

Package leaflet: Information for the patient

Binocrit 2,000 IU/1 mL solution for injection in a pre filled syringe

Binocrit 4,000 IU/0.4 mL solution for injection in a pre filled syringe

Binocrit 8,000 IU/0.8 mL solution for injection in a pre filled syringe

Binocrit 10,000 IU/1 mL solution for injection in a pre filled syringe

Epoetin alfa	SANDOZ <small>A Novartis Division</small>
<p>Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again. If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours. If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.	
<p>What is in this leaflet</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">What Binocrit is and what it is used for What you need to know before you use Binocrit How to use Binocrit Possible side effects How to store Binocrit Contents of the pack and other information	

1 What Binocrit is and what it is used for

Binocrit contains the active substance epoetin alfa, a protein that stimulates the bone marrow to produce more red blood cells which carry haemoglobin (a substance that transports oxygen). Epoetin alfa is a copy of the human protein erythropoietin (ee-ri-th-roe-po-eh-tin) and acts in the same way.

Binocrit is used to treat symptomatic anaemia caused by kidney disease:

- in children on haemodialysis
- in adults on haemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis
- in severely anaemic adults not yet undergoing dialysis

If you have kidney disease, you may be short of red blood cells if your kidney does not produce enough erythropoietin (necessary for red cell production). Binocrit is prescribed to stimulate your bone marrow to produce more red blood cells.

Binocrit is used to treat anaemia in adults receiving chemotherapy for solid tumours, malignant lymphoma or multiple myeloma (bone marrow cancer) who may have a need for a blood transfusion. Binocrit can reduce the need for a blood transfusion in these patients.

Binocrit is used in moderately anaemic adults who donate some of their blood before surgery, so that it can be given back to them during or after the operation. Because Binocrit stimulates the production of red blood cells, doctors can take more blood from these people.

Binocrit is used in moderately anaemic adults about to have major orthopaedic surgery (for example hip or knee replacement operations), to reduce the potential need for blood transfusions.

Binocrit is used to treat anaemia in adults with a bone marrow disorder that causes a severe disruption in the creation of blood cells (myelodysplastic syndromes). Binocrit can reduce the need for a blood transfusion.

	Tell your doctor if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.
	If you are taking a medicine called cyclosporin (used e.g. after kidney transplants), your doctor will do blood tests to check the level of cyclosporin while you are taking Binocrit.
	Iron supplements and other blood stimulants may increase the effectiveness of Binocrit. Your doctor will decide if it is right for you to take them.
	If you visit a hospital, clinic or family doctor , tell them you are having Binocrit treatment. It may affect other treatments or test results.
	Pregnancy and breast-feeding
	It is important to tell your doctor if any of the following apply to you. You may still be able to use Binocrit, but discuss it with your doctor first: <ul style="list-style-type: none">If you are pregnant, or think you may be pregnant. If you are breast-feeding.
	Binocrit contains sodium

	Binocrit contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose that is to say essentially "sodium free".
	3 How to use Binocrit
	Always use this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor if you are not sure.
	Your doctor has carried out blood tests and decided you need Binocrit.
	Binocrit may be given by injection: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Either into a vein or a tube that goes into a vein (intravenously) Or under the skin (subcutaneously).
	Your doctor will decide how Binocrit will be injected. Usually the injections will be given to you by a doctor, nurse or other health care professional. Some people, depending on why they need Binocrit treatment, may later learn how to inject themselves under the skin: see <i>Instructions on how to inject Binocrit yourself</i> at the end of the leaflet.
	Binocrit should not be used: <ul style="list-style-type: none">after the expiry date on the label and outer carton if you know, or think that it may have been accidentally frozen, or if there has been a refrigerator failure.
	The dose of Binocrit you receive is based on your body weight in kilograms. The cause of your anaemia is also a factor in your doctor deciding the correct dose.
	Your doctor will monitor your blood pressure regularly while you are using Binocrit.
	People with kidney disease

2 What you need to know before you use Binocrit

Do not use Binocrit:

- if you are allergic** to epoetin alfa or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6),
 - if you have been diagnosed with Pure Red Cell Aplasia** (the bone marrow cannot produce enough red blood cells) after previous treatment with any product that stimulates red blood cell production (including Binocrit). See section 4.
 - if you have high blood pressure** not properly controlled with medicines.
 - to stimulate the production of your red blood cells (so that doctors can take more blood from you) **if you cannot have transfusions with your own blood** during or after surgery.
 - if you are due to have major elective orthopaedic surgery** (such as hip or knee surgery), and you:
 - have severe heart disease
 - have severe disorders of the veins and arteries
 - have recently had a heart attack or stroke
 - can't take medicines to thin the blood
- Binocrit may not be suitable for you. Please discuss with your doctor. While on Binocrit, some people need medicines to reduce the risk of blood clots. **If you can't take medicines that prevent blood clotting, you must not have Binocrit.**

Warnings and precautions:

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before using Binocrit.

Binocrit and other products that stimulate red cell production may increase the risk of developing blood clots in all patients. This risk may be higher if you have other risk factors for developing blood clots (for example, if you have had a blood clot in the past or are overweight, have diabetes, have heart disease or you are off your feet for a long time because of surgery or illness). Please tell your doctor about any of these things. Your doctor will help you to decide if Binocrit is suitable for you.

It is important to tell your doctor if any of the following apply to you. You may still be able to use Binocrit, but discuss it with your doctor first.

- if you suffer**, or have suffered, from:
 - high blood pressure
 - epileptic seizures or fits;
 - liver disease;
 - anaemia from other causes;
 - porphyria (a rare blood disorder).

If you are a cancer patient be aware that products that stimulate red blood cell production (like Binocrit) may act as a growth factor and therefore in theory may affect the progression of your cancer.

Depending on your individual situation a blood transfusion may be preferable. Please discuss this with your doctor.

If you are a patient with hepatitis C and you receive interferon and ribavirin, you should discuss this with your doctor because a combination of epoetin alfa with interferon and ribavirin has led to a loss of effect and development of a condition called pure red cell aplasia (PRCA), a severe form of anaemia, in rare cases. Binocrit is not approved in the management of anaemia associated with hepatitis C.

- If you are on a more extended dosing interval (greater than once weekly) of Binocrit, you may not maintain adequate haemoglobin levels and you may require an increase in Binocrit dose or frequency of administration.
- You may be given iron supplements before and during Binocrit treatment to make it more effective.
- If you are having dialysis treatment when you begin treatment with Binocrit, your dialysis regime may need to be adjusted. Your doctor will decide this.

Adults on chemotherapy

- Your doctor may initiate treatment with Binocrit if your haemoglobin is 10 g/dL or less.
- Your doctor will maintain your haemoglobin level between 10 and 12 g/dL as a high haemoglobin level may increase the risk of blood clots and death.
- The starting dose is **either** 150 IU per kilogram body weight three times a week or 450 IU per kilogram body weight once a week.
- Binocrit is given by injection under the skin.
- Your doctor will order blood tests, and may adjust the dose, depending on how your anaemia responds to Binocrit treatment.
- You may be given iron supplements before and during Binocrit treatment to make it more effective.
- You will usually continue Binocrit treatment for one month after the end of chemotherapy.

Adults donating their own blood

- The usual dose** is 600 IU per kilogram body weight twice a week.
- Binocrit is given by injection into a vein immediately after you have donated blood for 3 weeks before your surgery.
- You may be given iron supplements before and during Binocrit treatment to make it more effective.

Adults scheduled for major orthopaedic surgery

- The recommended dose** is 600 IU per kilogram body weight once a week.
- Binocrit is given by injection under the skin each week for three weeks before surgery and on the day of surgery.
- If there is a medical need to reduce the time before your operation, you will be given a daily dose of 300 IU/kg for up to ten days before surgery, on the day of surgery and for four days immediately afterwards.
- If blood tests show your haemoglobin is too high before the operation, the treatment will be stopped.
- You may be given iron supplements before and during Binocrit treatment to make it more effective.

Take special care with other products that stimulate red blood cell production:

Binocrit is one of a group of products that stimulate the production of red blood cells like the human protein erythropoietin does. Your healthcare professional will always record the exact product you are using. If you are given a product in this group other than Binocrit during your treatment, speak to your doctor or pharmacist before using it.

Take special care with Binocrit:

Serious skin reactions including Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) have been reported in association with epoetin treatment.

SJS/TEN can appear initially as reddish target-like spots or circular patches often with central blisters on the trunk. Also, ulcers of mouth, throat, nose, genitals and eyes (red and swollen eyes) can occur. These serious skin rashes are often preceded by fever and/or flu-like symptoms. The rashes may progress to widespread peeling of the skin and life-threatening complications.

If you develop a serious rash or another of these skin symptoms, stop taking Binocrit and contact your doctor or seek medical attention immediately.

Other medicines and Binocrit

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	If you are taking a medicine called cyclosporin (used e.g. after kidney transplants), your doctor will do blood tests to check the level of cyclosporin while you are taking Binocrit.
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	People with kidney disease

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	People with kidney disease

4 Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Tell your doctor or nurse immediately if you notice any of the effects in this list.

Very common side effects

These may affect more than 1 in 10 people.

- Diarrhoea**

- Feeling sick in your stomach**
- Vomiting**
- Fever**

- Respiratory tract congestion**, such as stuffy nose and sore throat, has been reported in patients with kidney disease not yet on dialysis.

Common side effects

These may affect up to 1 in 10 people.

- Increased blood pressure.** Headaches, particularly sudden, stabbing migraine-like headaches, **feeling confused or having fits** may be signs of a sudden increase in blood pressure. This requires urgent treatment. Raised blood pressure may require treatment with medicines (or adjustment to any medicines you already take for high blood pressure).
- Blood clots** (including deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism) may require urgent treatment. You may have **chest pain, breathlessness, and painful swelling and redness, usually in the leg** as symptoms.
- Cough.**
- Skin rashes, which may result from an allergic reaction.**
- Bone or muscle pain.**
- Flu-like symptoms**, such as headache, aches and pains in the joints, feeling of weakness, chills, tiredness and dizziness. These may be more common at the start of treatment. If you have these symptoms during injection into the vein, a slower delivery of the injection may help to avoid them in the future.
- Redness, burning and pain at the site of injection.**
- Swelling of the ankles, feet or fingers.**
- Arm or leg pain.**

Uncommon side effects

These may affect up to 1 in 100 people.

- High levels of blood potassium** which can cause abnormal heart rhythm (this is a very common side effect in patients on dialysis).

- Fits.**
- Nose or airway congestion.**
- Allergic reaction.**
- Hives.**

Rare side effects

These may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people.

- Symptoms of pure red cell aplasia (PRCA)**

PRCA means the bone marrow does not make enough red blood cells. PRCA causes **sudden and severe anaemia. The symptoms are:**

- unusual tiredness,**
- feeling dizzy,**
- breathlessness.**

PRCA has been very rarely reported mostly in patients with kidney disease after months to years of treatment with epoetin alfa and other products that stimulate red blood cell production.

- An increase in levels of small blood cells (called platelets), which are normally involved in the formation of a blood clot may occur, particularly when starting treatment. Your doctor will check on this.

- Severe allergic reaction that may include:
 - a swollen face, lips, mouth, tongue or throat,
 - difficulty swallowing or breathing,
 - itchy rash (hives).

- Problem with the blood that may cause pain, dark coloured urine or increased sensitivity of the skin to sunlight (porphyria).

If you are receiving haemodialysis:

- Blood clots** (thrombosis) may form in your dialysis shunt. This is more likely if you have low blood pressure or if your fistula has complications.

- Blood clots** may also form in your haemodialysis system. Your doctor may decide to increase your heparin dose during dialysis.

Serious skin rashes including Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis have been reported in association with epoetin treatment. These can appear as reddish target-like macules or circular patches often with central blisters on the trunk, skin peeling, ulcers of mouth, throat, nose, genitals and eyes and can be preceded by fever and flu-like symptoms. Stop using Binocrit if you develop these symptoms and contact your doctor or seek medical attention immediately. See also section 2.

Tell your doctor or nurse immediately if you are aware of any of these effects, or if you notice any other effects while you are receiving treatment with Binocrit.

If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5 How to store Binocrit

- Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.
- Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the label and carton after EXP.
- Store and transport refrigerated (2 °C-8 °C).
- You may take Binocrit out of the refrigerator and keep it at room temperature (up to 25 °C) for no longer than 3 days. Once a syringe has been removed from the refrigerator and has reached room temperature (up to 25 °C) it must either be used within 3 days or disposed of.
- Do not freeze or shake.
- Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

Do not use this medicine if you notice that

- it may have been accidentally frozen, or
- if there has been a refrigerator failure,
- the liquid is coloured or you can see particles floating in it,
- the seal is broken.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6 Contents of the pack and other information

What Binocrit contains

- The active substance** is: epoetin alfa (for quantity see the table below).
- The other ingredients** are: sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, glycine, polysorbate 80, hydrochloric acid (for pH-adjustment), sodium hydroxide (for pH-adjustment), and water for injections.

What Binocrit looks like and contents of the pack

Binocrit is presented as a clear, colourless solution for injection in a pre-filled syringe. The syringes are sealed in a blister.

Presentation	Corresponding Presentations in Quantity/Volume for each Strength	Amount of epoetin alfa
Pre-filled syringes*	2,000 IU/mL: 2,000 IU/1 mL	16.8 micrograms
	4,000 IU/0.4 mL: 8,000 IU/0.8 mL	

Ne secouez pas les seringues de Binocrit. S'il est secoué vigoureusement et de façon prolongée, le produit risque d'être détérioré. Si le produit é a été secoué vigoureusement, ne l'utilisez pas.

Les instructions concernant l'auto-administration de Binocrit se trouvent à la fin de cette notice.

Si vous avez utilisé plus de Binocrit que vous n'auriez dû

Si vous pensez avoir reçu plus de Binocrit que vous n'auriez dû, prévenez immédiatement votre médecin ou infirmier/ère. Il est peu probable que le surdosage de Binocrit provoque des effets indésirables.

Si vous oubliez d'utiliser Binocrit

Effectuez l'injection suivante dès que vous vous en souvenez. Si vous êtes à moins d'un jour de votre prochaine injection, ne faites pas l'injection oubliée et continuez le traitement selon le calendrier normal. Ne doublez pas les injections pour compenser la dose que vous avez oublié de prendre.

Si vous avez d'autres questions sur l'utilisation de ce médicament, demandez plus d'informations à votre médecin, à votre pharmacien ou à votre infirmier/ère.

4 Quels sont les effets indésirables éventuels ?

Comme tous les médicaments, ce médicament peut provoquer des effets indésirables, mais ils ne surviennent pas systématiquement chez tout le monde.

Si vous remarquez l'un des effets mentionnés dans cette liste, **prévenez immédiatement votre médecin ou votre infirmier/ère.**

Effets indésirables très fréquents

Ces effets peuvent survenir chez plus de 1 personne sur 10.

- Diarrhée.**
- Envie de vomir.**
- Vomissements.**
- Fièvre.**
- Une congestion des voies respiratoires**, telle que nez bouché et mal de gorge, a été signalé chez des patients atteints d'une maladie des reins qui n'étaient pas encore sous dialyse.

Effets indésirables fréquents

Ces effets peuvent survenir chez jusqu'à 1 personne sur 10.

- Augmentation de la pression artérielle.** Les **maux de tête**, en particulier les maux de tête violents et soudains de type migraineux, la **confusion mentale** ou les **crises convulsives** peuvent être le signal d'alarme d'une soudaine augmentation de votre pression artérielle. Ceci nécessite un traitement urgent. L'augmentation de la pression artérielle peut nécessiter un traitement médicamenteux (ou un ajustement de la posologie du traitement que vous prenez déjà contre l'hypertension).
- Caillots sanguins** (y compris thrombose veineuse profonde et embolie) pouvant nécessiter un traitement en urgence. Les symptômes que vous êtes susceptible de ressentir sont **une douleur dans la poitrine, un essoufflement, ainsi qu'un gonflement douloureux et une rougeur généralement au niveau des jambes.**
- Toux.**
- Éruptions cutanées pouvant être dues à une réaction allergique.**
- Douleur osseuse ou musculaire.**
- Symptômes pseudo-grippaux**, tels que maux de tête, gêne et douleurs dans les articulations, sensation de faiblesse, frissons, fatigue et sensations de vertiges. Ces effets peuvent être plus fréquents en début de traitement. Si vous ressentez ces symptômes pendant l'injection dans votre veine, une administration plus lente de l'injection pourra aider à les éviter par la suite.
- Rougeur, sensation de brûlure et douleur au site d'injection.**
- Gonflement des chevilles, des pieds ou des doigts.**
- Douleur dans le bras ou la jambe.**

Effets indésirables peu fréquents

Ces effets peuvent survenir chez jusqu'à 1 personne sur 100.

- Concentrations élevées en potassium dans le sang** pouvant provoquer un rythme cardiaque anormal (il s'agit d'un effet indésirable très fréquent chez les patients dialysés).
- Crises convulsives.**
- Congestion du nez ou des voies respiratoires.**
- Réaction allergique.**
- Éruption urticarienne.**

Effets indésirables rares

Ces effets peuvent survenir chez jusqu'à 1 personne sur 1 000.

- Symptômes d'érythroblastopénie.**
 - L'érythroblastopénie - signifie que la moelle osseuse ne fabrique pas les globules rouges en quantité suffisante. L'érythroblastopénie provoque une **anémie soudaine et sévère. Les symptômes sont :**
 - une fatigue inhabituelle,**
 - des étourdissements,**
 - un essoufflement.**
- Ces très rares cas d'érythroblastopénie ont été signalés, principalement chez des patients atteints d'une maladie des reins, après plusieurs mois ou années de traitement par l'époétine alfa et par d'autres produits stimulant la production des globules rouges.

- Une augmentation du nombre de plaquettes (de petites cellules sanguines qui participent normalement à la formation des caillots sanguins) peut survenir, particulièrement en début de traitement. Votre médecin surveillera vos plaquettes.

Réaction allergique sévère pouvant inclure :

- visage, lèvres, bouche, langue ou gorge gonflés,
- difficulté à avaler ou à respirer,
- rash avec démangeaisons (éruption urticarienne).

Problème au niveau du sang pouvant occasionner une douleur, des urines foncées ou une plus grande sensibilité de la peau à la lumière du soleil (porphyrie).

Si vous êtes sous hémodialyse :

- Des caillots sanguins** (thrombose) peuvent se former dans votre shunt de dialyse. Cet effet est plus fréquent si votre pression artérielle est basse ou s'il existe des complications au niveau de votre fistule.

- Des caillots sanguins** peuvent également se former dans votre circuit d'hémodialyse. Votre médecin pourra décider d'augmenter votre dose d'héparine pendant la dialyse.

Des éruptions cutanées graves, dont le syndrome de Stevens-Johnson et le syndrome de Lyell, ont été rapportées dans le cadre de traitements à base d'époétine. Elles peuvent apparaître au niveau du tronc sous forme de taches en forme de « coquardes » ou de plaques circulaires rougeâtres avec souvent des bulles centrales, être accompagnées d'un décollement cutané, d'ulcères de la bouche, de la gorge, du nez, des parties génitales et des yeux, et peuvent être précédées de fièvre et de symptômes de type grippal. Si vous développez ces symptômes, arrêtez d'utiliser Binocrit et contactez votre médecin ou demandez immédiatement un avis médical. Voir également rubrique 2.

Prévenez immédiatement votre médecin ou votre infirmier/ère si vous constatez l'un de ces effets ou si vous remarquez tout autre effet pendant que vous recevez le traitement par Binocrit.

Si l'un de ces effets devient grave ou si vous présentez des effets indésirables non mentionnés dans cette notice, veuillez en informer votre médecin, votre infirmier/ère ou votre pharmacien.

Déclaration des effets secondaires

Si vous ressentez un quelconque effet indésirable, parlez-en à votre médecin, votre pharmacien ou à votre infirmier/ère. Ceci s'applique aussi à tout effet indésirable qui ne serait pas mentionné dans cette notice. En signalant les effets indésirables, vous contribuez à fournir davantage d'informations sur la sécurité du médicament.

5 Comment conserver Binocrit

- Tenir ce médicament hors de la vue et de la portée des enfants.
- N'utilisez pas ce médicament après la date de péremption indiquée sur l'étiquette et l'emballage après EXP.
- A conserver et transporter réfrigéré (entre 2 °C et 8 °C).
- Vous pouvez sortir Binocrit du réfrigérateur et le maintenir à température ambiante (sans dépasser 25 °C) pendant un maximum de 3 jours. Une fois que la seringue a été sortie du réfrigérateur et a atteint la température ambiante (jusqu'à 25 °C), elle doit être utilisée dans les 3 jours ou jetée.
- Ne pas congeler et ne pas secouer.
- A conserver dans l'emballage extérieur d'origine, à l'abri de la lumière.

N'utilisez pas ce médicament si vous remarquez :

- qu'il pourrait avoir été accidentellement congelé, ou
- que le réfrigérateur a subi une panne,
- que le liquide est coloré ou si vous remarquez des particules flottant à l'intérieur,
- ou que la soudure est endommagée.

Ne jetez aucun médicament au tout-à-l'égout ou avec les ordures ménagères. Demandez à votre pharmacien d'éliminer les médicaments que vous n'utilisez plus. Ces mesures contribueront à protéger l'environnement.

6 Contenu de l'emballage et autres informations

Ce que contient Binocrit

- La substance active est :** épôetine alfa (voir le tableau ci-dessous pour connaître les quantités).
- Les autres composants sont :** phosphate monosodique dihydraté, phosphate disodique dihydraté, chlorure de sodium, glycine, polysorbate 80, acide chlorhydrique (pour ajustement du pH), hydroxyde de sodium (pour ajustement du pH) et eau pour préparations injectables.

Qu'est-ce que Binocrit et contenu de l'emballage extérieur

Binocrit se présente sous la forme d'une solution injectable en seringue préremplie, limpide, transparente. Les seringues sont conditionnées hermétiquement en plaquette.

Présentation	Présentations correspondantes en quantité/volume pour chaque dosage	Quantité d'époétine alfa
Seringues préremplies*	2 000 UI/mL ; 2 000 UI/1 mL	16,8 microgrammes
	10 000 UI/mL ; 4 000 UI/0,4 mL ; 8 000 UI/0,8 mL ; 10 000 UI/1 mL	33,6 microgrammes 67,2 microgrammes 84,0 microgrammes

* Boîtes de 1, 4 ou 6 seringues(s) préremplies(s) (verre type I), munies ou non d'un dispositif de sécurité, munies d'un bouchon piston (caoutchouc recouvert de téflon) conditionnées hermétiquement en plaquette.

Toutes les présentations peuvent ne pas être commercialisées.

Titulaire de l'Autorisation de mise sur le marché
Sandoz Pharmaceuticals d.d., Verovskova ulica 57, 1000 Ljubljana Slovénie

Fabricant
IDT Biologika GmbH
Am Pharmapark
06861 Dessau-Rosslau
Allemagne

Libérateur du lot
Sandoz GmbH
Biochemiestr. 10
A 6336 Langkampfen
Autriche

La dernière date à laquelle cette notice a été révisée est 10/2019.

Instructions pour pratiquer soi-même les injections (uniquement pour les patients atteints d'anémie symptomatique provoquée par une maladie des reins, les patients adultes recevant une chimiothérapie, les patients adultes devant subir une intervention chirurgicale orthopédique programmée ou les patients adultes atteints de syndromes myéloplasiasiques)

Cette rubrique présente les instructions permettant de vous administrer vous-même une injection de Binocrit. Il est **important de ne pas essayer de pratiquer l'injection avant que votre médecin ou votre infirmier/ère ne vous ait montré comment faire**. Binocrit est fourni avec une aiguille, munie ou non d'un dispositif de sécurité, dont l'utilisation vous sera montrée par votre médecin ou votre infirmier/ère. Si vous n'êtes pas sûr(e) de pouvoir faire l'injection ou si vous avez des questions, demandez de l'aide auprès de votre médecin ou de votre infirmier/ère.

- Lavez-vous soigneusement les mains.
- Sortez une seringue de l'emballage et enlevez le capuchon protecteur de l'aiguille. Des graduations sont gravées sur les seringues afin de permettre une utilisation partielle du produit. Chaque graduation correspond à un volume de 0,1 mL. En cas d'utilisation partielle, retirez de la seringue le surplus de solution inutile avant l'injection.
- Nettoyez la peau au niveau du site d'injection avec un tampon imprégné d'alcool.
- Formez un pli en pincant la peau entre le pouce et l'index.
- Introduisez l'aiguille rapidement et fermement dans le pli de peau. Injectez la solution de Binocrit comme vous l'a montré votre médecin. En cas de doute, consultez votre médecin ou votre pharmacien.

Seringe préremplie avec aiguille sans dispositif de sécurité

- Tout en maintenant la peau pincée, appuyez doucement et régulièrement sur le piston.
- Lorsque le liquide a été injecté, retirez l'aiguille et relâchez la peau. Appuyez sur le point d'injection avec un tampon sec et stérile.
- Jetez tout produit inutilisé et déchet. N'utilisez chaque seringue qu'une seule fois, pour une injection.

Seringe préremplie avec aiguille munie d'un dispositif de sécurité

- Tout en maintenant la peau pincée, appuyez doucement et régulièrement sur le piston jusqu'à ce que la dose entière ait été injectée et qu'il ne soit plus possible d'appuyer sur le piston. Ne relâchez pas la pression sur le piston l
- Lorsque le liquide a été injecté, retirez l'aiguille tout en maintenant la pression sur le piston et relâchez la peau. Appuyez sur le point d'injection avec un tampon sec et stérile.
- Relâchez le piston. Le dispositif de sécurité de l'aiguille se met rapidement en place pour couvrir l'aiguille.
- Jetez tout produit inutilisé et déchet. N'utilisez chaque seringue qu'une seule fois, pour une injection.

Folheto informativo: Informação para o doente

Binocrit 2.000 UI/1 ml solução injetável em seringa pré-cheia

Binocrit 4.000 UI/0,4 ml solução injetável em seringa pré-cheia

Binocrit 8.000 UI/0,8 ml solução injetável em seringa pré-cheia

Binocrit 10.000 UI/1 ml solução injetável em seringa pré-cheia

Epoetina alfa	SANDOZ <small> A Novartis Division</small>
Leia com atenção todo este folheto antes de começar a utilizar este medicamento, pois contém informação importante para si.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Conservar este folheto. Pode ter necessidade de o ler novamente. Caso ainda tenha dúvidas, fale com o seu médico, farmacêutico ou enfermeiro. Este medicamento foi receitado apenas para si. Não deve dá-lo a outros. O medicamento pode ser-lhes prejudicial mesmo que apresentem os mesmos sinais de doença. Se tiver quaisquer efeitos secundários, incluindo possíveis efeitos secundários não indicados neste folheto, fale com o seu médico, farmacêutico ou enfermeiro. Ver secção 4.	

O que contém este folheto

- O que é Binocrit e para que é utilizado
- O que precisa de saber antes de utilizar Binocrit
- Como utilizar Binocrit
- Efeitos secundários possíveis
- Como conservar Binocrit
- Conteúdo da embalagem e outras informações

1 O que é Binocrit e para que é utilizado

Binocrit contém a substância ativa epoetina alfa, uma proteína que estimula a medula óssea para produzir mais glóbulos vermelhos que contém hemoglobina (uma substância que transporta oxigénio). Epoetina alfa é uma cópia da proteína humana eritropoietina e atua da mesma forma.

Binocrit é utilizado para tratar a anemia sintomática causada por doença dos rins:

- em crianças em hemodiálise
 - em adultos em hemodiálise ou diálise peritoneal
 - em adultos com anemia grave ainda não submetidos a diálise
- Se tem uma doença renal, pode ter poucos glóbulos vermelhos se os seus rins não produzirem eritropoetina suficiente (necessária para a produção de glóbulos vermelhos). Binocrit é prescrito para estimular a sua medula óssea a produzir mais glóbulos vermelhos.

Binocrit é utilizado para tratar a anemia em adultos a receber quimioterapia para tratamento de tumores sólidos, linfoma maligno ou mieloma múltiplo (cancro da medula óssea) que possam ter necessidade de uma transfusão de sangue. Binocrit pode diminuir a necessidade de transfusões de sangue nestes doentes.

Se desenvolver uma erupção cutânea grave ou outros destes sintomas cutâneos, pare de tomar Binocrit e contacte o seu médico ou procure assistência médica imediatamente.

Outros medicamentos e Binocrit

Informe o seu médico se estiver a tomar, tiver tomado recentemente, ou se vier a tomar outros medicamentos.

Se estiver a tomar um medicamento chamado ciclosporina (utilizado, p. ex., após transplantes renais), o seu médico poderá pedir análises sanguíneas para verificar o nível de ciclosporina enquanto estiver a tomar Binocrit.

Binocrit é utilizado em adultos com anemia moderada que vão ser submetidos a grande cirurgia ortopédica (por exemplo, operação de substituição da anca ou do joelho), para reduzir a necessidade potencial de transfusões sanguíneas.

Binocrit é utilizado para tratar a anemia em adultos com uma afecção da medula óssea que provoca uma perturbação grave na criação de células sanguíneas (síndrome mielodisplásica). Binocrit pode reduzir a necessidade de uma transfusão de sangue.

2 O que precisa de saber antes de utilizar Binocrit

Não utilize Binocrit:

- se tem alergia** à epoetina alfa ou a qualquer outro componente deste medicamento (indicados na secção 6),
 - se lhe tiver sido diagnosticada Aplasia Eritroide Pura** (a medula óssea não pode produzir glóbulos vermelhos suficientes) após o tratamento prévio com qualquer medicamento que estimule a produção de glóbulos vermelhos (incluindo Binocrit), ver secção 4.
 - se tiver tensão arterial elevada** não adequadamente controlada com medicamentos,
 - para estimular a produção de glóbulos vermelhos (para que os médicos lhe possam tirar mais sangue) **se não puder receber transfusões de o seu próprio sangue** durante ou após a cirurgia,
 - se vai ser submetido a grande cirurgia ortopédica eletiva** (como cirurgia da anca ou do joelho) e:
 - tiver uma doença cardíaca grave
 - tiver problemas graves nas veias e nas artérias
 - teve recentemente um ataque cardíaco ou trombose
 - não pode tomar medicamentos para tomar o sangue mais fluido
- Binocrit pode não ser adequado para si. Fale com o seu médico. Enquanto está a utilizar Binocrit, algumas pessoas necessitam de medicamentos para reduzir o risco de coágulos sanguíneos. **Se não pode tomar medicamentos que evitam a coagulação sanguínea, não deve tomar Binocrit.**

Advertências e precauções

Fale com o seu médico, farmacêutico ou enfermeiro antes de utilizar Binocrit.

Binocrit e outros medicamentos que estimulam a produção de glóbulos vermelhos podem aumentar o risco de desenvolvimento de coágulos de sangue em todos os doentes. Este risco pode ser mais elevado se tiver outros fatores de risco para desenvolver coágulos de sangue (por exemplo, se tiver tido um coágulo de sangue no passado ou se tiver excesso de peso, tiver diabetes, tiver uma doença do coração ou se estiver acamado durante um período prolongado devido a uma cirurgia ou doença). Informe o seu médico sobre qualquer um destes problemas. O seu médico dir-lhe-á se Binocrit é adequado para si.

É importante informar o seu médico se alguma das seguintes situações se aplicar a si. É possível que ainda possa utilizar Binocrit, mas consulte primeiro o seu médico.

Se sabe que sofre ou sofreu de:

- tensão arterial elevada,**
- ataques epilépticos ou convulsões;**
- doença hepática;**
- anemia de outras causas;**
- porfiria (uma doença rara do sangue).**

Se é doente oncológico esteja ciente que os medicamentos que estimulam a produção de glóbulos vermelhos (como Binocrit) podem atuar como um fator de crescimento e portanto, em teoria, podem afetar a progressão do seu cancro.

Dependendo da sua situação individual, pode ser preferível uma transfusão de sangue. Discuta este assunto com o seu médico.

Se é um doente com hepatite C e recebe interferão e ribavirina, deve discutir este assunto com o seu médico uma vez que a combinação de epoetina alfa com interferão e ribavirina conduziu, em casos raros, a uma perda do efeito e ao desenvolvimento de uma doença chamada aplasia eritroide pura (AEP), uma forma grave de anemia. Binocrit não está aprovado no tratamento da anemia associada a hepatite C.

Se é um doente com insuficiência renal crónica e, em particular, se não responde de forma adequada ao Binocrit, o seu médico verificará a sua dose de Binocrit uma vez que o aumento repetido da sua dose de Binocrit, se não estiver a responder ao tratamento, poderá aumentar o risco de ter problemas de coração ou dos vasos sanguíneos e pode aumentar o risco de enfarte do miocárdio, acidente vascular cerebral e morte.

Se é doente oncológico, esteja ciente de que a utilização de Binocrit pode estar associada a uma sobrevivência reduzida e a uma taxa de morte superior em doentes com cancro da cabeça e pescoço e cancro da mama metastático a receberem quimioterapia.

Tome especial cuidado com outros medicamentos que estimulam a produção de glóbulos vermelhos:

Adultos submetidos a quimioterapia

- O seu médico pode iniciar o tratamento com Binocrit se a sua hemoglobina for de 10 g/dl ou inferior.
- O seu médico manterá o seu nível de hemoglobina entre 10 e 12 g/dl uma vez que um nível elevado de hemoglobina pode aumentar o risco de coágulos de sangue ou de morte.
- A dose inicial é de 150 UI por quilograma de peso corporal três vezes por semana ou de 450 UI por quilograma de peso corporal uma vez por semana.
- Binocrit é administrado através de injeção sob a pele.
- O seu médico pedirá análises ao sangue e poderá ajustar a dose, dependendo da forma como a sua anemia responde ao tratamento com Binocrit.
- Podarão ser-lhe dados suplementos de ferro antes e durante o tratamento com Binocrit para o tornar mais eficaz.
- Normalmente, continuará com o tratamento com Binocrit durante um mês após o final da quimioterapia.

Adultos dadores de sangue

- A **dose habitual** é de 600 UI por quilograma de peso corporal duas vezes por semana.
- Binocrit é administrado por injeção numa veia imediatamente depois de ter doado sangue, durante 3 semanas antes da cirurgia.
- Podarão ser-lhe administrados suplementos de ferro antes e durante o tratamento com Binocrit para o tornar mais eficaz.

Adultos com grande cirurgia ortopédica programada

- A **dose recomendada** é de 600 UI por quilograma de peso corporal uma vez por semana.
- Binocrit é dado através de injeção sob a pele todas as semanas durante três semanas antes da cirurgia e no dia da cirurgia.
- Se houver necessidade médica de reduzir o tempo antes da sua operação, ser-lhe-á administrada uma dose diária de 300 UI/kg durante até dez dias antes da cirurgia, no dia da cirurgia e durante quatro dias imediatamente a seguir.
- Se as análises ao sangue demonstrarem que a sua hemoglobina está demasiado alta antes da operação, o tratamento será interrompido.
- Podarão ser-lhe administrados suplementos de ferro antes e durante o tratamento com Binocrit para o tornar mais eficaz.

Adultos com síndrome mielodisplásica

- O seu médico pode iniciar o tratamento com Binocrit se a sua hemoglobina for de 10 g/dl ou inferior. O tratamento tem por objetivo manter o nível de hemoglobina entre 10 e 12 g/dl, uma vez que um nível de hemoglobina superior poderá aumentar o risco de coágulos sanguíneos e morte.
- Binocrit é administrado através de injeção sob a pele.
- A dose inicial é de 450 UI por quilograma de peso corporal, uma vez por semana.
- O seu médico pedirá análises ao sangue e poderá ajustar a dose, dependendo da forma como a sua anemia responde ao tratamento com Binocrit.

Se desenvolver uma erupção cutânea grave ou outros destes sintomas cutâneos, pare de tomar Binocrit e contacte o seu médico ou procure assistência médica imediatamente.

Outros medicamentos e Binocrit

Informe o seu médico se estiver a tomar, tiver tomado recentemente, ou se vier a tomar outros medicamentos.

Se estiver a tomar um medicamento chamado ciclosporina (utilizado, p. ex., após transplantes renais), o seu médico poderá pedir análises sanguíneas para verificar o nível de ciclosporina enquanto estiver a tomar Binocrit.

Os suplementos de ferro e outros estimulantes sanguíneos podem aumentar a eficácia de Binocrit. O seu médico decidirá se os deve tomar.

Se consultar um médico de um hospital ou de uma clínica ou o médico de família, informe-os de que está a fazer o tratamento com Binocrit. Este pode afetar outros tratamentos ou os resultados de análises.

Gravidez e amamentação

É importante informar o seu médico se alguma das seguintes situações se aplicar a si. É possível que ainda possa utilizar Binocrit, mas consulte primeiro o seu médico:

- se está grávida** ou se pensa estar grávida.
- se está a amamentar.**

Binocrit contém sódio:

Binocrit contém menos de 1 mmol de sódio (23 mg) por dose, ou seja, é praticamente "isento de sódio".

3 Como utilizar Binocrit

Utilize este medicamento exatamente como indicado pelo seu médico. Fale com o seu médico se tiver dúvidas.

O seu médico realizou análises sanguíneas e decidiu que você necessita de Binocrit.

Binocrit pode ser administrado por injeção:

- numa veia ou num tubo que entra numa veia (via intravenosa)
- ou sob a pele (via subcutânea).

O seu médico decidirá como Binocrit será injetado. Normalmente, as injeções ser-lhe-ão dadas por um médico, um enfermeiro ou outro profissional de saúde. Algumas pessoas, dependendo do motivo porque necessitam do tratamento com Binocrit, podem posteriormente aprender como injetar-se a si próprias sob a pele; ver Instruções sobre como se injetar a si próprio com Binocrit no fim deste folheto informativo.

Binocrit não deve ser utilizado:

- após o prazo de validade impresso no rótulo e na embalagem exterior
- se sabe ou pensa que pode ter sido congelado acidentalmente ou
- se houve uma falha no frigorífico.

A dose de Binocrit que recebe baseia-se no seu peso corporal em quilogramas. A causa da sua anemia também é um fator na decisão do seu médico relativamente à dose correta.

O seu médico controlará a sua tensão arterial regularmente enquanto estiver a utilizar Binocrit.

Pessoas com doença renal

- O seu médico irá manter o seu nível de hemoglobina entre 10 e 12 g/dl uma vez que um nível elevado de hemoglobina pode aumentar o risco de coágulos sanguíneos e morte. Nas crianças, o nível de hemoglobina deve ser mantido entre 9,5 e 11 g/dl.
- A **dose inicial habitual** de Binocrit para adultos e crianças é de 50 Unidades Internacionais (UI) por quilograma (kg) de peso corporal dada três vezes por semana. Em doentes em diálise peritoneal, Binocrit pode ser administrado duas vezes por semana.
- Em adultos e crianças, Binocrit é administrado na forma de injeção que numa veia (via intravenosa) ou num tubo que entra numa veia. Quando este acesso (através de uma veia ou tubo) não está prontamente disponível, o seu médico pode decidir que Binocrit deve ser injetado sob a pele (via subcutânea). Esta situação inclui doentes a fazerem diálise e doentes ainda não submetidos a diálise.
- O seu médico pedirá análises ao sangue regulares para ver como a sua anemia está a responder e poderá ajustar a dose, normalmente com uma frequência não superior a cada quatro semanas. Deve ser evitado um aumento da hemoglobina superior a 2 g/dl durante um período de quatro semanas.
- Logo que a anemia tiver sido corrigida, o seu médico continuará a controlar regularmente o seu sangue. À sua dose de Binocrit a a frequência de administração podem ser novamente ajustadas para manter a sua resposta ao tratamento. O seu médico utilizará a dose eficaz mais baixa para controlar os sintomas da sua anemia.
- Se não responder de forma adequada ao Binocrit, o seu médico verificará a sua dose e informá-lo-á se precisa de mudar a sua dose de Binocrit.
- Se tiver um intervalo posológico mais alargado (superior a uma vez por semana) de Binocrit, pode não manter níveis adequados de hemoglobina e pode necessitar de um aumento da dose ou frequência de administração de Binocrit.
- Podem ser-lhe dados suplementos de ferro antes e durante o tratamento com Binocrit para o tornar mais eficaz.
- Se estiver a fazer tratamento de diálise quando iniciar o tratamento com Binocrit, o seu regime de diálise pode necessitar de ser ajustado, ficando essa decisão a cargo do seu médico.

Efeitos secundários pouco frequentes

Podem afetar até 1 em 100 pessoas.

- Níveis altos de potássio no sangue** que podem causar um ritmo anormal do coração (este é um efeito secundário muito frequente em doentes a fazerem diálise)
- Convulsões.**
- Congestão nasal ou das vias aéreas.**
- Reação alérgica.**
- Urticária.**

Efeitos secundários raros

Estes podem afetar até 1 em 1 000 pessoas.

- Sintomas de aplasia eritroide pura (AEP)**

AEP significa que a medula óssea não produz glóbulos vermelhos suficientes. A AEP causa **anemia súbita e grave. Os sintomas são:**

- cansaço anormal,**
- tonturas,**
- falta de ar.**

A AEP foi comunicada muito raramente, sobretudo em doentes com doença renal após vários meses a dois anos de tratamento com epoetina alfa e com outros medicamentos que estimulam a produção de glóbulos vermelhos.

- Podе ocorrer um aumento dos níveis de pequenas células sanguíneas (chamadas plaquetas) que, normalmente, estão envolvidas na formação dos coágulos de sangue, especialmente no início do tratamento. O seu médico afetará um controlo desta situação.