INDICATION
SOMAVERT is a prescription medicine for acromegaly. It is for patients whose disease has not been controlled by surgery or radiation, or patients for whom these options are not appropriate. The goal of treatment with SOMAVERT is to have a normal IGF-I level in the blood.

SELECTED SAFETY INFORMATION
SOMAVERT has not been studied in pregnant women. It is not known if SOMAVERT passes into the mother’s milk or if it can harm the baby.

Please see additional Selected Safety Information on the following pages and click here for full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.
LEARNING ABOUT ACROMEGALY HELPS SUPPORT YOUR FRIEND OR RELATIVE

Living with an extremely rare disease can be isolating. And, it can be hard for friends and family to know what to say or do. When friends and family are informed about acromegaly, patients may feel less alone.

It’s estimated that only 60 people out of 1 million have acromegaly.

WHAT IS ACROMEGALY?

Acromegaly is a chronic disease, usually caused by a benign (not cancerous) tumor on the pituitary gland. The high levels of growth hormone (GH) caused by the tumor lead to too much of a protein called insulin-like growth factor-I (IGF-I). This causes abnormal growth of tissues and organs.

Signs and symptoms of acromegaly

Patients may first notice that their hands or feet are growing. An increase in ring size is an early sign. Other symptoms can be confused with those of other disorders. Acromegaly signs and symptoms can include:

- Joint pain
- Headaches
- Swelling of hands, feet, and face
- Fatigue
- Sweating
- Increased ring size

Monitoring IGF-I levels is key—patients and their healthcare teams should also discuss acromegaly symptoms.

SELECTED SAFETY INFORMATION

If you have stopped SOMAVERT because of an allergic reaction, your doctor will carefully monitor what happens if you start SOMAVERT again.

Be sure to tell your doctor if you use narcotic painkillers (opioid medicines) because the dose of SOMAVERT may need to be changed.

Please see additional Selected Safety Information on the following pages and click here for full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.
WHAT HAPPENS AFTER SOMEONE IS DIAGNOSED WITH ACROMEGALY?

For most people with acromegaly, treatment starts with surgery to remove the tumor. If surgery is not possible or not effective, radiation can be used to shrink the tumor.

A pituitary tumor is the cause of most acromegaly cases

The pituitary gland is a pea-sized organ located at the base of the brain.

Optic chiasm
Carotid artery
Sphenoid sinus

After surgery or radiation, patients’ levels of GH may return to normal. But not always. Some patients may still make too much. High levels of GH lead to too much IGF-I, which promotes abnormal growth in adults.

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MEDICATION FOR ACROMEGALY

When IGF-I levels are too high after surgery or radiation, patients may still be at risk for symptoms of acromegaly. This is why it’s important to bring IGF-I levels down to normal.

• IGF-I levels can be measured using a simple blood test ordered by the doctor to see if medication is needed
• After treatment begins, the doctor will order additional IGF-I blood tests to see if the medication is working or if the dose needs adjustment

Acromegaly patients should work closely with their healthcare team to set goals for lowering IGF-I levels.

SELECTED SAFETY INFORMATION

Blood sugar levels may go down when taking SOMAVERT. Be sure to tell your doctor if you use insulin or other medicines [oral hypoglycemic medicines] for diabetes. The dose of these medicines may need to be reduced when you use SOMAVERT.

Please see additional Selected Safety Information on the following pages and click here for full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.
If your friend or family member still has high levels of IGF-I after surgery or radiation, SOMAVERT may be a treatment option.

SOMAVERT was studied in a clinical trial for 12 weeks in 112 patients. Patients were given either a daily 10 mg dose, a 15 mg dose, a 20 mg dose, or a placebo dose.

For all 3 doses in the clinical trial, SOMAVERT significantly lowered IGF-I levels at 12 weeks*

Within 2 weeks, SOMAVERT rapidly normalized IGF-I levels and worked for a majority of patients to achieve normal IGF-I levels at 12 weeks.

In an extension of the study, 93% of patients had normal IGF-I levels at any doctor visit, while taking SOMAVERT for an average of 43 weeks†

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**SELECTED SAFETY INFORMATION**

Some people who have used SOMAVERT have developed liver problems. These problems generally disappeared when those people stopped taking SOMAVERT.

Stop the drug right away and call your doctor if you get any of these symptoms:

- Your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice)
- Your urine turns dark
- Your bowel movements (stools) turn light in color
- You do not feel like eating for several days
- You feel sick to your stomach (nausea)
- You have unexplained tiredness
- You have pain in the stomach area (abdomen)

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**INDICATION**

SOMAVERT is a prescription medicine for acromegaly. It is for patients whose disease has not been controlled by surgery or radiation, or patients for whom these options are not appropriate. The goal of treatment with SOMAVERT is to have a normal IGF-I level in the blood.

Please see additional Selected Safety Information on the following pages and click here for full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.
**TAKING SOMAVERT**

SOMAVERT is a prescription medicine for patients whose acromegaly has not been controlled by surgery or radiation. The goal of treatment with SOMAVERT is to reduce blood levels of IGF-I to normal.

How do patients take SOMAVERT?

SOMAVERT is a once-daily injection. At first, patients take SOMAVERT under the supervision of their healthcare provider. Later, they learn to inject themselves.

**SELECTED SAFETY INFORMATION**

If you have stopped SOMAVERT because of an allergic reaction, your doctor will carefully monitor what happens if you start SOMAVERT again.

The most common side effects with SOMAVERT are infection, pain, nausea, diarrhea, abnormal liver function tests, flu-like symptoms, and reaction at the injection site. These are not all of the possible side effects of SOMAVERT. For more information, speak to your doctor.

Patients prescribed SOMAVERT can find help with navigating insurance coverage by calling the Pfizer Bridge Program at 1-800-645-1280. The program can help patients with:

- Copay support for eligible commercially insured patients
- Scheduling nurse training on self-injection

$5-a-month copay for eligible patients

Eligible patients may pay as little as $5 a month for their prescription.*

*TERMS AND CONDITIONS

By using this co-pay card, you acknowledge that you currently meet the eligibility criteria and will comply with the terms and conditions described below:

- Patients are not eligible to use this card if they are enrolled in a state or federally funded insurance program, including but not limited to Medicare, Medicaid, TRICARE, Veteran Affairs health care, a state prescription drug assistance program, or the Government Health Insurance Plan available in Puerto Rico (formerly known as “La Reforma de Salud”).
- Patient must have private insurance. Offer is not valid for cash paying patients. Patients are responsible for as little as a $5 monthly copayment based on program utilization. The value of this Co-pay Card is limited to a maximum of $20,000 per calendar year.
- This co-pay card is not valid when the entire cost of your prescription drug is eligible to be reimbursed by your private insurance plan or other private health or pharmacy benefit programs.
- You must deduct the value of this co-pay card from any reimbursement request submitted to your private insurance plan, either directly by you or on your behalf.
- You are responsible for reporting use of the co-pay card to any private insurer, health plan, or other third party who pays for or reimburses any part of the prescription filled using the co-pay card, as may be required. You should not use the co-pay card if your insurer or health plan prohibits use of manufacturer co-pay cards.
- This co-pay card is not valid for Massachusetts residents whose prescriptions are covered in whole or in part by third party insurance.
- This co-pay card is not valid for patients who have a prescription for any other GHRH antagonist.
- This co-pay card is not valid where prohibited by law.
- Co-pay card cannot be combined with any other savings, free trial or similar offer for the specified prescription.
- Co-pay card will be accepted only at participating pharmacies.
- If your pharmacy does not participate, you may be able to submit a request for a rebate in connection with this offer.
- This co-pay card is not health insurance.
- Offer good only in the U.S. and Puerto Rico.
- Co-pay card is limited to 1 per person during this offering period and is not transferable.
- A co-pay card may not be redeemed more than once per 30 days per patient.
- No other purchase is necessary.
- No membership fee.
- Data related to your redemption of the co-pay card may be collected, analyzed, and shared with Pfizer, for market research and other purposes related to assessing Pfizer’s programs. Data shared with Pfizer will be aggregated and de-identified; it will be combined with data related to other co-pay card redemptions and will not identify you.
- Pfizer reserves the right to rescind, revoke or amend this offer without notice.
- This co-pay card is not valid for Massachusetts residents whose prescriptions are covered in whole or in part by third party insurance.

For more information, visit our website [www.somavert.com](http://www.somavert.com), call 1-800-645-1280 or visit Pfizer.com. SOMAVERT Copay/Coinsurance Support Program, PO Box 220766, Charlotte, NC 28222-0744

**SELECTED SAFETY INFORMATION**

Your doctor may do blood tests before and during your treatment with SOMAVERT to check that the IGF-I levels in your blood are normal and/or that your liver is working correctly. Your dose of SOMAVERT may be changed based on the results of these tests.

Please see additional Selected Safety Information on the following pages and click here for full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.
WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP TODAY?

By taking a moment to learn about acromegaly, you’ve shown that you care. But, there’s more you can do to support your friend or family member:

- Encourage your loved one with acromegaly to take his or her medication as prescribed
- Remind him or her to keep all medical appointments, have IGF-I levels monitored, and keep track of symptoms
- Let your loved one know that you’re available to listen and help

For more information about acromegaly and treatment with SOMAVERT, visit www.somavert.com.

INDICATION
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SELECTED SAFETY INFORMATION
Inject SOMAVERT in a different place on your body each day. This can help prevent skin problems such as lumpiness or soreness.

SOMAVERT has not been studied in pregnant women. It is not known if SOMAVERT passes into the mother’s milk or if it can harm the baby.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see additional Selected Safety Information on the following pages and click here for full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.
SOMAVERT (pegvisomant) for injection, for subcutaneous use

Initial U.S. Approval: 2003

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE**

SOMAVERT is a growth hormone receptor antagonist indicated for the treatment of acromegaly in patients who have had an inadequate response to surgery or radiation therapy, or for whom these therapies are not appropriate. The goal of treatment is to normalize serum insulin-like growth factor-I (IGF-I) levels. (1)

- **Dosage and Administration**
  - Administer a 40 mg loading dose subcutaneously under physician supervision (2.1)
  - After proper injection instruction, on day after loading dose, patients or caregivers begin daily subcutaneous injections of 10 mg (2.1)
  - Adjust dosage in 5 mg increments or decrements until serum IGF-I concentrations are maintained within age-adjusted normal range. Do not adjust dosage based on growth hormone (GH) levels or signs or symptoms of acromegaly (2.1)
  - Dosage range is 10 to 30 mg once daily (2.1)
  - Perform liver tests prior to first dosage and if greater than 3 time upper limit of normal should work-up prior to SOMAVERT administration (2.2)
  - Follow reconstitution and injection procedures (2.3, 2.4)

**Dosage Forms and Strengths**

For injection: 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30 mg (as protein) lyophilized powder in single-use vial for reconstitution with supplied 2.25 mL syringe containing 1 mL of diluent (Sterile Water for Injection) and a separate 27 gauge ½ inch safety needle. (3)

**FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION: CONTENTS**

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE
2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION
3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS
4 CONTRAINDICATIONS
5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS
6 ADVERSE REACTIONS
7 DRUG INTERACTIONS
8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS
9 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION
10 OVERDOSAGE
11 DESCRIPTION
12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY
13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY
14 CLINICAL STUDIES
15 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING
16 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

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**FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION**

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**Dosage Forms and Strengths**

For injection: 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30 mg (as protein) lyophilized powder in single-use vial for reconstitution with supplied 2.25 mL syringe containing 1 mL of diluent.

**General Considerations**

- **Normal IGF-I Levels:**
  - Adults: Normal levels are age-adjusted and are typically lower than children. (2.1)
  - Children: Normal levels vary with age and sex. (2.1)

- **Monitoring IGF-I Levels:**
  - Monitor IGF-I levels at least every 4-6 weeks or as appropriate. (2.1)
  - Adjust dosage in 5 mg increments or decrements. (2.1)

**Contraindications**

- None

**Warnings and Precautions**

- **Hypoglycemia:** Monitor blood glucose in patients with diabetes mellitus and reduce anti-diabetic drug therapy as necessary. (5.1)
- **Liver Test Elevations:** Should have more frequent liver tests and/or discontinue SOMAVERT. (5.2)
- **Systemic Hypersensitivity:** Monitor closely when re-initiating SOMAVERT in patients with systemic hypersensitivity. (5.5)

**Adverse Reactions**

Most common reported adverse reactions (> 6%) are infection, pain, nausea, diarrhea, abnormal liver tests, flu syndrome, injection site reaction. (6)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Pfizer at (phone 1-800-438-1985 and www.pfizer.com) or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

**Drug Interactions**

- **Insulin and/or Oral Hypoglycemic Agents:** Patients with acromegaly and with diabetes mellitus may require careful monitoring and dose reductions of insulin and/or oral hypoglycemic agents. (5.2, 7.1)
- **Opioids:** Patients on opioids may need higher SOMAVERT doses to achieve appropriate IGF-I suppression. (7.2)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and FDA-approved patient labeling.

**How Supplied/Storage and Handling**

For injection: 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30 mg (as protein) lyophilized powder in single-use vial for reconstitution with supplied 2.25 mL syringe containing 1 mL of diluent (Sterile Water for Injection) and a separate 27 gauge ½ inch safety needle.

**Notes**

- **Injection Site:** Somatropin is supplied in a lyophilized form. The lyophilized powder of SOMAVERT contains 20 mg of pegvisomant with supplied diluent.
- **Diluent and Powder:** Somatropin is supplied as lyophilized powder in single-use vials of lyophilized powder of SOMAVERT. Do not inject the diluent directly on the powder. (3)

**Full Prescribing Information**

1 **Indications and Usage**
2 **Dosage and Administration**
3 **Dosage Forms and Strengths**
4 **Contraindications**
5 **Warnings and Precautions**
6 **Adverse Reactions**
7 **Drug Interactions**
8 **Use in Specific Populations**
9 **Patient Counseling Information**
10 **Overdosage**
11 **Description**
12 **Clinical Pharmacology**
13 **Nonclinical Toxicology**
14 **Clinical Studies**
15 **How Supplied/Storage and Handling**
16 **Patient Counseling Information**

*Sections or subsections omitted from the full prescribing information are not listed.*
Maintenance Dose Injection Procedure
For patient or caregiver instructions for reconstitution and administration of daily doses (10 to 30 mg), see the Patient's Instructions for Use.

2.4

Table 1

Baseline LT Levels

Recommendations

Normal

May treat with SOMAVERT.

Monitor LTs at monthly intervals during the first 6 months of treatment, quarterly for the next 6 months and then bi-annually for the next year.

Elevated, but less than or equal to 3 times ULN

May treat with SOMAVERT; however, monitor LTs monthly for at least one year after initiation of therapy and then bi-annually for the next year.

Greater than 3 times ULN

Do not treat with SOMAVERT until a comprehensive workup establishes the cause of the patient’s liver dysfunction.

Determine if cholelithiasis or choledocholithiasis is present, particularly in patients with a history of prior therapy with somatostatin analogs.

Based on the workup, consider initiation of therapy with SOMAVERT.

If the decision is to treat, LTs and clinical symptoms should be monitored very closely.

If a patient develops LT elevations, or any other signs or symptoms of liver dysfunction while receiving SOMAVERT, the following patient management is recommended (Table 2).

Table 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LT Levels and Clinical Signs/Symptoms</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greater than or equal to 3 but less than 5 times ULN (without signs/symptoms of hepatitis or other liver injury, or increase in serum TBIL)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- May continue therapy with SOMAVERT. However, monitor LTs weekly to determine if further increases occur (see below).
- Perform a comprehensive hepatic workup to discern if an alternative cause of liver dysfunction is present. |
| At least 5 times ULN, or transaminase elevations at least 3 times ULN associated with any increase in serum TBIL (with or without signs/symptoms of hepatitis or other liver injury) | 
- Discontinue SOMAVERT immediately.
- Perform a comprehensive hepatic workup, including serial LTs, to determine if and when serum levels return to normal.
- If LTs normalize (regardless of whether an alternative cause of the liver dysfunction is discovered), consider cautious re-initiation of therapy with SOMAVERT, with frequent LT monitoring. |
| Signs or symptoms suggestive of hepatitis or other liver injury (e.g., jaundice, bilirubinuria, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, right upper quadrant pain, ascites, unexplained edema, easy bruising) | 
- Immediately perform a comprehensive hepatic workup.
- If liver injury is confirmed, the drug should be discontinued. |

5.3 Cross-Reactivity with GH Assays

SOMAVERT has significant structural similarity to growth hormone (GH) which causes it to cross-react in commercially available GH assays. Since serum concentrations of therapeutically effective doses of SOMAVERT are generally 100 to 1000 times higher than the actual serum GH concentrations seen in patients with acromegaly, measurements of serum GH concentrations will appear falsely elevated.

5.4 Lipohypertrophy

There have been cases of lipohypertrophy in patients treated with SOMAVERT. In a double-blind, 12-week, placebo-controlled study, there was one case (1.3%) of injection site lipohypertrophy reported in a subject receiving 10 mg/day. The subject recovered while on treatment. Among two open-label trials (with a total of 147 patients), there were two subjects, both receiving 10 mg/day, who developed lipohypertrophy. One case recovered while on treatment, and one case resulted in a discontinuation of treatment. Injection sites should be rotated daily to help prevent lipohypertrophy (different area than the last injection).

5.5 Systemic Hypersensitivity

In subjects with systemic hypersensitivity reactions, caution and close monitoring should be exercised when re-initiating Somavert therapy [see Adverse Reactions (6.3)].

6.1 Clinical Trials Experience

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reactions rates observed in clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared to rates in clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice.

In a 12-week randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, fixed-dose study of SOMAVERT in subjects with acromegaly, 32 subjects received placebo and 80 subjects received SOMAVERT once daily [see Clinical Studies (14)]. A total of 108 subjects (30 placebo, 78 Somavert) completed 12 weeks of study treatment. Overall, eight patients with acromegaly (5.3%) withdrew from pre-marketing clinical studies because of adverse events, including two patients with marked transaminase elevations, one patient with lipohypertrophy at the injection sites, and one patient with substantial weight gain. Most adverse events did not appear to be dose-dependent. Table 3 shows the incidence of adverse events that were reported in at least two patients treated [see Clinical Studies (14)].
Table 3. Adverse Reactions in a 12-week Placebo-Controlled Study in Patients with Acromegaly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Placebo</th>
<th>Placebo†</th>
<th>SOMAVERT</th>
<th>SOMAVERT†</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>n=32</td>
<td>n=26</td>
<td>n=23</td>
<td>n=20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 mg/day</td>
<td>15 mg/day</td>
<td>20 mg/day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Placebo n=32</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10 mg/day n=26</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>15 mg/day n=26</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>20 mg/day n=20</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Infection</strong></td>
<td>2 (6%)</td>
<td>6 (23%)</td>
<td>4 (14%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pain</strong></td>
<td>2 (6%)</td>
<td>2 (8%)</td>
<td>1 (4%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nausea</strong></td>
<td>1 (3%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>2 (8%)</td>
<td>4 (17%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Diarrhea</strong></td>
<td>1 (3%)</td>
<td>1 (4%)</td>
<td>1 (4%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Abnormal liver function tests</strong></td>
<td>1 (3%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>1 (5%)</td>
<td>4 (14%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flu syndrome</strong></td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>1 (4%)</td>
<td>3 (12%)</td>
<td>2 (7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Injection site reaction</strong></td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>2 (8%)</td>
<td>1 (4%)</td>
<td>3 (11%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dizziness</strong></td>
<td>3 (9%)</td>
<td>2 (8%)</td>
<td>1 (4%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accidental injury</strong></td>
<td>1 (3%)</td>
<td>2 (8%)</td>
<td>1 (4%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Back pain</strong></td>
<td>1 (3%)</td>
<td>2 (8%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>1 (4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sinusitis</strong></td>
<td>1 (3%)</td>
<td>2 (8%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>1 (4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chest pain</strong></td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>1 (4%)</td>
<td>2 (8%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Peripheral edema</strong></td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>2 (8%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>1 (4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hypertension</strong></td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>2 (8%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Paresthesia</strong></td>
<td>2 (6%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>2 (7%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

† Table includes only those events that were reported in at least 2 patients and at a higher incidence in patients treated with SOMAVERT than in patients treated with placebo.
‡ The events coded as ‘infection’ in the group treated with SOMAVERT 10 mg were reported as cold symptoms (3), upper respiratory infection (1), blisters (1), and ear infection (1). The 2 events in the placebo group were reported as cold symptoms (1) and chest infection (1).

6.2 Immunogenicity

In pre-marketing clinical studies, approximately 17% of the SOMAVERT-treated patients developed low titer, non-neutralizing anti-GH antibodies. Although the presence of these antibodies did not appear to impact on the efficacy of SOMAVERT, the long-term clinical significance of these antibodies is not known. No assay for anti-pegvisomant antibodies is commercially available for patients receiving SOMAVERT.

The data above reflect the percentage of patients whose test results were considered positive for antibodies to SOMAVERT. The detection of antibody formation is highly dependent on the sensitivity and specificity of the assay. Additionally, the observed incidence of antibody positivity in an assay may be influenced by several factors including sampling and timing of sample collection, concomitant medications, and underlying disease. For these reasons, comparison of the incidence of antibodies to SOMAVERT with the incidence of antibodies to other products may be misleading.

6.3 Postmarketing Experience

The following adverse reactions have been identified during post-approval use of SOMAVERT. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

Systemic hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylactic reactions, laryngospasm, angioedema, generalized skin reactions (rash, erythema, pruritus, urticaria) have been reported in post-marketing use. Some patients required hospitalization. Symptoms did not re-occur in all patients after re-challenge (see Warnings and Precautions (6.5)).

The following adverse reactions have been identified during post-approval use of SOMAVERT, as used in clinical practice.

6.4 Drug Interactions

7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

7.1 Insulin and/or Oral hypoglycemic Agents

After initiation of SOMAVERT, patients with acromegaly and diabetes mellitus treated with insulin and/or oral hypoglycemic agents may require dose reductions of insulin and/or oral hypoglycemic agents [see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)].

7.2 Opioids

In clinical studies, patients taking opioids often needed higher SOMAVERT doses to normalize IGF-I concentrations compared with patients not receiving opioids. The mechanism of this interaction is not known.

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Pregnancy Category C. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Early embryonic development and teratology studies were conducted in pregnant rabbits with pegvisomant at subcutaneous doses of 1, 3, and 10 mg/kg/day. There was no evidence of teratogenic effects associated with pegvisomant treatment during organogenesis. At the 10-mg/kg/day dose (10 times the maximum human therapeutic dose based on body surface area), a reproducible, slight increase in post-implantation loss was observed in both studies. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human responses, SOMAVERT should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

8.3 Nursing Mothers

It is not known whether pegvisomant is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in milk, caution should be exercised when SOMAVERT is administered to a nursing woman.

8.4 Pediatric Use

The safety and effectiveness of SOMAVERT in pediatric patients have not been established.

8.5 Geriatric Use

Clinical studies of SOMAVERT did not include sufficient numbers of patients aged 65 and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger patients. In general, dose selection for an elderly patient should be cautious, usually starting at the low end of the dosing range, reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function, and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy.

8.6 Renal Impairment

SOMAVERT was not studied in patients with renal impairment and the safety and efficacy in these patients is not known.

10 OVERDOSAGE

In one reported incident of acute overdose with SOMAVERT during pre-marketing clinical studies, a patient self-administered 80 mg/day (2.7 times the maximum recommended maintenance dosage) for seven days. The patient experienced a slight increase in fatigue, had no other complaints, and demonstrated no significant clinical laboratory abnormalities. In cases of overdose, administration of SOMAVERT should be discontinued and not resumed until IGF-I levels return to within or above the normal range.

11 DESCRIPTION

SOMAVERT contains pegvisomant, an analog of human growth hormone (GH) that has been structurally altered to act as a GH receptor antagonist.

Pegvisomant is a protein of recombinant DNA origin containing 191 amino acid residues to which several polyethylene glycol (PEG) polymers are covalently bound (predominantly 4 to 6 PEG/protein molecule). The molecular weight of the protein of pegvisomant is 21,998 Daltons. The molecular weight of the PEG portion of pegvisomant is approximately 5000 Daltons. The predominant molecular weight of pegvisomant is thus approximately 42,000, 47,000, and 52,000 Daltons. The schematic shows the amino acid sequence of the pegvisomant protein (PEG polymers are shown attached to the 5 most probable attachment sites). Pegvisomant is synthesized by a specific strain of Escherichia coli bacteria that has been genetically modified by the addition of a plasmid that carries a gene for GH receptor antagonist. Biological potency is determined using a cell proliferation bioassay. Binding of Somavert to the GH receptor results in disruption of the proper binding of the second GH receptor with inhibition of functional receptor dimerization and subsequent intracellular signaling.

Amino Acid Sequence of Pegvisomant Protein

Shown below are the amino acid substitutions in pegvisomant, relative to human GH.
**12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**

### 12.1 Mechanism of Action

Pegvisomant selectively binds to growth hormone (GH) receptors on cell surfaces, where it blocks the binding of endogenous GH, and thus interferes with GH signal transduction. Inhibition of GH action results in decreased serum concentrations of IGF-I, as well as other GH-responsive serum proteins such as free IGF-I, the acid-labile subunit of IGF-I (ALS), and insulin-like growth factor binding protein-3 (IGFBP-3).

### 12.2 Pharmacodynamics

Pegvisomant binds selectively to the GH receptor, and does not cross-react with 19 other cytokine receptors tested, including prolactin. Pegvisomant leads to decreased serum concentrations of IGF-I, as well as other GH-responsive serum proteins such as free IGF-I, the acid-labile subunit of IGF-I (ALS), and insulin-like growth factor binding protein-3 (IGFBP-3).

### 12.3 Pharmacokinetics

**Absorption:** Following subcutaneous administration, peak serum pegvisomant concentrations are not generally attained until 33 to 77 hours after administration. The mean extent of absorption of a 20-mg subcutaneous dose was 57%, relative to a 10-mg intravenous dose.

**Distribution:** The mean apparent volume of distribution of pegvisomant is 7 L (12% coefficient of variation), suggesting that pegvisomant does not distribute extensively into tissues. After a single subcutaneous administration, exposure (Cmax, AUC) to pegvisomant increases disproportionately with increasing dose. Mean ± SEM serum pegvisomant concentrations after 12 weeks of therapy with daily doses of 10, 15, and 20 mg were 6600 ± 1330, 16,000 ± 2200, and 27,000 ± 3100 ng/mL, respectively. The relative bioavailability of 1 x 30 mg pegvisomant was compared to 2 x 15 mg pegvisomant in a single dose study. The AUCmax and Cmax of pegvisomant when administered as one injection of 30 mg strength was approximately 6% and 4% greater, respectively, as compared to when administered as two injections of 15 mg strengths.

**Metabolism and Elimination:** The pegvisomant molecule contains covalently bound polyethylene glycol polymers in order to reduce the clearance rate. Clearance of pegvisomant following multiple doses is lower than seen following a single dose. The mean total body systemic clearance of pegvisomant following multiple doses is estimated to range between 36 to 28 mL/h for subcutaneous doses ranging from 10 to 20 mg/day, respectively. Clearance of pegvisomant was found to increase with body weight. Pegvisomant is eliminated from serum with a mean half-life estimates ranging from 60 to 138 hours following either single or multiple doses. Less than 1% of administered drug is recovered in the urine over 96 hours. The elimination route of pegvisomant has not been studied in humans.

**Drug Interaction Studies**

In clinical studies, patients on opioids often needed higher serum pegvisomant concentrations to achieve appropriate IGF-I suppression compared with patients not receiving opioids. The mechanism of this interaction is not known [see Drug Interactions (7.2)].

### Specific Populations

No pharmacokinetic studies have been conducted in patients with renal impairment, patients with hepatic impairment, geriatric patients, or pediatric patients and the effects of race on the pharmacokinetics of pegvisomant has not been studied. No gender effect on the pharmacokinetics of pegvisomant was found in a population pharmacokinetic analysis.

**Table 4. Mean Percent Change from Baseline in IGF-I at Week 12 for Intent-to-Treat Population**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Placebo</th>
<th>10 mg/day</th>
<th>15 mg/day</th>
<th>20 mg/day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean baseline IGF-I (ng/mL) (SD)</td>
<td>670 (288)</td>
<td>627 (251)</td>
<td>649 (293)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean percent change from baseline in IGF-I (SD)</td>
<td>-4.0 (17)</td>
<td>-27 (28)</td>
<td>-48 (26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOMAVERT minus Placebo (95% CI for treatment difference)</td>
<td>-23* (-35, -11)</td>
<td>-44* (-56, -33)</td>
<td>-59* (-68, -49)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* P < 0.01; n = number of patients; SD = standard deviation

There were also reductions in serum levels of free IGF-I, IGFBP-3, and ALS compared with placebo at all post-baseline visits (Figure 1).
After 12 weeks of treatment, the following percentages of patients had normalized IGF-1 (Figure 2):

![Figure 2. Percent of Patients Whose IGF-I Levels Normalized at Week 12](image)

Table 5 shows the effect of treatment with SOMAVERT on ring size (standard jeweler’s sizes converted to a numeric score ranging from 1 to 85), and on signs and symptoms of acromegaly. Each individual score for a sign or symptom of acromegaly (for soft-tissue swelling, arthralgia, headache, perspiration and fatigue) was based on a nine-point ordinal rating scale (0 = absent and 8 = severe and incapacitating), and the total score for signs or symptoms of acromegaly was derived from the sum of the individual scores. Mean baseline scores were as follows: ring size = 47.1; total signs and symptoms = 152.0; soft tissue swelling = 2.5; arthralgia = 3.2; headache = 2.4; perspiration = 3.3; and fatigue = 3.7.

Table 5. Mean Change from Baseline (SD) at Week 12 for Ring Size and Signs and Symptoms of Acromegaly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Placebo</th>
<th>SOMAVERT 10 mg/day</th>
<th>SOMAVERT 15 mg/day</th>
<th>SOMAVERT 20 mg/day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ring size</td>
<td>-0.1 (2.3)</td>
<td>-0.8 (1.6)</td>
<td>-1.9 (2.0)</td>
<td>-2.5 (3.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total score for signs and symptoms of acromegaly</td>
<td>1.3 (6.0)</td>
<td>-2.5 (4.3)</td>
<td>-4.4 (5.9)</td>
<td>-4.7 (4.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft-tissue swelling</td>
<td>0.3 (2.3)</td>
<td>-0.7 (1.6)</td>
<td>-1.2 (2.3)</td>
<td>-1.3 (1.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthralgia</td>
<td>0.1 (1.8)</td>
<td>-0.3 (1.8)</td>
<td>-0.5 (2.5)</td>
<td>-0.4 (2.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headache</td>
<td>0.1 (1.7)</td>
<td>-0.4 (1.6)</td>
<td>-0.3 (1.4)</td>
<td>-0.3 (2.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perspiration</td>
<td>0.1 (1.7)</td>
<td>-0.6 (1.6)</td>
<td>-1.1 (1.3)</td>
<td>-1.7 (1.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatigue</td>
<td>0.7 (1.5)</td>
<td>-0.5 (1.4)</td>
<td>-1.3 (1.7)</td>
<td>-1.0 (1.6)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Serum growth hormone (GH) concentrations, as measured by research assays using antibodies that do not cross-react with pegvisomant, rose within two weeks of beginning treatment with SOMAVERT. The largest increase in GH concentration was seen in patients treated with doses of SOMAVERT 20 mg/day. This effect is presumably the result of diminished inhibition of GH secretion as IGF-I levels fall. As shown in Figure 3, when patients with acromegaly were given a loading dose of SOMAVERT followed by a fixed daily dose, the rise in GH was inversely proportional to the fall in IGF-I and generally stabilized by week 2. Serum GH concentrations remained stable in patients treated with SOMAVERT for the average of 43 weeks (range, 0-82 weeks).

Figure 3. Percent Change in Serum GH and IGF-I Concentrations

- Placebo  - 10 mg/d  - 15 mg/d  - 20 mg/d

In the open-label extension to the clinical study, 109 subjects (including 6 new patients) with mean treatment exposure of 42.6 weeks (range 1 day – 82 weeks), 93 (85.3%) subjects had an adverse event, 16 (14.7%) had an SAE, and 4 (3.7%) discontinued due to an AE (headaches, elevated liver function tests, pancreatic cancer, and weight gain). A total of 100 (92.6%) of the 108 subjects with available IGF-I data had a normal IGF-I concentration at any visit during the study.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

SOMAVERT (pegvisomant) is supplied in the following strengths and package configurations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOMAVERT (pegvisomant) syringe for injection</th>
<th>NDC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single 10 mg dose vial with 2.25 mL syringe containing 1 mL of diluent (Sterile Water for Injection) and a separate 27 gauge ½ inch safety needle</td>
<td>0009-7166-01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single 15 mg dose vial with 2.25 mL syringe containing 1 mL of diluent (Sterile Water for Injection) and a separate 27 gauge ½ inch safety needle</td>
<td>0009-7168-01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single 20 mg dose vial with 2.25 mL syringe containing 1 mL of diluent (Sterile Water for Injection) and a separate 27 gauge ½ inch safety needle</td>
<td>0009-7188-01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single 25 mg dose vial with 2.25 mL syringe containing 1 mL of diluent (Sterile Water for Injection) and a separate 27 gauge ½ inch safety needle</td>
<td>0009-7199-01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single 30 mg dose vial with 2.25 mL syringe containing 1 mL of diluent (Sterile Water for Injection) and a separate 27 gauge ½ inch safety needle</td>
<td>0009-7200-01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Storage

Prior to reconstitution, SOMAVERT should be stored in a refrigerator at 2 to 8°C (36 to 46°F). Do not freeze.

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

See FDA-approved patient labeling (Patient Information and Instructions for Use).

Inform patients (and/or their caregivers) of the following information to aid in the safe and effective use of SOMAVERT:

- Not to use SOMAVERT if they are allergic to SOMAVERT or anything in it.
- They will need blood testing to check IGF-I levels and liver tests before and during treatment with SOMAVERT and that the dose of SOMAVERT may be changed based on the results of these tests.
- SOMAVERT has not been studied in pregnant women and instruct them to notify their healthcare provider as soon as they are aware that they are pregnant.
- It is not known whether SOMAVERT is excreted in human milk and instruct them to notify their healthcare provider if they plan to do so.

Advise patients (and/or their caregivers) of the following adverse reactions:

- The most common reported adverse reactions are injection site reaction, elevations of liver tests, pain, nausea, and diarrhea.
- If they have liver test elevations they may need to have more frequent liver tests and/or discontinue SOMAVERT. Instruct patients to immediately discontinue therapy and contact their physician if they become jaundiced.
- GH-secreting tumors may enlarge in people with acromegaly and that these tumors need to be watched carefully and monitored by MRI imaging.
- Thickening under the skin may occur at the injection site that could lead to lumps and that switching sites may prevent or lessen this.
- If they have diabetes mellitus, they may require careful monitoring and dose reductions of insulin and/or oral hypoglycemic agents while on SOMAVERT.
- If they take opioids, they may need higher SOMAVERT doses to achieve appropriate IGF-I suppression.

Advise patients that SOMAVERT is supplied as lyophilized powder in different strengths of 10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg, 25 mg, and 30 mg in a sterile glass vial within a package with a 2.25 mL syringe containing 1 mL of diluent (Sterile Water for Injection) and a separate 27 gauge ½ inch safety needle. Advise patients that the vial stoppers are not made with natural rubber latex. Advise patients to follow the directions for reconstitution provided with each package. Include that spraying the diluent directly onto the powder may cause foaming and that shaking may induce denaturation (destruction) of the active ingredient (therefore do not shake).

Advise patients that the package of SOMAVERT should be stored in a refrigerator 2 to 8°C (36 to 46°F) prior to use. It should NOT BE FROZEN.

Distributed by Pfizer

Pharmacia & Upjohn Co
Division of Pfizer Inc, NY, NY 10017

LAB-0782-1.0
PATIENT INFORMATION

SOMAVERT® (SOM-ah-vert)
(pegvisomant)
for injection, for subcutaneous use

What is SOMAVERT?
SOMAVERT is a prescription medicine used to treat people who have too much growth hormone (acromegaly) who are not able to be treated or have not already been helped with surgery.

It is not known if SOMAVERT is safe and effective in children.

Before using SOMAVERT, tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including if you:
• are allergic to pegvisomant or any of the ingredients in SOMAVERT.

• See the end of this leaflet for a complete list of ingredients in SOMAVERT.
• have diabetes
• have or have had liver problems
• are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if SOMAVERT will harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while using SOMAVERT.
• are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if SOMAVERT passes into your breast milk. You and your health care provider should decide if you will take SOMAVERT or breastfeed.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.
SOMAVERT may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how SOMAVERT works. Especially tell your healthcare provider if you take:
• insulin or other medicines used to treat diabetes
• narcotics (opioid medicines). Your healthcare provider may change your dose of SOMAVERT if you take opioids.

If you are not sure, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist whether you take these medicines.

How should I use SOMAVERT?
• Read the Instructions for Use at the end of this Patient Information for information about the right way to use SOMAVERT.
• Your healthcare provider should do blood tests to check your liver and insulin-like growth factor-I (IGF-I) levels before you start and while you use SOMAVERT. Your healthcare provider may need to change your dose of SOMAVERT.
• SOMAVERT is given 1 time each day as an injection under your skin (subcutaneous). Some people may need to give 2 injections for their dose each day. Your healthcare provider will tell you if you need to give 2 injections for your dose.
• Your first injection of SOMAVERT should be given by your healthcare provider.
• Your healthcare provider will teach you or your caregiver how to use SOMAVERT.
• If you use too much SOMAVERT, call your healthcare provider right away.
• If you miss a dose of SOMAVERT, just take the next dose at the regular time. Do not take 2 doses at the same time. If you are not sure about your dosing, ask your healthcare provider.

What are the possible side effects of SOMAVERT?
SOMAVERT may cause serious side effects, including:
• changes in your blood sugar level. Your healthcare provider may change your dose of diabetes medicine while you take SOMAVERT.
• liver problems. Stop injecting SOMAVERT right away and call your healthcare provider if you have any of the following symptoms of liver problems:

  o yellowing of your eyes (jaundice)
  o dark, amber-colored urine
  o feeling very tired (fatigue or exhaustion)
  o nausea and vomiting
  o pain in your stomach area (abdomen)
  o generalized swelling
  o bruising easily

• skin thickening at your injection site that could lead to lumps (lipohypertrophy)
• allergic reactions. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms of a serious allergic reaction:

  o swelling of your face, tongue, lips, or throat
  o wheezing or trouble breathing
  o skin rash, redness, or swelling
  o severe itching
  o dizziness or fainting

The most common side effects of SOMAVERT include:
• pain
• infection
• nausea
• flu syndrome
• injection site reaction
• diarrhea
• abnormal liver tests. If your liver test results are too high you may have to have more frequent liver tests.

These are not all of the possible side effects of SOMAVERT. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store SOMAVERT?
• Before you mix the SOMAVERT powder and the liquid:

  o Store SOMAVERT in a refrigerator between 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C).
  o Do not freeze SOMAVERT.

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

General Information about the safe and effective use of SOMAVERT.
Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information leaflet. Do not use SOMAVERT for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give SOMAVERT to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them. You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about SOMAVERT that is written for health professionals.

What are the ingredients in SOMAVERT?
Active ingredient: pegvisomant, including polyethylene glycol
Inactive ingredients: glycine, mannitol, sodium phosphate dibasic anhydrous, and sodium phosphate monobasic monohydrate

For more information, go to www.SOMAVERT.com or call 1-800-645-1280.

This Patient Information has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
Revised: April 2016
LAB Number: 0783-1.0
INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE
SOMAVERT® (SOM-ah-vert)
(pegvisomant)
for injection, for subcutaneous use

Read these Instructions for Use before you start using SOMAVERT and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This leaflet does not take the place of talking to your healthcare provider about your medical condition or your treatment. Your healthcare provider should show you or a caregiver how to inject SOMAVERT the right way before you inject it for the first time.

Important:
• Do not share your SOMAVERT syringes or needles with other people. You may give other people a serious infection, or get an infection from them.
• SOMAVERT comes in a vial as a white block of powder. You must mix SOMAVERT with a liquid (diluent) before you can use it. The liquid comes in a single-dose pre-filled syringe labeled ‘Sterile Water for Injection’. Do not use any other liquid to mix with SOMAVERT.
• You must use the mixed SOMAVERT within 6 hours after you mix it. If you have not used the mixed SOMAVERT within 6 hours, throw the SOMAVERT away.

Step 1. Things you need
A single SOMAVERT pack containing:
• A vial of SOMAVERT powder.
• A pre-filled syringe.
• A safety needle.
You will also need:
• A cotton ball.
• An alcohol swab.
• A sharps disposal container. See “Dispose” at the end of these instructions.

Step 2. Getting ready
Before you start:
• Only mix SOMAVERT and the liquid when you are ready to inject your dose.
• Remove a single SOMAVERT pack from the refrigerator and allow it to come to room temperature in a safe place at least 10 minutes before you need to use it.
• Do not heat the SOMAVERT pack by using a heat source such as hot water or microwave. Let it warm up on its own.
• Wash your hands with soap and water, and dry completely.
• Peel open the packaging of the syringe and safety needle to make it easier to pick up each item as you prepare for your injection.
• Do not use the syringe or vial if:
  o they are damaged or faulty
  o the expiration date has passed
  o it has been frozen, even if it has now thawed (syringe only)

Step 3. Choose injection area

Choose a different location within an area for each injection.
• Avoid bony areas or areas that are bruised, red, sore or hard, or areas that have scars or skin conditions.
• Clean the injection area with the alcohol swab as instructed by your healthcare provider.
• Allow the injection area to dry.

Step 4. Remove vial cap

• Remove the cap from the vial.
• Throw the cap away. It is not needed again.

Caution: Do not let anything touch the vial stopper.

Step 5. Remove syringe cap

• Snap off the syringe cap leaving the syringe collar in place. It may take more effort to snap off than you might expect.
• Throw the syringe cap away. It is not needed again.
• Keep the syringe upright to avoid leakage.

Caution: Do not let the end of the syringe touch anything when the syringe cap is off.

Step 6. Fill syringe

Fill the syringe with the mixed SOMAVERT.

Caution: Do not fill the syringe too high.

Step 7. Give injection

Introduce the needle to the injection area until it is about 1/4 inch (6 mm) deep.

Caution: Do not inject too deep.

Step 8. Remove needle

Remove needle by pulling it up and out from the injection area.

Caution: Do not press on the injection site after injection.

Step 9. Dispose of used injection equipment

Put your used injection equipment into the sharps disposal container. See “Dispose” at the end of these instructions.
Step 6. Attach safety needle

- Push down and twist the safety needle firmly onto the syringe as far as it will go.

Step 7. Remove needle cover

- Fold the needle guard out of the way of the needle cover.
- Carefully pull the needle cover straight off.
- Throw the needle cover away. It is not needed again.

Caution: Do not let the needle touch anything.

Step 8. Insert needle

- Push the needle through the center of vial stopper, as shown.
- Support the syringe while the needle is in the vial stopper to prevent bending the needle.

Step 9. Add liquid

- Tilt both the vial and syringe at an angle, as shown.
- Push the plunger rod down slowly until all the liquid has emptied into the vial.
- Caution: Do not squirt the liquid directly onto the powder. This creates foam. Foam makes the medicine unusable.
- Do not withdraw the needle yet.

Step 10. Swirl vial

- Support both the syringe and vial in 1 hand, as shown.
- Gently and slowly swirl the liquid, sliding the vial in a circular motion on a flat surface.
- Continue swirling the liquid until all the powder has fully dissolved. Note: This may take up to 5 minutes. Do not shake.

Step 11. Check medicine

- Keeping the needle in the vial, look carefully at the medicine. It must be clear and free of particles.
- Do not use if:
  - the medicine is cloudy or hazy
  - the medicine has any color at all
  - there are any particles or foam in the vial
- If you have any doubts about your medication go to www.SOMAVER.com or call 1-800-645-1280.

Step 12. Reposition needle

- Turn the vial so that you can see the stopper gap, as shown.
- Pull the needle down so that the needle tip is at the lowest point in the liquid. This will help you to draw off as much liquid as possible.
- Check that the plunger rod has not moved. If the plunger rod has moved, then push it back all the way into the syringe. This ensures that all air is removed from the syringe before you draw off the dose.
Step 13. Draw off dose

- Slowly pull back the plunger rod to withdraw as much medicine as possible from the vial.
  **Note:** If you see air in the syringe, tap the barrel to float the bubbles to the top, and then gently push the bubbles out **into the vial**.
- Pull the needle out of the vial.

Step 14. Insert needle

- Gently pinch the skin at the site of injection.
- Insert the needle to its full depth into the pinched skin.

Step 15. Inject medicine

- Push the plunger rod down slowly until the barrel is empty.
  **Note:** Make sure you keep the needle in at full depth.
- Release the pinched skin and pull the needle straight out.

Step 16. Make needle safe

- Fold the needle guard over the needle.
  **Gently** apply pressure using a hard surface to lock the needle guard in place.
- **Note:** You will hear a click when the needle guard has been locked.

Step 17. Dispose

- Put your used syringes in a FDA cleared sharps disposal container right away after use.
- **Do not throw away** (dispose of) syringes in your household trash.
  **Note:** If you do not have a FDA cleared sharps disposal container, please refer to the safe syringe disposal information on the right hand side of this leaflet.

Step 18. After injection

- If necessary, use a clean cotton ball and press lightly on the injection area.
- **Do not rub the area.**
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What should I do if anything has accidentally touched the vial stopper?
- Clean the vial stopper with a fresh alcohol wipe, and leave it to dry completely. If you are unable to clean the stopper, do not use the vial.

What should I do with the syringe if it has been dropped?
- Do not use it even if it looks undamaged. Dispose of the syringe in the same way as a used syringe. You will need a replacement syringe.

How many times can I safely insert the needle into the vial stopper?
- Only 1 time. Withdrawing and reinserting greatly increases the risk of needle damage, and will blunt the needle. This can cause discomfort and increases risk of skin damage and infection. There is also a risk you may lose some of the medicine.

Is it okay to shake the vial if the powder is not dissolving?
- No. Never shake the vial. Shaking can destroy the medicine and create foam. The powder may take a few minutes to dissolve fully, so continue swirling the vial gently until the liquid is completely clear.

How can I tell if there is any foam in the vial?
- Foam looks like a mass of small bubbles that float as a layer to the top of the liquid. Do not inject SOMAVERT if it has foamed.

How can I prevent the medicine from foaming?
- Press the plunger very slowly so that the liquid gently runs down the inside of the vial. Do not spray the liquid directly onto the powder, because this creates foam. This will also reduce the swirling time and allow more of the medicine to be drawn off.

I can see some air in the syringe. Is this okay?
- Tiny air bubbles in the liquid are normal and are safe to inject. However, it is possible to accidentally draw air into the syringe, which should be removed before injecting. Bubbles or air gaps that float to the top of the liquid should be pushed back out into the vial.

Why can I not get all of the medicine out of the vial?
- The shape of the vial means that a very small amount of the medicine will be left behind in the vial. This is normal. To ensure that only a trace of medicine remains, make sure the needle tip is as low as it can be in the vial when drawing off your dose.

What should I do if I have any doubts about my medicine?
- For more information, go to www.SOMAVERT.com or call 1-800-645-1280.

Safe syringe disposal information
If you do not have a FDA-cleared sharps disposal container, you may use a household container that is:
- made of heavy-duty plastic,
- can be closed with a tight-fitting, puncture-resistant lid, without sharps being able to come out,
- upright and stable during use, leak-resistant, and
- properly labeled to warn of hazardous waste inside the container.

When your sharps disposal container is almost full, you will need to follow your community guidelines for the right way to dispose of your sharps disposal container. There may be state or local laws about how you should throw away used needles and syringes.

For more information about safe sharps disposal, and for specific information about sharps disposal in the state that you live in, go to the FDA’s website at: http://www.fda.gov/safesharpsdisposal

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

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