Health and Social Care Board

Interface Pharmacist Network Specialist Medicines

Fremanezumab (Ajovy®) for migraine

GP Information Sheet

Introduction

Fremanezumab is a humanised monoclonal antibody.

In Northern Ireland, fremanezumab (Ajovy®) is accepted for use as an option for preventing migraine in adults, only if:

- the migraine is chronic, that is, 15 or more headache days a month for more than 3 months with at least 8 of those having features of migraine.
- at least 3 preventive drug treatments have failed and,
- the company provides it according to the commercial arrangement.

For further information see NICE TA631 https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta631

Dosage and Administration

The normal dosing option is 225 mg subcutaneously once every month; other regimens are rarely used.

When initiating treatment with fremanezumab, concomitant migraine preventive treatment may be continued if considered necessary by the prescriber.

Fremanezumab is initiated by secondary care who will also arrange training to support self-administration by the patient, and prescribed and dispensed in primary care.

After training, patients may self-inject fremanezumab.

Sharps boxes 4 Litre should also be supplied.

Available as

Ajovy® pre-filled pen contains 225 mg fremanezumab.

Store in a refrigerator (2 - 8°C). Do not freeze.

Keep the pre-filled pen(s) in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

Ajovy® may be stored unrefrigerated for up to 7 days at a temperature up to 30 °C. Ajovy® must be discarded if it has been out of the refrigerator for longer than 7 days. Once stored at room temperature, do not place back in the refrigerator.

Monitoring Requirements

There is no monitoring required for this agent itself.

Response to treatment is assessed by the specialist at clinic appointment.

Adverse Effects, Precautions and Contraindications

Commonly reported side effects are administration site conditions: injection site pain, injection site reactions, injection site erythema, injection site pruritus, injection site bruising, injection site swelling, pruritus, rash, urticaria, constipation, vertigo, anaphylaxis and angioedema.

Common Drug Interactions

No drug interaction studies have been conducted. No pharmacokinetic drug interactions are expected based on the characteristics of fremanezumab.

Communication

For any queries relating to this patient's treatment with fremanezumab, please contact the specialist.

This information is not inclusive of all prescribing information and potential adverse effects.
Please refer to full prescribing data in the SPC or the BNF

Date Prepared: February 2022 Date of review: February 2027