

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:

- they have 4 or more migraine days a month
- at least 3 preventive drug treatments have failed
- the company provides it according to the commercial arrangement

Fremanezumab should be stopped after 12 weeks of treatment if:

- in **episodic migraine** (fewer than 15 headache days a month), the frequency does not reduce by at least 50%
- in **chronic migraine** (15 headache days a month or more with at least 8 of those having features of migraine), the frequency does not reduce by at least 30%.

For further information see NICE TA764 www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta764

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.