syringe by firmly pulling it straight off, extending your hand away from the needle end (as shown).
- You may need to pull the needle cap quite firmly to remove it.

**Do not** worry if you see a drop of liquid at the end of the needle. This is normal. Inject straight after removing the needle cap, and always within 5 minutes.

**Do not** let the needle touch any surface.

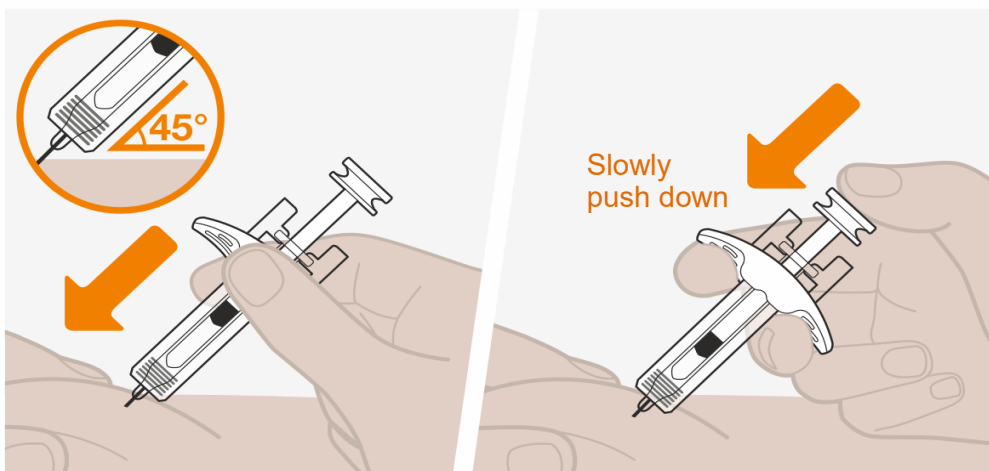
**Do not** touch the needle.

**Do not** touch the plunger at this stage, as you can accidentally push liquid out and will not receive your full dose.

**Do not** expel any air bubbles from the syringe.

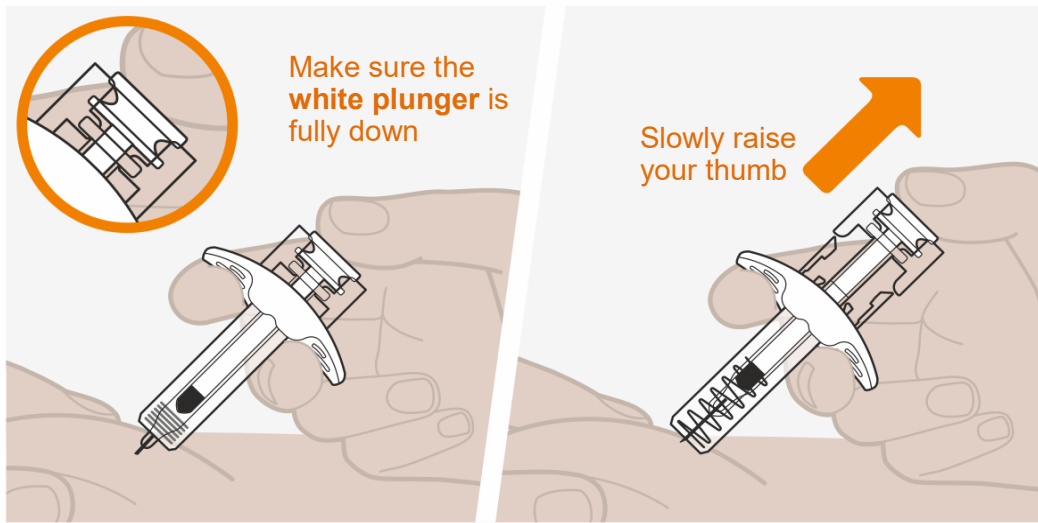
**Do not** put the needle cap back onto the syringe. This could cause a needle injury.

## 6. Start your injection



- Use your free hand to pinch the skin around your injection site. Keep the skin pinched throughout your injection.
- Insert the entire needle into the pinched skin at a 45° angle, as shown.
- Move your thumb to the plunger and place your fingers on the white finger grip, as shown.
- Slowly push down on the plunger to inject your full dose.

## 7. Complete your injection



- Make sure the plunger is pushed all the way down, until the stopper reaches the bottom of the syringe and all of the solution is injected.
- Slowly lift your thumb up. This will allow the plunger to come up and the needle to retract (rise up) into the body of the syringe.
- Once complete, release the pinched skin.
  - You may notice a small drop of blood at the injection site. This is normal. Press a cotton ball or gauze on the area for a few moments if necessary.

**Do not** put the needle cap back onto the syringe.

**Do not** rub your injection site.

## 8. Dispose of the used syringe

- Dispose of the used syringe and needle cap according to local requirements. Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist for advice if necessary.
- Keep your used syringes and needle caps out of the reach of children

## NUCALA (mepolizumab injection)

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE – 40 mg/0.4 mL PRE-FILLED SYRINGE (SAFETY SYRINGE)

#### Administer once every four weeks

These INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE should be read together with the rest of the PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION in your Nucala package. Contact your healthcare professional if you have any questions about Nucala.

Follow these instructions on how to use the pre-filled syringe. Failure to follow these instructions may affect proper function of the pre-filled syringe. You should also receive training on how to use the pre-filled syringe. Nucala pre-filled syringe is for **use under the skin only** (subcutaneous).

#### How to store Nucala

- Keep refrigerated before use.
- Do not freeze.
- Keep in the carton to protect from light.
- Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
- If necessary, the pre-filled syringe may be kept at below 30°C, for no more than 7 days, when stored in the original carton. Throw it away if it has not been used within 7 days.
- The pre-filled syringe must be used within 8 hours once the carton is opened. Discard if not used within 8 hours.
- Do not store it above 30°C.

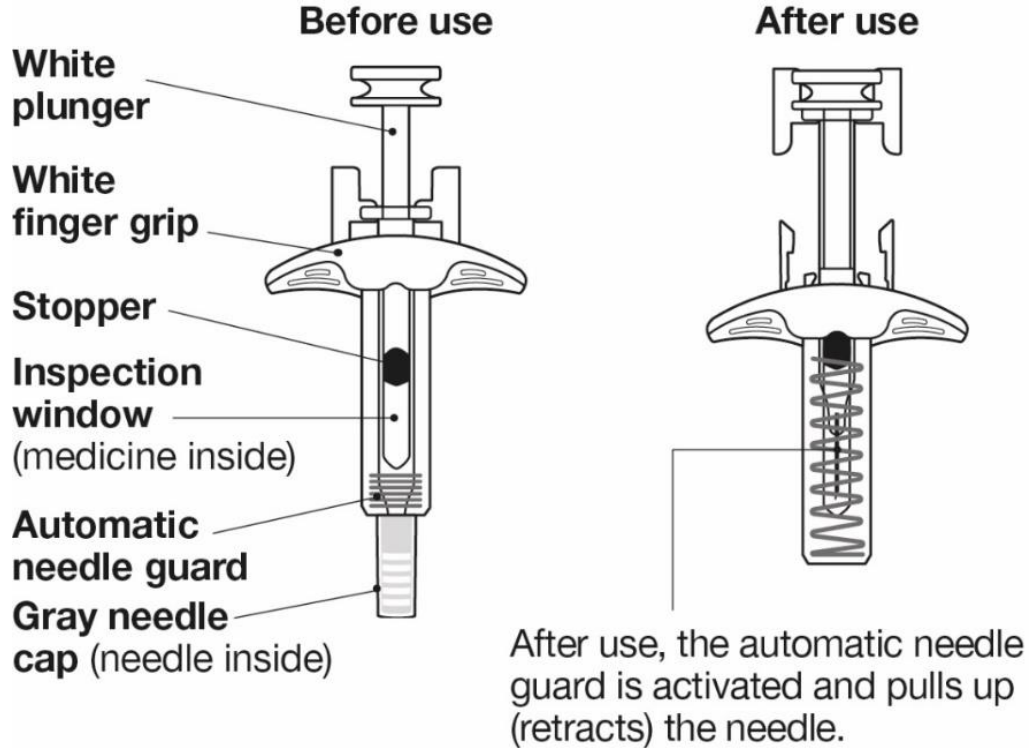
#### Before you use Nucala

The pre-filled syringe should be used only once and then discarded.

- **Do not** share the Nucala pre-filled syringe with another person.
- **Do not** shake the syringe.
- **Do not** use the syringe if dropped onto a hard surface.
- **Do not** use the syringe if it appears damaged.
- **Do not** remove the needle cap until just before the injection.



Figure A. Nucala pre-filled syringe parts

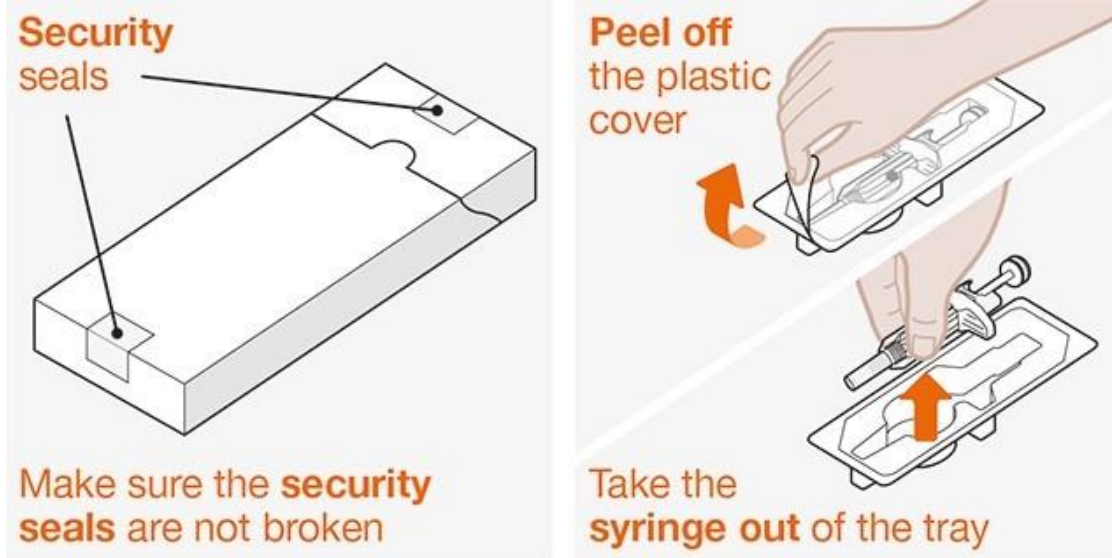


### Gather Supplies

Find a comfortable, well-lit and clean surface. Make sure you have within reach:

- Nucala pre-filled syringe
- Alcohol wipe (not included)
- Gauze pad or cotton ball (not included)

## 1. Prepare the pre-filled syringe



- Take the carton out of the refrigerator. Check the security seals are not broken.
- Remove the tray from the carton.
- Peel back the film cover from the tray.
- Holding the middle of the syringe, carefully take it out of the tray.
- Place the syringe on a clean, flat surface, at room temperature, away from direct sunlight and out of the reach of children.

**Do not** use the syringe if the security seal on the carton is broken.

**Do not** remove the needle cap at this stage.

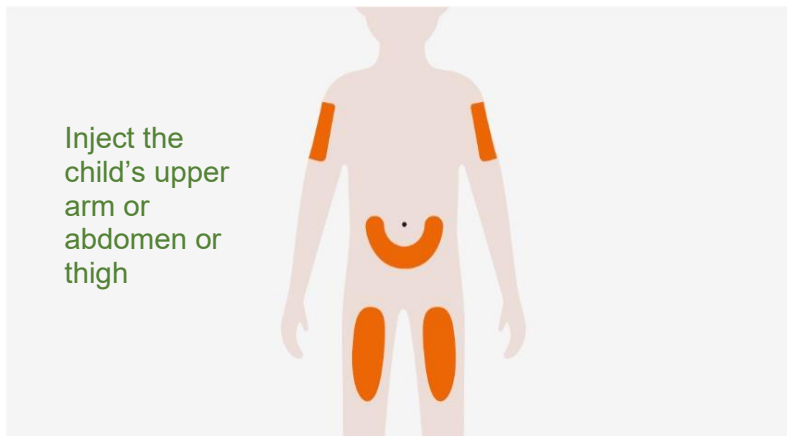
## 2. Inspect and wait 30 minutes before use



- Check the expiry date on the label of the syringe.
- Look in the inspection window to check that the liquid is clear (free from cloudiness or particles) and colourless or pale yellow or pale brown.
- It is normal to see one or more air bubbles.
- Wait 30 minutes (and no more than 8 hours) before use.

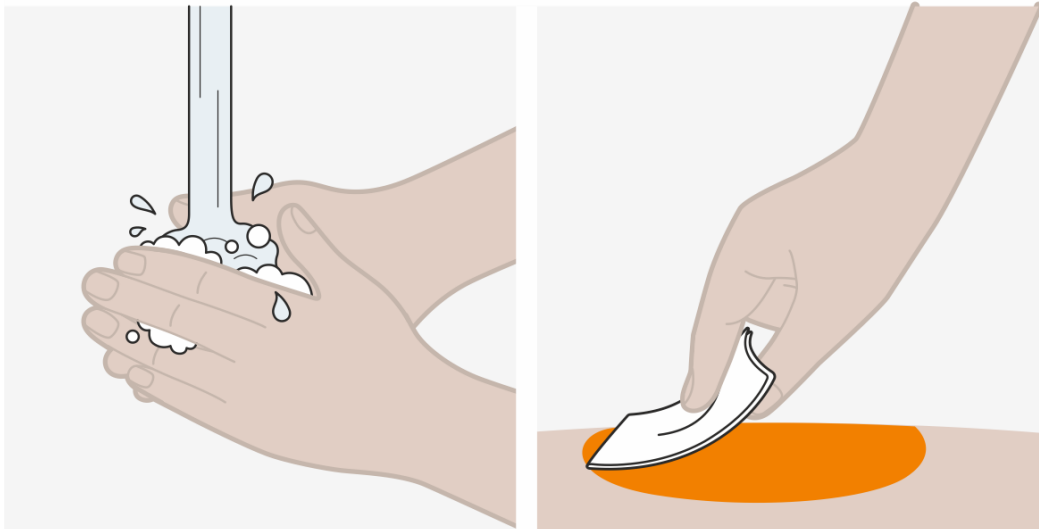
- Do not** use if the expiry date has passed.
- Do not** warm the syringe in a microwave, hot water, or direct sunlight.
- Do not** inject if the solution looks cloudy or discoloured, or has particles.
- Do not** use the syringe if left out of the carton for more than 8 hours.
- Do not** remove the needle cap during this step.

### 3. Choose the injection site



- You can inject Nucala into the upper arm, abdomen or thigh of the child you are caring for.
- Do not** inject where the skin is bruised, tender, red or hard.  
**Do not** inject within 5 cm (2 inches) of the navel (belly button).

### 4. Clean the injection site



- Wash your hands with soap and water.
  - Clean the injection site by wiping the skin with an alcohol wipe and allowing the skin to air dry.
- Do not** touch your injection site again until you have finished the injection.

## 5. Remove the needle cap



- Remove the needle cap from the syringe by firmly pulling it straight off, extending your hand away from the needle end (as shown).
- You may need to pull the needle cap quite firmly to remove it.

**Do not** worry if you see a drop of liquid at the end of the needle. This is normal.

Inject straight after removing the needle cap, and always within 5 minutes.

**Do not** let the needle touch any surface.

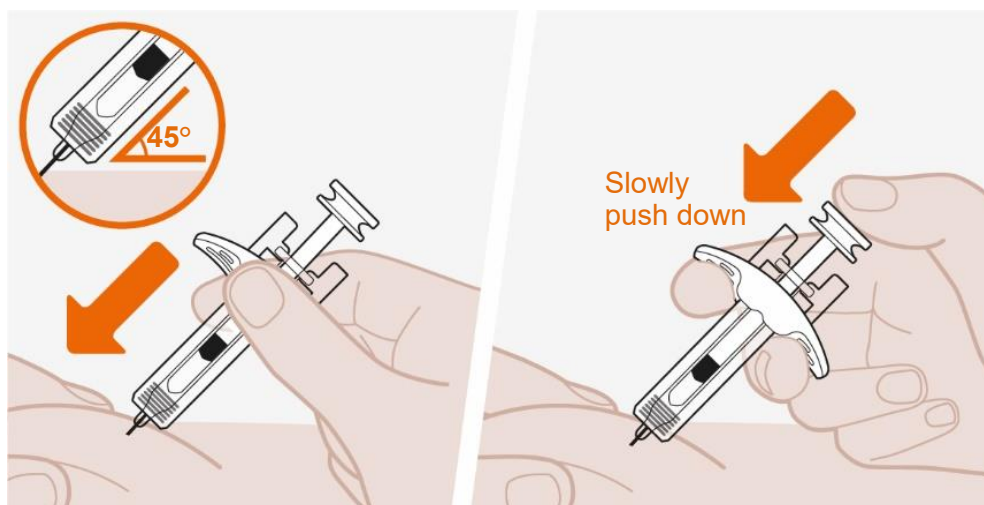
**Do not** touch the needle.

**Do not** touch the plunger at this stage, as you can accidentally push liquid out and will not give the full dose.

**Do not** expel any air bubbles from the syringe.

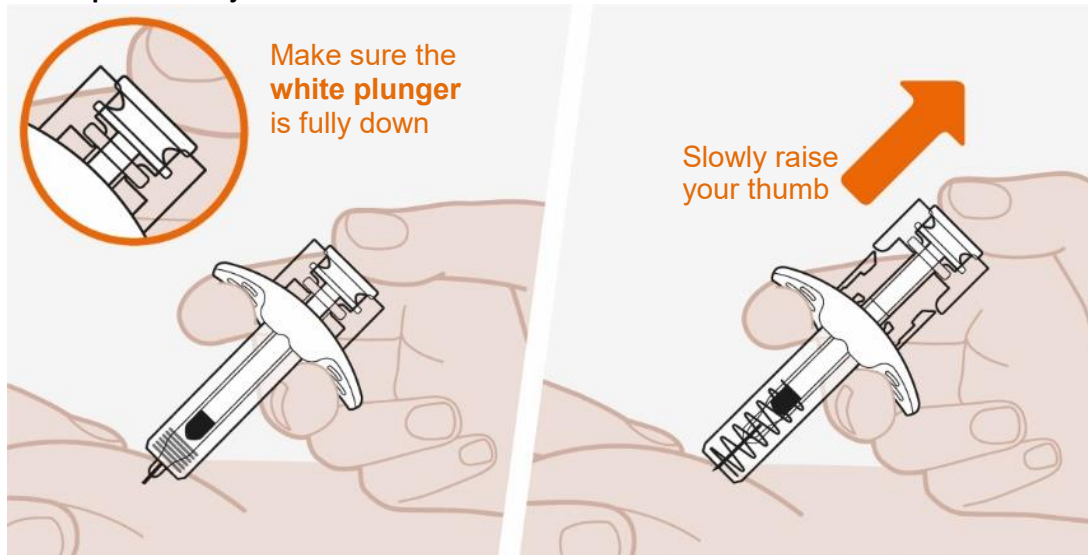
**Do not** put the needle cap back onto the syringe. This could cause a needle injury.

## 6. Start the injection



- Use your free hand to pinch the skin around the injection site. Keep the skin pinched throughout your injection.
- Insert the entire needle into the pinched skin at a 45° angle, as shown.
- Move your thumb to the plunger and place your fingers on the white finger grip, as shown.
- Slowly push down on the plunger to inject the full dose.

### 7. Complete the injection



- Make sure the plunger is pushed all the way down, until the stopper reaches the bottom of the syringe and all of the solution is injected.
- Slowly lift your thumb up. This will allow the plunger to come up and the needle to retract (rise up) into the body of the syringe.
- Once complete, release the pinched skin.
  - You may notice a small drop of blood at the injection site. This is normal. Press a cotton ball or gauze on the area for a few moments if necessary.

**Do not** put the needle cap back onto the syringe.

**Do not** rub your injection site.

### 8. Dispose of the used syringe

- Dispose of the used syringe and needle cap according to local requirements. Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist for advice if necessary.
- Keep the used syringes and needle caps out of the sight and reach of children.