# PRODUCT MONOGRAPH

#### Pr EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>

#### albiglutide

Powder for Solution for Injection in Pre-filled Pens

30 mg/0.5 mL and 50 mg/0.5 mL (after reconstitution)

Antihyperglycemic Agent

Human Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonist

GlaxoSmithKline Inc. 7333 Mississauga Road Mississauga, Ontario L5N 6L4 Date of Preparation: February 12, 2016

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# Pr**EPERZANTM**

#### albiglutide

# PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

#### SUMMARY PRODUCT INFORMATION

Route of Administration	Dosage Form / Strength	Nonmedicinal Ingredients
Subcutaneous	Powder for solution for injection in pre-filled pen 30 mg/0.5 mL* and 50 mg/0.5 mL* *following reconstitution	Sodium phosphate monobasic, monohydrate Sodium phosphate dibasic, anhydrous Trehalose dihydrate Mannitol Polysorbate 80 Water for injection

# DESCRIPTION

EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> contains albiglutide, an analog of human glucagon-like peptide 1 (GLP-1) and acts as a GLP-1 receptor agonist. Albiglutide is generated through genetic fusion of two tandem copies of modified human GLP-1 (97% amino acid sequence homology to endogenous human GLP-1 fragment 7-36) to human albumin. The GLP-1 sequence has been modified with a glycine substituted for the naturally-occurring alanine at position 8 in order to confer resistance to dipeptidylpeptidase IV (DPP-IV) mediated proteolysis. The human albumin moiety of the recombinant fusion protein, together with the DPP-IV resistance, extends the half-life to allow once-weekly dosing.

Albiglutide is produced by a strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* modified to express the therapeutic protein.

EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> is supplied as a pen with a dual chamber cartridge containing white to yellow powder and clear diluent for solution for injection. Each 30 mg single use pre-filled pen contains 40.3 mg lyophilized albiglutide and 0.65 mL diluent designed to deliver a dose of 30 mg in a volume of 0.5 mL after reconstitution. Each 50 mg single use pre-filled pen contains 67.0 mg lyophilized albiglutide and 0.65 mL diluent designed to deliver a dose of 50 mg in a volume of 0.5 mL after reconstitution (see DOSAGE FORMS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING).

# INDICATIONS AND CLINICAL USE

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is indicated for once-weekly administration for the treatment of adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus, as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycemic control

- as monotherapy in patients inadequately controlled by diet, exercise and when metformin is inappropriate due to contraindication or intolerance.
- in combination with one of the following therapeutic options in patients who have not achieved adequate glycemic control:
  - metformin, when diet and exercise plus maximal tolerated dose of metformin do not achieve adequate glycemic control
  - metformin and sulfonylurea, when diet and exercise plus dual therapy with metformin and sulfonylurea do not achieve adequate glycemic control
  - basal insulin with oral antidiabetic therapies, when diet and exercise plus basal insulin with oral antidiabetic therapies do not achieve adequate glycemic control (See CLINICAL TRIALS).

The combination of EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> with prandial insulin (short acting) has not been studied.

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> should not be used in type 1 diabetes (formerly known as insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus or IDDM) or for the treatment of patients with diabetic ketoacidosis.

#### Geriatrics (≥ 65 years of age):

See WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Special Populations, Geriatrics.

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

The safety and efficacy of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> in children below 18 years of age have not been studied. EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is not indicated for use in pediatric patients.

# CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Patients who are hypersensitive to this drug or to any ingredient in the formulation or component of the container. For a complete listing, see the DOSAGE FORMS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING section of the Product Monograph.
- In patients with a personal or family history of medullary thyroid carcinoma or in patients with Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN 2) (see WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis).
- During pregnancy or in breast-feeding women (see WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Special Populations).

#### WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Thyroid C-cell tumors have been observed in rodent studies with glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonists at clinically relevant exposures. We cannot confirm whether or not EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> causes thyroid C-cell tumors, including medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC), in humans.

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is contraindicated in patients with a personal or family history of MTC and in patients with Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN 2) (See CONTRAINDICATIONS).

#### <u>General</u>

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> should not be used in patients with type 1 diabetes mellitus or for the treatment of patients with diabetic ketoacidosis.

EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> should not be administered intramuscularly.

#### **Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis**

#### **Risk of Thyroid C-cell Tumours**

GLP-1 receptor agonists have been associated with an increased incidence of thyroid C-cell focal hyperplasia and C-cell adenomas and carcinomas in rodents. It is unknown whether GLP-1 receptor agonists are associated with thyroid C-cell tumours, including medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC) in humans. Carcinogenicity studies have not been conducted with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> due to clearing anti-drug antibodies that develop in rodents. There were no drug-related thyroid histological findings in a 52-week monkey study with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> (see TOXICOLOGY).

Across 8 Phase III clinical trials, MTC was diagnosed in 2 patients (1 receiving EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and 1 receiving placebo), both of whom had markedly elevated serum calcitonin levels at baseline indicating a pre-existing condition.

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is contraindicated in patients with a personal or family history of MTC or in patients with MEN 2. Counsel patients regarding the risk for MTC and the symptoms of thyroid tumours (e.g., a mass in the neck, dysphagia, dyspnea or persistent hoarseness). The clinical value of routine monitoring of serum calcitonin has not been established.

#### **Cardiovascular**

**Heart Rate Increase**: EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> causes an increase in heart rate (see ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Cardiac Electrophysiology). In studies in type 2 diabetes patients, mean increases in heart rate of 1 to 2 beats per minute (bpm) were observed with albiglutide versus placebo. In a thorough QT study in healthy subjects, a mean increase in heart rate (6 to 8 bpm) was observed after repeat dosing with albiglutide 50 mg compared to baseline

values. In studies in type 2 diabetes patients, adverse reactions of atrial fibrillation (1.0%) and atrial flutter (0.2%) were reported more frequently for EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> than for all comparators (0.5% and 0%, respectively) (see ADVERSE REACTIONS). Increases in heart rate may lead to worsening of cardiac conditions in patients with a history of ischemic heart disease or tachyarrhythmias. Caution should be observed in these patient populations.

**PR Interval Prolongation:** EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> causes a prolongation of the PR interval of the electrocardiogram of 4 to 5 ms in healthy subjects (see ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Cardiac Electrophysiology). Caution should be observed in patients with underlying structural heart disease, pre-existing conduction system abnormalities, ischemic heart disease, or cardiomyopathies, as these patients may be at increased risk for developing cardiac conduction abnormalities. In studies in type 2 diabetes patients, mean PR interval prolongation of approximately 2 ms was observed with albiglutide versus placebo. Prolongation of the PR interval has also been associated with an increased risk of atrial fibrillation; therefore, caution is warranted in patients with a history of atrial fibrillation.

#### **Endocrine and Metabolism**

#### Hypoglycemia

The risk of hypoglycemia is increased when EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> is used in combination with insulin secretagogues (e.g. sulfonylureas) or insulin. Therefore, patients may require a lower dose of sulfonylurea or insulin to reduce the risk of hypoglycemia (see ADVERSE REACTIONS and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

#### **Gastrointestinal**

In placebo-controlled clinical trials, gastrointestinal events were more frequently reported for EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> compared to placebo and included diarrhea, nausea and vomiting (see ADVERSE REACTIONS, Gastrointestinal).

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is not recommended for patients with pre-existing severe gastrointestinal disease, including severe gastroparesis.

#### **Hepatic/Biliary/Pancreatic**

#### **Risk of Acute Pancreatitis**

In clinical trials, acute pancreatitis has been reported in association with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and other GLP-1 receptor agonists (see ADVERSE REACTIONS).

Patients should be informed of the characteristic signs and symptoms of acute pancreatitis (including persistent severe abdominal pain, sometimes radiating to the back, which may or may not be accompanied by vomiting). Observe patients carefully for the signs and symptoms of pancreatitis. If pancreatitis is suspected, EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> should promptly be discontinued and appropriate management should be initiated. If pancreatitis is confirmed, EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> should not be restarted.

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> has not been studied in patients with a history of pancreatitis to determine whether these patients are at increased risk for pancreatitis. Consider other antidiabetic therapies in patients with a history of pancreatitis.

#### <u>Neurologic</u>

No studies on the effects of the ability to drive and use machines have been performed. When EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is used in combination with insulin secretagogues (e.g. sulfonylureas) or insulin, patients should be advised to take precautions to avoid hypoglycemia while driving and using machines (see ADVERSE REACTIONS, Hypoglycemia).

#### Sexual Function/Reproduction

There are no data on the effects of EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> on human fertility. Studies in mice showed no effects on fertility (see TOXICOLOGY). The potential risk for humans is unknown.

#### **Special Populations**

**Pregnant Women:** There are no adequate data to support the use of EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> during pregnancy. Studies in animals have shown reproductive toxicity (see TOXICOLOGY).

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is not recommended for use during pregnancy (see CONTRAINDICATIONS). If a patient wishes to become pregnant, EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> should be discontinued at least 1 month before due to the long washout period for EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>.

Nursing Women: There are no adequate data to support the use of EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> during lactation in humans.

It is not known if EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is excreted into human milk during lactation. Given that EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is an albumin-based protein therapeutic, it is likely to be present in human milk. Decreased body weight was observed in the offspring of mice treated with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> during gestation and lactation (see TOXICOLOGY). EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is not recommended for use by nursing women (see CONTRAINDICATIONS).

Pediatrics (< 18 years of age): See INDICATIONS AND CLINICAL USE, Pediatrics.

Geriatrics ( $\geq$  65 years of age): No dose adjustment is required in patients over 65 years of age (see ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY).

Of the total number of patients (N = 2,365) in all 8 Phase III clinical trials who received EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>, 19% (N = 444) were 65 years of age and older, and less than 2% (N = 52) were 75 years of age and older. No overall differences in safety or effectiveness were observed between these patients and younger patients, but greater sensitivity of some older individuals cannot be ruled out.

**Renal Impairment:** In patients treated with GLP-1 receptor agonists, there have been postmarketing reports of acute renal failure and worsening of chronic renal failure, which may sometimes require hemodialysis. Some of these events were reported in patients without known

underlying renal disease. A majority of reported events occurred in patients who had experienced nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or dehydration. In a trial of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> in patients with renal impairment (see CLINICAL TRIALS), the frequency of such gastrointestinal reactions increased as renal function declined. Because these reactions may worsen renal function, use caution when initiating or escalating doses of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> in patients with renal impairment.

**Hepatic Impairment:** The safety and efficacy of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> have not been studied in patients with hepatic impairment.

**Hypersensitivity Reactions:** Across 8 Phase III clinical trials, a serious hypersensitivity reaction with pruritus, rash, and dyspnea occurred in one patient treated with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>. If hypersensitivity reactions occur, discontinue use of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>; treat promptly per standard of care and monitor until signs and symptoms resolve. EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> should not be used following a hypersensitivity reaction (see CONTRAINDICATIONS).

Angioedema has also been reported with other GLP-1 receptor agonists. Use caution in a patient with a history of angioedema with another GLP-1 receptor agonist because it is unknown whether such patients will be predisposed to angioedema with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>.

<u>Macrovascular Outcomes</u>: There have been no clinical trials establishing conclusive evidence of macrovascular risk reduction with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>.

**Monitoring and Laboratory Tests:** Response to all diabetic therapies should be monitored by periodic measurements of blood glucose and HbA1c levels, with a goal of decreasing these levels towards the normal range. HbA1c is especially useful for evaluating long-term glycemic control. Self-monitoring of blood glucose is recommended when initiating treatment with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> in combination with sulfonylurea or insulin in order to reduce the dose of the sulfonylurea or insulin, consequently reducing the risk of hypoglycemia.

# **ADVERSE REACTIONS**

# Adverse Drug Reaction Overview

The safety of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> (albiglutide) in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus was evaluated in 8 active and placebo-controlled Phase III clinical trials including a total of 2,365 patients (3,623 patient years) treated with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>.

Seven clinical trials were included in a pooled analysis and included comparisons to glimepiride, pioglitazone, liraglutide, sitagliptin (1 trial each), insulin (2 trials, one versus prandial insulin and one versus basal insulin) and placebo (4 trials). These trials included the use of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> as monotherapy, in combination with oral antidiabetic agents, and in combination with basal insulin. These 7 trials included a total of 2,116 patients (3,370 patient years) treated with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and 2,284 patients (3,628 patient years) treated with active comparator or placebo. The duration of trials ranged from 32 weeks up to 3 years. One additional 52-week, Phase III clinical trial evaluated EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> (N = 249) versus active control (sitagliptin, N = 246) in patients with mild, moderate, or severe renal impairment.

Due to the long duration of trials, additional antidiabetic therapies were permitted if glycemic thresholds were exceeded according to pre-specified criteria. Metformin and insulin glargine were the medications most frequently added.

In the pooled safety population (7 integrated studies), the most common treatment emergent adverse events occurring in  $\geq 10\%$  of patients at 104 weeks for EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and more frequently than all comparators (including placebo) were diarrhea (12.9% versus 9.2%), nausea (11.5% versus 10.6%), injection site reaction including rash, erythema, or itching at the injection site (13.1% versus 2.9%) and upper respiratory tract infection (12.9% versus 11.2%). The proportion of patients with adverse events leading to withdrawals was 7.5% for EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and 5.8% for all comparators. The most common adverse event leading to withdrawal for EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> was injection site reaction (1.5% for EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> versus 0% for all comparators).

#### **Clinical Trial Adverse Drug Reactions**

Because clinical trials are conducted under very specific conditions the adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials may not reflect the rates observed in practice and should not be compared to the rates in the clinical trials of another drug. Adverse drug reaction information from clinical trials is useful for identifying drug-related adverse events and for approximating rates.

Table 1 summarizes treatment-emergent adverse events occurring in  $\geq 1\%$  of patients and occurring more frequently with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> at 104 weeks.

	Albiglutide <sup>a</sup> N = 923	Placebo <sup>a</sup> N = 468	Albiglutide <sup>b</sup> N = 2116	All Comparators <sup>b</sup> N = 2284
	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
Cardiac disorders				
Atrial fibrillation	-	-	22 (1.0)	11 (0.5)
Palpitations	9 (1.0)	0 (0.0)	-	-
Ear and labyrinth disorders				
Vertigo	24 (2.6)	6 (1.3)	41 (1.9)	23 (1.0)
Eye disorders				
Cataract	26 (2.8)	11 (2.4)	66 (3.1)	68 (3.0)
Diabetic retinopathy	33 (3.6)	8 (1.7)	-	-
Vision blurred	14 (1.5)	3 (0.6)	24 (1.1)	14 (0.6)
Gastrointestinal Disorders				
Diarrhea	121 (13.1)	49 (10.5)	272 (12.9)	209 (9.2)
Nausea	102 (11.1)	45 (9.6)	243 (11.5)	242 (10.6)
Vomiting	39 (4.2)	12 (2.6)	104 (4.9)	101 (4.4)
Constipation	-	-	100 (4.7)	87 (3.8)
Dyspepsia	31 (3.4)	13 (2.8)	80 (3.8)	58 (2.5)
Gastroesophageal reflux disease	32 (3.5)	9 (1.9)	64 (3.0)	47 (2.1)

# Table 1Treatment Emergent Adverse Events Occurring in ≥1% in Either Group and<br/>Occurring More Frequently with Albiglutide at 104 weeks

	<b>Albiglutide</b> <sup>a</sup>	Placebo <sup>a</sup>	Albiglutide <sup>b</sup>	All Comparators <sup>b</sup>
	N = 923	N = 468	N = 2116	N = 2284
	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
Abdominal pain	-	-	60 (2.8)	59 (2.6)
Gastritis	-	-	41 (1.9)	39 (1.7)
Abdominal distension	10 (1.1)	3 (0.6)	31 (1.5)	22 (1.0)
Flatulance	-	-	31 (1.5)	21 (0.9)
Toothache	12 (1.3)	4 (0.9)	23 (1.1)	22 (1.0)
General Disorders and				
Administration Site Conditions				
Injection site reaction	97 (10.5)	10 (2.1)	187 (8.8)	45 (2.0)
Fatigue	-	-	74 (3.5)	61 (2.7)
Injection site erythema	16 (1.7)	2 (0.4)	40 (1.9)	8 (0.4)
Injection site rash	13 (1.4)	0 (0.0)	28 (1.3)	1 (0.0)
Injection site pruritus	-	-	23 (1.1)	11 (0.5)
Asthenia	10 (1.1)	3 (0.6)	-	-
Immune system disorders				
Seasonal allergy	-	-	26 (1.2)	24 (1.1)
Infections and Infestations				
Upper respiratory tract infection	131 (14.2)	61 (13.0)	274 (12.9)	256 (11.2)
Sinusitis	57 (6.2)	27 (5.8)	130 (6.1)	111 (4.9)
Gastroenteritis	33 (3.6)	12 (2.6)	69 (3.3)	72 (3.2)
Influenza	48 (5.2)	15 (3.2)	-	-
Pneumonia	17 (1.8)	3 (0.6)	37 (1.7)	18 (0.8)
Tooth abscess	-	-	31 (1.5)	32 (1.4)
Onychomycosis	-	-	26 (1.2)	21 (0.9)
Tooth infection	-	-	24 (1.1)	20 (0.9)
Herpes zoster	13 (1.4)	6 (1.3)	-	-
Otitis media	9 (1.0)	4 (0.9)	-	-
Acute sinusitis	9 (1.0)	3 (0.6)	-	-
Furuncle	9 (1.0)	0 (0.0)	-	-
Injury, poisoning and procedural				
Lacerations	17(18)	5 (1 1)	27(13)	26 (1 1)
Investigations	17 (1.0)	5 (1.1)	27 (1.5)	20 (1.1)
Gamma glutamyltransferase	14(15)	4 (0.0)	24(11)	14 (0.6)
increased	14 (1.5)	4 (0.9)	24 (1.1)	14 (0.0)
Hepatic enzyme increased	10(1.1)	3 (0.6)	_	_
Metabolism and nutrition disorders		()		
Gout	14 (1.5)	4 (0.9)	26 (1.2)	17 (0.7)
Hyperlipidemia	11 (1.2)	1 (0.2)	- ()	-
Hypercholesterolemia	10 (1.1)	4 (0.9)	-	_
Vitamin D Deficiency	10(11)	3 (0 6)	-	_
Hypokalemia	9(1.0)	1 (0.2)	-	_
, P, M	~ (1.5)	- (0.4)		

	Albiglutide <sup>a</sup>	Placebo <sup>a</sup>	Albiglutide <sup>b</sup>	All Comparators <sup>b</sup>
	N = 923	N = 468	N = 2116	N = 2284
Musculoskeletal and connective	II (70)	II (70)	II (70)	II (70)
tissue disorders				
Musculoskeletal pain	-	-	73 (3.4)	72 (3.2)
Back pain	62 (6.7)	27 (5.8)	-	-
Arthralgia	61 (6.6)	30 (6.4)	-	-
Muscle spasms	-	-	49 (2.3)	49 (2.1)
Exostosis	9 (1.0)	4 (0.9)	-	-
Neck pain	-	-	22 (1.0)	18 (0.8)
Nervous system disorders				
Dizziness	-	-	79 (3.7)	84 (3.7)
Hypoesthesia	19 (2.1)	5 (1.1)	35 (1.7)	26 (1.1)
Neuropathy peripheral	20 (2.2)	7 (1.5)	32 (1.5)	34 (1.5)
Paresthesia	15 (1.6)	3 (0.6)	24 (1.1)	18 (0.8)
Carpal tunnel syndrome	9 (1.0)	3 (0.6)	-	-
Migraine	9 (1.0)	3 (0.6)	22 (1.0)	9 (0.4)
Psychiatric disorders				
Anxiety	26 (2.8)	11 (2.4)	53 (2.5)	43 (1.9)
Insomnia	26 (2.8)	10 (2.1)	-	-
Reproductive system and breast				
disorders		1 (0,0)		
Erectile dysfunction	12(1.3)	4 (0.9)	-	-
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders				
Cough	64 (6.9)	29 (6.2)	-	-
Oropharyngeal pain	19 (2.1)	9 (1.9)	39 (1.8)	42 (1.8)
Sinus congestion	18 (2.0)	6 (1.3)	32 (1.5)	32 (1.4)
Asthma	10 (1.1)	4 (0.9)	28 (1.3)	20 (0.9)
Dyspnoea	14 (1.5)	6 (1.3)	-	-
Rhinitis allergic	11 (1.2)	5 (1.1)	-	-
Skin and subcutaneous tissue				
disorders		10 (2 1)		
Rash	23 (2.5)	10 (2.1)	-	-
Pruritis	11(1.2)	0 (0.0)	-	-
Dermatitis	9 (1.0)	3 (0.6)		
Vascular disorders		20 (2.1)	156 (7.4)	1(5 (7 2)
Hypertension	75 (8.1)	38 (8.1)	156 (7.4)	165 (7.2)
Hot flush	9 (1.0)	2 (0.4)	-	-

<sup>a</sup>mean duration of 93.4 weeks for albiglutide and 85.7 weeks for placebo <sup>b</sup>mean duration of 75.1 weeks for albiglutide and 74.9 weeks for all comparators

#### **Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Drug Reactions** ( $\geq 0.5\%$ and <1%)

**Blood and lymphatic system disorders:** eosinophilia, iron deficiency anemia, neutropenia, thrombocytopenia

Cardiac disorders: angina pectoris

Ear and labyrinth disorders: ear pain, cerumen impaction

Endocrine disorders: goitre, hypothyroidism

Eye disorders: conjunctivitis, glaucoma, presbyopia, eye pain

**Gastrointestinal disorders:** abdominal discomfort, irritable bowel syndrome, abdominal tenderness, eructation, food poisoning

General disorders and administration site conditions: injection site hemorrhage, injection site hypersensitivity, odema, chest discomfort, influenza-like illness

Hepatobiliary disorders: hepatic steatosis

**Infections and infestations:** tinea pedis, subcutaneous abscess, vulvovaginal mycotic infection, localised infection, oral herpes, respiratory tract infection, rhinitis, tinea cruris, otitis externa subcutaneous abscess, viral infection, cystitis, rhinitis, paronychia, labyrinthitis

**Injury, poisoning and procedural complications:** thermal burn, meniscus lesion, concussion, fall, joint injury, limb injury, rib fracture

**Investigations:** cardiac murmur, blood uric acid increased, alanine aminotransferase increased, blood potassium increased, aspartate aminotransferase increased

Metabolism and nutrition disorders: hyperuricemia, dehydration

**Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders:** trigger finger, musculoskeletal chest pain, plantar fasciitis, rotator cuff syndrome, pain in jaw, intervertebral disc protrusion, costochondritis, plantar fasciitis, joint swelling

Neoplasms benign, malignant and unspecified (including cysts and polyps): basal cell carcinoma Nervous system disorders: syncope, sciatica, transient ischaemic attack

Psychiatric disorders: panic disorder, suicidal ideation

Renal and urinary disorders: proteinuria, hematuria

Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders: rhinorrhoea, epistaxis

Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders: hyperhidrosis, urticaria, alopecia, dry skin, erythema, skin lesion, ecchymosis

Vascular disorders: hematoma, hypotension

<u>Respiratory:</u> In the pool of 7 placebo- and active-controlled trials, pneumonia occurred in 1.8% of patients receiving EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and 0.8% of patients in the all comparators group. For EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>, these were single episodes of pneumonia in patients participating in studies with 32 weeks up to 3 years of observation.

<u>Cardiovascular</u>: In the pool of 7 placebo- and active-controlled trials, atrial fibrillation (1.0%) and atrial flutter (0.2%) were reported more frequently with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> than in the all comparators group (0.5% and 0%, respectively). The exposure-adjusted incidence of atrial fibrillation/flutter was 8.2 events/1,000 patient years with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and 3.4 events/1,000 patient years for the all comparators group. In both the EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and comparator groups, patients with events were generally male, older, or had renal impairment or cardiac disease.

<u>Pancreatitis:</u> Across the 8 Phase III clinical trials, pancreatitis adjudicated as likely related to therapy occurred in 0.3% (6 of 2,365) patients receiving EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>, 0 (0 of 468) patients randomized to placebo and 0.1% (2 of 2,062) of patients receiving active comparators.

<u>Gastrointestinal (GI) Events</u>: Diarrhea and nausea were usually mild in intensity and resolved in less than 1 week in most cases. The majority of gastrointestinal events occurred within the first 6 months (see Figure 1).

The incidence of discontinuation of study medication for a GI adverse event was low and similar between EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and placebo (1.7% for both).

In the head-to-head trial with liraglutide, nausea and vomiting occurred more frequently for liraglutide compared to EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> (29.2% versus 9.9% and 9.3% versus 5.0%, respectively), while diarrhea was similar in both groups (13.5% versus 14.9%). The difference in GI events was accounted for mainly by events that occurred within the first 12 weeks of treatment.

# Figure 1 Treatment Emergent Gastrointestinal Events Over Time – Albiglutide versus Placebo (Phase III Integrated Safety Population)



Appendicitis: Across the 8 Phase III clinical trials, serious events of appendicitis occurred in 0.2% (5 of 2, 365) of patients treated with EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> compared with 0% among all comparators at 104 weeks.

<u>Injection Site Reactions</u>: In placebo-controlled clinical trials of up to 3 years duration, injection site reactions (typically including rash, erythema, or itching at the injection site) occurred in 17.6% of patients treated with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> (N = 923) compared to 7.5% with placebo injections (N = 468) and led to discontinuation in 2% of all patients treated with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>. Generally, injection site reactions were mild in intensity (72.8% of patients treated with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>, compared to 94.3% with placebo) and few subjects required treatment (6.3% vs.

0.9%, respectively). Among patients who had an injection site reaction, approximately twothirds had only 1 or 2 reactions.

<u>Hypoglycemia</u>: Across the 8 Phase III clinical trials, severe hypoglycemia (requiring the assistance of another person for treatment) occurred in 5 patients (N = 2,365) on EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>. Hypoglycemia was more frequent when EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> was added to sulfonylurea or insulin (see WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Hypoglycemia). The proportion of patients experiencing at least one documented symptomatic hypoglycemic episode on EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and the proportion of patients experiencing at least one severe hypoglycemic episode on EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> in clinical trials is shown in Table 2.

<b>Monotherapy</b> <sup>b</sup>	Placebo	EPERZAN (30mg week ly)
(52 Weeks)	N = 101	N = 101
Documented symptomatic <sup>c</sup>	2%	2%
Severe <sup>d</sup>	-	-
In Combination with Metformin Trial	Placebo	EPERZAN
(104 Weeks) <sup>e</sup>	N = 101	N = 302
Documented symptomatic	4%	3%
Severe	-	-
In Combination with Pioglitazone ±	Placebo	EPERZAN
Metformin (52 Weeks)	N = 151	N = 150
Documented symptomatic	1%	3%
Severe	-	1%
In Combination with Metformin and	Placebo	EPERZAN
Sulfonylurea (52 Weeks)	N = 115	N = 271
Documented symptomatic	7%	13%
Severe	-	0.4%
In Combination with	Insulin Lispro	EPERZAN
Insulin Glargine (26 Weeks)	N = 281	N = 285
Documented symptomatic	30%	16%
Severe	0.7%	-
In Combination with	Insulin Glargine	EPERZAN
Metformin ± Sulfonylurea (52 Weeks)	N = 241	N = 504
Documented symptomatic	27%	17%
Severe	0.4%	0.4%
In Combination with OADs in Renal	Sitagliptin	EPERZAN
Impairment (26 Weeks)	N = 246	N = 249
Documented symptomatic	6%	10%
Severe	0.8%	-

#### Table 2 Incidence (%) of Hypoglycemia in Clinical Trials of EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> <sup>a</sup>

OAD = Oral antidiabetic agents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Data presented are to the primary endpoint and include only events occurring on-therapy with randomized medications and excludes events occurring after use of glycemic rescue medications (i.e., primarily metformin or insulin).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> In this trial, no documented symptomatic or severe hypoglycemia were reported for EPERZANTM, 50 mg and these data are omitted from the table.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> Plasma glucose concentration ≤0.79 mmol/L and presence of hypoglycemic symptoms.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup> Event requiring another person to administer a resuscitative action.

e Rate of documented symptomatic hypoglycemia for active controls 18% (glimepiride) and 2% (sitagliptin).

Immunogenicity: In the pooled safety population of 7 integrated studies (32 weeks to at least 104 weeks duration), 116 out of 2,098 patients (6%) tested positive for anti-albiglutide antibodies at any time during the trials. None of these antibodies were shown to neutralize the activity of albiglutide in an in vitro assay and antibody formation was not associated with reduced efficacy [as measured by HbA1c and fasting plasma glucose (FPG) or alterations in the pharmacokinetics of albiglutide]. In general, the antibody response was transient and did not persist. Antibody titers were generally low and not different from those observed in a small number of patients (~0.6%) who tested positive for albiglutide cross-reactive antibodies prior to treatment. Consistent with the high homology of albiglutide with human GLP-1, the majority of patients with anti-albiglutide antibodies also tested positive for anti-GLP-1 antibodies; none were neutralizing.

Although most patients with injection site reactions were antibody negative (~85%), injection site reactions were reported more frequently for antibody positive (41%, N = 116) than antibody negative patients (14%, N = 1,927). These events were predominantly mild and generally resolved without interruption of treatment and did not lead to discontinuation. Patients with antibodies did not have injection site reactions of greater severity or longer duration compared to patients without antibodies. Otherwise, the pattern of adverse events was generally similar for antibody positive and negative patients. No serious adverse events relating to hypersensitivity were noted in antibody positive patients.

# **DRUG INTERACTIONS**

# **Drug-Drug Interactions**

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> causes a delay of gastric emptying, and thereby has the potential to impact the absorption of concomitantly administered oral medications. In multiple-dose drug-drug interaction trials, no significant change in systemic exposures of the co-administered drugs were observed, except simvastatin (see below and Table 3).

<u>Digoxin:</u> Albiglutide did not meaningfully alter the pharmacokinetics of a single-dose of digoxin (0.5 mg) when co-administered with steady-state albiglutide (50 mg weekly).

<u>Oral contraceptives:</u> Albiglutide (50mg weekly for four weeks) had no clinically meaningful effects on the steady-state pharmacokinetics of a combination oral contraceptive containing norethindrone 0.5 mg and ethinyl estradiol 0.035 mg. In addition, no clinically relevant effects on luteinizing hormone, follicle-stimulating hormone, or progesterone were observed when albiglutide and a combination oral contraceptive were co-administered.

<u>Simvastatin</u>: A single dose of simvastatin (80 mg) was administered with steady-state albiglutide (50 mg weekly). Simvastatin AUC was decreased by 40% and simvastatin  $C_{max}$  was increased by 18%. The AUC of simvastatin acid was increased by 36% and  $C_{max}$  was increased by approximately 98%. A decrease in half-life of simvastatin and simvastatin acid from ~7 hours to 3.5 hours was observed. Clinical relevance of these changes has not been established.

<u>Warfarin</u>: No clinically relevant effects on the pharmacokinetics of R-and S- enantiomers of warfarin were observed when a single dose of racemic warfarin (25 mg) was administered with steady-state albiglutide (50 mg weekly). In addition, albiglutide did not significantly alter the pharmacodynamic effects of warfarin as measured by the international normalized ratio.

Co- administered	Dose of Co- administered	Dose of	G (Ratio	Geometric Mean Ra +/- Co-administere No Effect = 1	tio ed Drug)
Drug	Drug <sup>a</sup>	EPERZAN <sup>TM</sup>	Analyte	AUC (90% CI) <sup>b</sup>	C <sub>max</sub> (90% CI)
No dose adjustments of co-administered drug required for the following:					
Simvastatin	80 mg	50 mg QW	Simvastatin	0.60 (0.52 – 0.69)	1.18 (1.02 – 1.38)
		for 5 weeks	Simvastatin acid	1.36 (1.19 – 1.55)	1.98 (1.75 – 2.25)
Digoxin	0.5 mg	50 mg QW for 5 weeks	Digoxin	1.09 (1.01 – 1.18)	1.11 (0.98 – 1.26)
Oral contraceptive <sup>c</sup> 0.035 mg ethinyl estradiol and 0.5 mg norethindrone		50 mg QW	Norethindrone	1.00 (0.96 – 1.04)	1.04 (0.98 – 1.10)
		for 4 weeks	Levonorgestrel	1.09 (1.06 – 1.14)	1.20 (1.11 – 1.29)
Warfarin	25 mg	50 mg QW	R-Warfarin	1.02 (0.98 – 1.07)	0.94 (0.89 – 0.99)
		IUI J WEEKS	S-Warfarin	0.99 (0.95 – 1.03)	0.93 (0.87 – 0.98)

#### Table 3 Effect of Albiglutide on Systemic Exposure of Co-administered Drugs

QW = Once weekly.

a. Single dose unless otherwise noted.

b.  $AUC_{inf}$  for drugs given as a single dose and  $AUC_{24h}$  for drugs given as multiple doses.

c. Subjects received low-dose oral contraceptive for two 28-day treatment cycles (21 days active/7 days placebo).

Drugs that Increase Heart Rate: EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> causes an increase in heart rate (see ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Cardiac Electrophysiology). Caution should be observed if EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> is administered with other drugs that also increase heart rate, such as drugs with sympathomimetic or anticholinergic activity.

Drugs that Cause PR Interval Prolongation: EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> causes an increase in the PR interval (see ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Cardiac Electrophysiology). The impact on the PR interval of co-administration of EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> with other drugs that prolong the PR interval (including, but not limited to, antiarrhythmics, non-dihydropyridine calcium channel

blockers, beta adrenoceptor blockers, digitalis glycosides, HIV protease inhibitors, and somatostatin analogues) has not been evaluated. As a result, co-administration of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> with these drugs should be undertaken with caution.

#### **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**

#### **Dosing Considerations**

It may be necessary to reduce the dose of concomitantly administered insulin secretagogues (e.g. sulfonylureas) or insulin to reduce the risk of hypoglycemia when starting EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>.

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> causes a delay of gastric emptying, and thereby has the potential to impact the absorption of concomitantly administered oral medications (see DRUG INTERACTIONS).

#### **Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment**

#### Adults

The recommended dose of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is 30 mg once per week, administered subcutaneously. The dose may be increased to 50 mg once-weekly based on individual glycemic response.

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

The safety and efficacy of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> in children below 18 years of age have not been established.

#### Geriatrics (≥65 years of age)

No dose adjustment is required in patients over 65 years of age (see WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Special Populations and ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Special Populations and Conditions).

#### **Renal impairment**

No clinically significant change in pharmacokinetic parameters was observed in patients with renal impairment (mild, moderate, severe, and hemodialysis dependent patients) in clinical pharmacology and clinical trials. No dosage adjustment is required in patients with renal impairment (see ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Special Populations and Conditions and CLINICAL TRIALS). Use caution when initiating or escalating doses of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> in patients with renal impairment. Monitor renal function in patients with renal impairment reporting severe gastrointestinal reactions which may worsen the renal function.

#### Hepatic impairment

Therapeutic proteins such as EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> are catabolised by widely distributed proteolytic enzymes, which are not restricted to hepatic tissue; therefore, changes in hepatic function should not have any effect on the elimination of EPERZAN<sup>™</sup>. No dosage adjustment is recommended in patients with hepatic impairment (see ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Special Populations and Conditions).

#### **Missed Dose**

If a dose is missed, it should be administered as soon as possible within 3 days after the missed dose. Thereafter, patients can resume dosing on their usual day of administration. If it is more than 3 days after the missed dose, patients should wait until their next regularly scheduled weekly dose.

#### **Administration**

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is intended for patient self-administration as a subcutaneous injection in the abdomen, thigh, or upper arm region. When injecting in the same region, advise patients to use a different injection site each week. EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> must not be administered intravenously or intramuscularly.

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> may be administered at any time of day without regard to meals. Administer EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> once a week on the same day each week. The day of weekly administration may be changed if necessary as long as the last dose was administered 4 or more days before.

The lyophilized powder contained within the pen must be reconstituted prior to administration. Once the needle is attached, inject immediately. See PART III: PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION and Instructions for Use for complete administration instructions with illustrations.

Use EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> only if the reconstituted product is clear and contains no particles.

When using EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> with insulin, administer as separate injections. Never mix. It is acceptable to inject EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and insulin in the same body region but the injections should not be adjacent to each other.

Use a puncture-resistant container to discard the pen with needle still attached.

Alternate method of reconstitution (healthcare professional use only): PART III: PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION provides directions for the patient to wait 15 minutes for the 30 mg pen and 30 minutes for the 50 mg pen after the lyophilized powder and diluent are mixed to ensure reconstitution. Healthcare professionals may utilise the following alternate method of reconstitution that allows for more rapid dissolution. Because this method relies on appropriate swirling and visual inspection of the solution, it is intended only for healthcare professionals.

Follow instructions to twist the cartridge until <2> appears in the number window and a "click" is heard. This mixes the diluent in the rear chamber of the cartridge with the lyophilized powder in the front chamber. With the clear cartridge pointing up, gently swirl the pen for one minute. Avoid shaking as this can result in foaming. Inspect, and continue to swirl the pen until all the powder is dissolved. Complete dissolution for the 30 mg pen usually occurs within 2 but may take up to 5 minutes, as confirmed by visual inspection for a clear solution free of particles. Complete dissolution for the 50 mg pen usually occurs within 7 minutes but may take up to 10 minutes. After reconstitution, continue to follow the steps in the Instructions for Use to attach the needle, prime the pen and administer the injection (see SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS).

#### OVERDOSAGE

For management of a suspected drug overdose, contact your regional Poison Control Centre.

#### Symptoms and Signs

No data are available with regard to overdosage in humans. Anticipated symptoms of an overdose may be severe nausea, headache and vomiting.

#### **Treatment**

In the event of an overdose, appropriate supportive treatment should be initiated as dictated by the patient's clinical signs and symptoms. Further management should be as clinically indicated or as recommended by the regional Poison Control Centre. A prolonged period of observation and treatment for these symptoms may be necessary, taking into account the half-life of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> (5 days).

#### ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

#### **Mechanism of Action**

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is a Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonist. Like endogenous GLP-1, EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> helps regulate postprandial blood glucose concentrations by stimulating glucosedependent insulin secretion resulting in increased glucose utilization by tissues. This insulin secretion subsides as blood glucose concentrations decrease and approach euglycemia, therefore EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> has a low intrinsic potential for hypoglycemia. EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> also suppresses glucagon secretion in a glucose-dependent manner, leading to reduced hepatic glucose output. In addition, EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> slows gastric emptying reducing the rate at which postprandial glucose appears in the circulation. In patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus, the postprandial rise in endogenous GLP-1 is reduced or absent, glucagon is inappropriately elevated, and obesity is common.

Albiglutide is generated through genetic fusion of two tandem copies of modified human GLP 1 (97% amino acid sequence homology to endogenous human GLP-1 fragment 7-36) to human albumin. The GLP-1 sequence has been modified with a glycine substituted for the naturally-occurring alanine at position 8 in order to confer resistance to dipeptidylpeptidase IV (DPP-IV) mediated proteolysis. The human albumin moiety of the recombinant fusion protein, together with the DPP-IV resistance, greatly extends the half-life to allow once-weekly dosing.

#### **Pharmacodynamics**

**Glucose control:** Albiglutide lowered fasting plasma glucose (FPG) and reduced postprandial glucose excursions. In patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus who received 2 doses of albiglutide 32 mg (Day 1 and 8), a reduction (24%) in postprandial glucose  $AUC_{(0.5-4.5h)}$  was observed compared to placebo following a standardised breakfast meal on Day 9. The majority of the observed reduction in FPG occurs after a single dose consistent with the pharmacokinetic profile of albiglutide.

A single dose of albiglutide 50 mg subcutaneous (SC) did not impair the pancreatic (glucagon), adrenergic (adrenaline, noradrenaline, or cortisol) or pituitary (growth hormone) counter-regulatory hormone response to hypoglycemia.

**Gastric motility:** Albiglutide slowed gastric emptying compared with placebo for both solids and liquids when albiglutide 100 mg was administered as a single dose in healthy subjects.

**Cardiac Electrophysiology:** A randomised, double-blind, parallel group study was performed to investigate the electrocardiographic effects of albiglutide administered weekly over 6 weeks compared with placebo in healthy subjects. Subjects assigned to albiglutide treatment (N=85) received albiglutide 30 mg on Days 1 and 8 and 50 mg on Days 15, 22, 29, and 36. Subjects assigned to placebo treatment (N=88) received placebo on Days 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and 36. The ECG assessments were performed on Day 4 at which plasma concentrations are expected to be maximal following a single 30 mg dose of albiglutide and on Day 39 when maximal plasma concentrations are expected after 4 weeks of repeat dosing with 50 mg albiglutide.

<u>Heart Rate</u>: Albiglutide was associated with concentration-related increases in heart rate. After repeat dose treatment with the 50 mg dose, the increase in heart rate ranged from 6.0 to 7.8 bpm over the 24 h time period studied. See Figure 2 below. Also see WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Cardiovascular.





Day 4 represents approximate C<sub>max</sub> after a single 30mg dose. Day 39 represents approximate C<sub>max</sub> after repeat 50mg dose.

<u>PR Interval:</u> Albiglutide resulted in PR interval prolongation. On Day 4, after a single dose of albiglutide 30 mg, the maximum mean difference from placebo was 3.9 ms (90% CI 1.3, 6.5) at 6 h. On Day 39, during repeat dose treatment with albiglutide 50 mg, the maximum mean difference from placebo was 4.5 ms (90% CI 1.2, 7.8) at 3 h. See Figure 3 below. Also see WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Cardiovascular.





Day 4 represents approximate  $C_{max}$  after a single 30mg dose. Day 39 represents approximate  $C_{max}$  after repeat 50mg dose.

<u>QTc Interval:</u> Repeat-dose treatment with albiglutide 50 mg was associated with shortening of the QTc interval, with a maximal reduction of -3.7 ms (90% CI -5.9, -1.5) at 12 h. The clinical significance of an acquired, drug-induced QTc shortening of this magnitude is not known.





#### **Pharmacokinetics**

**Absorption:** Following SC administration of a single 30 mg dose to patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus, maximum concentrations were reached 3 to 5 days post dose with mean peak albiglutide concentration ( $C_{max}$ ) of 1.74 µg/mL and mean area under the time-concentration curve (AUC) of 465 µ\*h/mL. The average weekly steady-state concentrations following SC administration of 30 mg or 50 mg albiglutide are approximately 2.7 µg/mL and 4.4 µg/mL, respectively. Steady-state exposures are achieved following 4 to 5 weeks of once-weekly administration. Exposures at the 30 mg and 50 mg dose levels were consistent with a dose-proportional increase. Similar exposure is achieved with SC administration of albiglutide in the abdomen, thigh, or upper arm. The absolute bioavailability of albiglutide following SC administration has not been evaluated.

**Distribution:** The mean estimate of apparent volume of distribution of albiglutide following SC administration is 11 litres (L). As albiglutide is an albumin fusion molecule, plasma protein binding has not been assessed.

**Metabolism:** Albiglutide is a protein for which the expected metabolic pathway is degradation to small peptides and individual amino acids by ubiquitous proteolytic enzymes. Classical biotransformation studies have not been performed. Because albiglutide is an albumin fusion protein, it likely follows a metabolic pathway similar to native human serum albumin which is catabolised primarily in the vascular endothelium.

**Elimination:** The mean apparent clearance of albiglutide is 67 mL/h with an elimination halflife of approximately 5 days, making albiglutide suitable for once-weekly administration.

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

Pediatrics (<18 years of age): No pharmacokinetic data are available in pediatric patients.

**Geriatrics** ( $\geq$  65 years of age): Age had no clinically relevant effect on the pharmacokinetics of albiglutide based on population pharmacokinetic analyses of patients 24 to 83 years of age.

**Gender:** Based on the results of population pharmacokinetic analyses, there is no clinically relevant effect of gender on clearance.

**Race and Ethnicity:** Based on the results of population pharmacokinetic analyses that included Caucasian, African American/African, Asian and Hispanic/Non-Hispanic subjects, race and ethnicity had no clinically meaningful effect on the pharmacokinetics of albiglutide clearance. Japanese patients showed approximately 30 to 40% higher exposures than Caucasians likely attributable to lower body weight. This effect was not considered clinically relevant.

**Hepatic Impairment:** No clinical studies were conducted to examine the effects of mild, moderate, or severe hepatic impairment on the pharmacokinetics of albiglutide. Therapeutic proteins such as albiglutide are catabolised by widely distributed proteolytic enzymes, which are not restricted to hepatic tissue; therefore, changes in hepatic function are unlikely to have any effect on the elimination of albiglutide.

**Renal Impairment:** In a population pharmacokinetic analysis including a trial in patients with mild, moderate and severe renal impairment, exposures were increased by approximately 30 to 40% in severe renal impairment compared to those observed in type 2 diabetes mellitus patients with normal renal function. In addition, a clinical pharmacology study showed a similar increased exposure for patients with moderate or severe renal impairment or those on haemodialysis relative to patients without renal impairment. These differences were not considered clinically relevant.

In a clinical trial in patients with mild, moderate, or severe renal impairment treated with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> (N=249), treatment with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> resulted in a statistically greater reduction in HbA<sub>1c</sub> from baseline at Week 26 compared to sitagliptin (N=246) (see CLINICAL TRIALS, Renal Impairment (Harmony 8)). No differences in overall safety were observed based on degree of renal impairment between EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and sitagliptin. For EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and

sitagliptin respectively, the incidence of diarrhea was 8.8% and 5.7%; nausea was 4.8% and 2.8%, and vomiting was 1.2% and 0.4%; (data reflecting events occurring on-therapy with randomized medications to the primary endpoint). No clinically relevant changes in renal function (as measured by serum creatinine) were observed in either group.

In the Phase III clinical trials (excluding the renal impairment trial), approximately two-thirds of patients had mild (eGFR 60 to 89 mL/min/ $1.73m^2$ ) or moderate (30 to 59 mL/min/ $1.73m^2$ ) renal impairment at baseline based on the Modification of Diet in Renal Disease (MDRD) equation. No differences in overall safety or effectiveness (HbA<sub>1c</sub> reduction) were observed between normal and mild to moderate renally impaired patients.

#### STORAGE AND STABILITY

#### **Storage**

#### **Prior to dispensing**

Store pen carton refrigerated at 2°C to 8°C. Do not freeze. Store pens in the original carton until use.

#### Following dispensing

#### Pen with Unreconstituted Powder

Store pen carton refrigerated at 2°C to 8°C. The carton may be stored at room temperature not to exceed 30°C for not more than 4 weeks. If a box of pens will be stored for more than 4 weeks, keep it refrigerated at 2°C to 8°C. Do not freeze. Store pens in the original carton until use.

#### Pen with Reconstituted Powder

After reconstitution, the EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> pen should be used within 8 hours. However, once the needle is attached and primed, use immediately. Medicine can clog the needle if allowed to dry in the primed needle (see PART III: PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION and Instructions for Use).

#### **SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS**

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> must be prepared and administered only as directed.

- Do not use past the expiration date.
- Store pens in the original carton until use.
- Do not use EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> if it has been frozen.
- If stored in refrigerator, allow to sit at room temperature for 15 minutes before reconstitution.
- Use the pen only if the reconstituted solution is clear and free of particulate matter.
- Do not use a pen if more than 8 hours has passed from the time of reconstitution.
- Once the needle is attached, inject immediately. Do not store with needle attached.
- Use a puncture-resistant container to discard the pen with needle still attached.

#### See Instructions for Use for complete administration instructions with illustrations.

#### DOSAGE FORMS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING

#### **Dosage Forms**

EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> is supplied as a pre-filled pen injector (pen) with a dual chamber cartridge containing white to yellow powder and clear diluent for solution for injection.

- 30 mg single use prefilled pen injector: Contains 40.3 mg lyophilized albiglutide and 0.65 mL diluent designed to deliver a dose of 30 mg in a volume of 0.5 mL after reconstitution. Available in:
  - carton of 1 pen injector (containing one 5 mm, 29-gauge, thin-wall needle)
  - carton of 4 pen injectors (containing four 5 mm, 29-gauge, thin-wall needles)
- 50 mg single use prefilled pen injector: Contains 67.0 mg lyophilized albiglutide and 0.65 mL diluent designed to deliver a dose of 50 mg in a volume of 0.5 mL after reconstitution Available in:
  - carton of 1 pen injector (containing one 5 mm, 29-gauge, thin-wall needle)
  - carton of 4 pens injectors (containing four 5 mm, 29-gauge, thin-wall needles)

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> contains the following nonmedicinal ingredients: sodium phosphate monobasic monohydrate, sodium phosphate dibasic anhydrous, trehalose dihydrate, mannitol, polysorbate 80 and water for injection. EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> does not contain a preservative.

# PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

#### PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION

#### **Drug Substance**

Proper name: albiglutide

Chemical name: Albiglutide is a recombinant fusion protein consisting of two copies of a 30-amino acid sequence of modified human glucagon-like peptide 1 (GLP-1, fragment 7-36) genetically linked in series to human albumin (hA).

Molecular Mass: 72971.4 Da

Structural formula:



Physicochemical properties: Albiglutide drug substance is a clear to opalescent, yellow to greenish-yellow liquid, with a concentration of 115.0-161.0 mg/mL, pH between 6.7-7.4 and an osmolality of 330-430 mOsm/kg

#### **Product Characteristics**

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is supplied as a pre-filled pen with a dual chamber cartridge containing white to yellow powder and clear diluent for solution for injection.

#### **CLINICAL TRIALS**

#### Study demographics and trial design

The studies described in this section included a total of 2,015 patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus who were treated with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> as part of 6 active and placebo-controlled Phase III clinical trials. The 6 trials included comparisons to glimepiride, pioglitazone, liraglutide (1 trial each), sitagliptin (2 trials, including one in patients with renal impairment), insulin (2 trials, one versus prandial insulin and one versus basal insulin) and placebo (2 trials). These trials included the use of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> as monotherapy, in combination with oral antidiabetic agents, and in combination with basal insulin. Studies evaluated the use of albiglutide 30 mg and 50 mg once-

weekly, with 5 of the 6 studies allowing for optional titration of EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> from 30 mg to 50 mg once-weekly. For trials that allowed for optional dose up-titration, the glucose levels that triggered up-titration were the same for EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> and oral comparators. All trials included at least a 4-week run-in/stabilization period prior to the start of trial medication (for 2 trials, this period was longer; the add-on to metformin and sulfonylurea trial had a 6-week run-in and the add-on to insulin glargine trial had a 4-week or 8-week run-in depending on whether patients were already on insulin glargine).

Across the 6 clinical trials, patients ranged from 18 to 86 years old (mean 56 years), 51% were male, with a mean body mass index (BMI) of 32 kg/m<sup>2</sup> and included patients who were Caucasian (46%), Black (14%), and Asian (13%); and patients of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity (26%). The majority of patients had been previously treated with one or more oral antidiabetic medications or insulin. Trials included a broad spectrum of diabetes patients with respect to duration of disease with equal representation across each of the following categories: <5 years,  $\geq 5$  to <10 years, and  $\geq 10$  years.

# Table 4 Summary of Phase III Trial Design

Study # and Description	Trial Design <sup>1</sup>	Primary Efficacy Endpoint Time-point	Total Duration of Treatment	Background Therapy <sup>2</sup>	Dosage Arms	Total N (randomized)	Mean BMI (range)
GLP112753 (Harmony 3) Add-On to Metformin	Randomized, double-blind, placebo- and active-controlled	104 weeks	156 weeks	MET	<ol> <li>Placebo</li> <li>Albiglutide (30 mg weekly, optional up-titration to 50 mg weekly)</li> <li>GLIM (2 mg daily, optional up- titration to 4 mg daily)</li> <li>SIT (100 mg daily)</li> </ol>	1012	32.58 (20.0-46.0)
GLP112757 (Harmony 5) Add-On to Metformin Plus Sulfonylurea	Randomized, double-blind, placebo- and active-controlled	52 weeks	156 weeks	MET+GLIM	<ol> <li>Placebo</li> <li>Albiglutide (30 mg weekly, optional up-titration to 50 mg weekly)</li> <li>PIO (30 mg weekly, optional up-titration to 45 mg weekly)</li> </ol>	663	32.17 (20.0-46.0)
GLP108486 (Harmony 6) Add-On to Insulin Glargine	Randomized, open-label, active-controlled	26 weeks	52 weeks	Glargine or Glargine + OAD	<ol> <li>Albiglutide (30 mg weekly, optional up-titration to 50 mg weekly)</li> <li>Lispro</li> </ol>	566	33.03 (21.0-46.0)

Study # and Description	Trial Design <sup>1</sup>	Primary Efficacy Endpoint Time-point	Total Duration of Treatment	Background Therapy <sup>3</sup>	Dosage Arms	Total N (randomized)	Mean BMI (range)
GLP112754 (Harmony 4) Active-Controlled Study Versus Insulin Glargine in Combination With Metformin ± Sulfonylurea	Randomized, open-label, active-controlled	52 weeks	156 weeks	MET or MET+SU	<ol> <li>Albiglutide (30 mg weekly, optional up-titration to 50 mg weekly).</li> <li>Glargine</li> </ol>	745	33.12 (20.0-46.0)
GLP114179 (Harmony 7) Active-Controlled Study Versus Liraglutide in Combination With Metformin, Thiazolidinedione, or Sulfonylurea (as Monotherapy or Dual Therapy)	Randomized, open-label, active-controlled	32 weeks	32 weeks	MET, SU and TZD either alone or in combination	<ol> <li>Albiglutide (50 mg weekly)</li> <li>Liraglutide (1.8 mg daily)</li> </ol>	812	32.79 (20.0-48.0)
GLP114130 (Harmony 8) Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Patients with Renal Impairment	Randomized, double-blind, active-controlled	26 weeks	52 weeks	Diet and Exercise or MET, TZD and SU either alone or in combination	<ol> <li>Albiglutide (30 mg weekly, optional up-titration to 50 mg weekly</li> <li>SIT (25, 50 or 100 mg daily according to severity of renal impairment)</li> </ol>	495	30.39 (20.0-46.0)

<sup>1</sup>Due to the long duration of trials, additional antidiabetic therapies were permitted if glycemic thresholds were exceeded according to pre-specified criteria. <sup>2</sup>MET = metformin; SU = sulfonylurea; PIO = pioglitazone; OAD = oral antidiabetic medications, GLIM = glimepiride, BMI = Body Mass Index, TZD = thiazolidinedione, SIT = sitagliptin.

#### **Combination Therapy**

<u>Add-On to Metformin (Harmony 3)</u>: The efficacy of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> was evaluated in a 3-year, randomized, double-blind, multicenter study (N = 999). On background therapy of metformin  $\geq$ 1,500 mg daily, EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> 30 mg SC weekly (with optional up-titration to 50 mg weekly after a minimum of 4 weeks) was compared to sitagliptin 100 mg daily, glimepiride 2 mg daily (with optional titration to 4 mg daily), or placebo. The primary endpoint was change in HbA<sub>1c</sub> from baseline at 104 weeks compared to placebo.

Results at 104 weeks are presented in Table 5. EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> demonstrated a statistically superior reduction in HbA<sub>1c</sub> from baseline compared to placebo, sitagliptin, or glimepiride. Superiority testing against active control was only performed after demonstration of non-inferiority. By Week 104, 52.6% in the EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> group and 53.8% in the glimepiride had up-titrated.

At Week 104, albiglutide-, placebo- and sitagliptin-treated subjects had an adjusted mean weight decrease from Baseline of 1.2 kg, 1.0 kg and 0.9 kg, respectively. Glimepiride subjects had an adjusted mean weight increase from Baseline of 1.2 kg.

		Dlaasha	Cite align time	Climaninida
	EPEKZAN	Placebo	Sitagiiptin	Gimepiride
	+	+	+	+
	Metformin	Metformin	Metformin	Metformin
ITT <sup>a</sup> (N)	N=297	N=100	N=300	N=302
HbA <sub>1c</sub> (%)				
Baseline (mean)	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1
Change at Week 104 <sup>b</sup>	-0.6	+0.3	-0.3	-0.4
Difference from placebo + metformin <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	-0.9 (-1.16, -0.65)			
Difference from sitagliptin + metformin <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	-0.4 (-0.53, -0.17)			
Difference from glimepiride + metformin <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	-0.3 (-0.45, -0.09)			
P value <sup>c</sup> (non-inferiority)			< 0.0001	< 0.0001
P value <sup>c</sup> (superiority)		< 0.0001	0.0001	0.0033
Patients (%) achieving HbA <sub>1c</sub> <7%	39	16	32	31
FPG (mmol/L)				
Baseline (mean)	9.1	9.0	9.2	9.3
Change at Week 104 <sup>b</sup>	-1.0	+0.6	-0.1	-0.4
Difference from placebo + metformin <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	-1.5 (-2.16, -0.90)			
Difference from sitagliptin + metformin <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	-0.9 (-1.30, -0.41)			
Difference from glimepiride + metformin <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	-0.6 (-1.01, -0.12)			
P value <sup>c</sup> (superiority)		< 0.0001	0.0002	0.0133

# Table 5Results at 104 Weeks in a Study Comparing EPERZAN™ to Placebo as<br/>Add-On Therapy in Patients Inadequately Controlled on Metformin

a. Intent to treat population.. At Week 104, the last value recorded prior to rescue therapy or missing data was used in the analyses for 76%, 46%, 55% and 51% of individuals randomized to placebo, EPERZAN<sup>™</sup>, sitagliptin, and glimepiride, respectively.

b. Adjusted mean based on ANCOVA model: Change = treatment + Baseline HbA1c (+Baseline FPG for the FPG analyses) + prior myocardial infarction history + age category + region. The difference of least squares means (albiglutide – placebo, albiglutide – sitagliptin, albiglutide –glimepiride) and corresponding 95% CI was from ANCOVA model.

c. The Type I error rate is controlled for multiple testing using a gatekeeping procedure.

As this analysis is based on the last value prior to hyperglycemia rescue, these results should be interpreted with caution given the potential for bias against treatment groups with higher proportions of subjects with hyperglycemia rescue and with shorter time to hyperglycemia rescue. The incidence of hyperglycemia rescue at Week 104 was 21.2%, 45.0%, 30.0% and 26.5% in the albiglutide, placebo, sitagliptin, and glimepiride groups, respectively. Over the total duration of treatment of 156 weeks, the median time to hyperglycemia rescue was 67.7 weeks for placebo. As the probability of hyperglycemia rescue did not reach 50% for albiglutide, sitagliptin and glimepiride groups over the total duration of treatment of 156 weeks, the median times to hyperglycemia rescue did not reach 50% for

<u>Add-On to Metformin Plus Sulfonylurea (Harmony 5)</u>: The efficacy of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> was evaluated in a 3-year, randomized, double-blind, multicenter study (n = 657). On background therapy of metformin  $\geq$ 1,500 mg daily plus glimepiride 4 mg daily, EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> 30 mg SC weekly (with optional up-titration to 50 mg weekly after a minimum of 4 weeks) was compared to placebo or pioglitazone 30 mg daily (with optional titration to 45 mg daily). The primary endpoint was change in HbA<sub>1c</sub> from baseline at 52 weeks compared to placebo.

At 52 weeks, treatment with albiglutide resulted in statistically significant reductions from baseline in HbA<sub>1c</sub> (-0.6% for albiglutide versus +0.3% for placebo, p<0.05). Treatment with albiglutide did not meet the pre-specified non-inferiority margin (0.3%) against pioglitazone for HbA<sub>1c</sub> (-0.6% for albiglutide versus -0.8% for pioglitazone). In this trial, albiglutide provided less HbA1c reduction than pioglitazone, and the treatment difference was statistically significant in favour of pioglitazone. Results at 52 weeks are presented in Table 6.

At Week 52, albiglutide- and placebo-treated subjects had an adjusted mean weight decrease from Baseline of 0.4 kg and 0.4 kg, respectively. Pioglitazone subjects had an adjusted mean weight increase from Baseline of 4.4 kg.

# Table 6Results at 52 Weeks in a Trial Comparing EPERZAN™ to Placebo as Add-<br/>On Therapy in Patients Inadequately Controlled on Metformin +<br/>Sulfonylurea

	EPERZAN <sup>TM</sup>	Placebo	Pioglitazone
	+ Glimepiride	+ Glimepiride	+ Glimepiride <sup>d</sup>
ITT <sup>a</sup> (N)	N=269	N=115	N=273
HbA <sub>1c</sub> (%)			
Baseline (mean)	8.2	8.3	8.3
Change at Week 52 <sup>b</sup>	-0.6	+0.3	-0.8
Difference from placebo + met + $glim^b$ (95% CI)	-0.9 (-1.07, -0.68)		
Difference from pioglitazone + met + $glim^b$ (95% CI)	0.3 (0.10, 0.40)		
<i>P</i> value <sup>c</sup> (non-inferiority)			0.2685 <sup>e</sup>
<i>P</i> value <sup>c</sup> (superiority)		< 0.0001	N/A
Patients (%) achieving HbA <sub>1c</sub> <7%	30	9	35
FPG (mmol/L)			
Baseline (mean)	9.5	9.7	9.8
Change at Week 52 <sup>b</sup>	-0.7	+0.6	-1.7
Difference from placebo + met + $glim^{b}$ (95% CI)	-1.3 (-1.9, -0.8)		
Difference from pioglitazone + met + glim $^{b}$ (95% CI)	1.1 (0.6, 1.5)		
<i>P</i> value <sup>c</sup> (superiority)		< 0.0001	N/A

a. Intent to treat population. At Week 52, the last value recorded prior to rescue therapy or missing data was used in the analyses for 70%, 35%, and 34% of individuals randomized to placebo, EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>, and pioglitazone, respectively.

b. Adjusted mean based on ANCOVA: Change = treatment + Baseline HbA1c (+Baseline FPG for the FPG analyses) + prior myocardial infarction history + age category + region. The difference of least squares means (albiglutide - placebo, albiglutide - pioglitazone) and corresponding 95% CI is from the ANCOVA model.

c. The Type I error rate is controlled for multiple testing using a gatekeeping procedure.
 d. Pioglitazone is not indicated for use in combination with metformin and glimepiride.

d. Pioglitazone is not indicated for use in combination with meth

e. Did not meet non-inferiority margin of 0.3%.

As this analysis is based on the last value prior to hyperglycemia rescue, these results should be interpreted with caution given the potential for bias against treatment groups with higher proportions of subjects with hyperglycemia rescue and with shorter time to hyperglycemia rescue. The incidence of hyperglycemia rescue at Week 52 was 19.0%, 16.8% and 45.2% in the albiglutide, pioglitazone, and placebo groups, respectively. Over the total duration of treatment of 156 weeks, the median time to hyperglycemia rescue was 49.6 weeks and 137.7 weeks for placebo and albiglutide, respectively. As the probability of hyperglycemia rescue did not reach 50% for pioglitzone over the total duration of treatment of 156 weeks, the median time to hyperglycemia for hyperglycemia rescue did not reach solve for pioglitzone over the total duration of treatment of 156 weeks, the median time to hyperglycemia for hyperglycemia rescue did not reach solve for pioglitzone over the total duration of treatment of 156 weeks, the median time to hyperglycemia for hyperglycemia rescue did not reach solve for pioglitzone over the total duration of treatment of 156 weeks, the median time to hyperglycemia for hyperglycemia rescue did not reach solve for pioglitzone over the total duration of treatment of 156 weeks, the median time to hyperglycemia rescue could not be estimated.

<u>Add-On to Insulin Glargine (Harmony 6)</u>: The efficacy of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> was evaluated in a 52 week, randomized, open-label, multicenter study (N = 563). On background therapy of insulin glargine (started at 10 units and titrated to  $\geq 20$  units per day) and with or without metformin, EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> 30 mg SC weekly (with optional up-titration to 50 mg weekly after Week 8) was compared to prandial insulin lispro (administered daily at mealtimes, started according to standard of care and titrated to effect). The primary endpoint was change in HbA<sub>1c</sub> from baseline at 26 weeks. At Week 26, the mean daily dose of insulin glargine was 53 IU for the EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> arm and 51 IU for the insulin lispro arm. The mean daily dose of insulin lispro at Week 26 was 31 IU.

Results at 26 weeks are presented in Table 7. The between-treatment difference in HbA<sub>1c</sub> of 0.2% (-0.32, 0.00) for albiglutide and insulin lispro met the pre-specified non-inferiority margin (0.3%). Superiority testing against insulin lispro was only performed after demonstration of non-inferiority. By Week 26, the percentage of patients treated with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> who up-titrated was 50.8%.

At Week 26, albiglutide -treated subjects had an adjusted mean weight decrease from Baseline of 0.7 kg, and insulin lispo subjects had an adjusted mean weight increase from Baseline of 0.8 kg.

# Table 7Results at 26 Weeks in a Trial Comparing EPERZAN™ to Insulin Lispro as<br/>Add-On Therapy in Patients Inadequately Controlled on Insulin Glargine

	EPERZAN <sup>TM</sup>	Insulin lispro
	+ Insulin glargine	+ Insulin glargine
ITT <sup>a</sup> (N)	N=282	N=281
HbA <sub>1c</sub> (%)		
Baseline (mean)	8.5	8.4
Change at Week 26 <sup>b</sup>	-0.8	-0.7
Difference from insulin lispro <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	-0.2 (-0.32, 0.00)	
P value <sup>c</sup> (non-inferiority)	<0.0001	
<i>P</i> value <sup>c</sup> (superiority)	0.0533 <sup>d</sup>	
Patients (%) achieving HbA <sub>1c</sub> <7%	30	25
FPG (mmol/L)		
Baseline (mean)	8.5	8.5
Change at Week 26 <sup>b</sup>	-1.0	-0.7
Difference from insulin lispro <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	-0.3 (-0.7, 0.2)	
<i>P</i> value <sup>c</sup> (superiority)	0.2366	

a. Intent to treat population. At Week 26, the last value recorded prior to rescue therapy or missing data was used in the analyses for 29% and 29% of individuals randomized to EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and insulin lispro.

b. Adjusted mean based on ANCOVA: Change = treatment + baseline HbA1c (+Baseline FPG for the FPG analyses) + prior myocardial infarction + age category + region + current oral antidiabetic therapy. Difference of least squares means (albiglutide – insulin lispro) and 95% CI is from ANCOVA model.

c. The Type I error rate is controlled for multiple testing using a gatekeeping procedure.

d. Superiority not shown.

As this analysis is based on the last value prior to hyperglycemia rescue, these results should be interpreted with caution given the potential for bias against treatment groups with higher proportions of subjects with hyperglycemia rescue and with shorter time to hyperglycemia rescue. The incidence of hyperglycemia rescue at 26 weeks was 21.6% and 23.5% in the albiglutide and insulin lispro groups, respectively. As the probability of hyperglycemia rescue did not reach 50% for albiglutide and insulin lispro over the total duration of treatment of 52 weeks, the median time to hyperglycemia rescue could not be estimated.

Active-Controlled Study Versus Insulin Glargine in Combination With Metformin ±

<u>Sulfonylurea (Harmony 4)</u>: The efficacy of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> was evaluated in a 3-year, randomized, open-label, insulin glargine-controlled study (N = 735). On background therapy of metformin  $\geq$ 1,500 mg daily (with or without sulfonylurea), EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> 30 mg SC weekly (with optional up-titration to 50 mg weekly as early as Week 4) was compared to insulin glargine (started at 10

units and titrated weekly per prescribing information). The primary endpoint was change in  $HbA_{1c}$  from baseline at 52 weeks. The starting total daily dose of insulin glargine ranged between 2 and 40 units (median daily dose of 10 units) and ranged between 3 and 230 units (median daily dose of 30 units) at Week 52.

Results at 52 weeks are presented in Table 8. The between-treatment difference in HbA<sub>1c</sub> of 0.1% (-0.04, 0.27) for albiglutide and insulin glargine met the pre-specified non-inferiority margin (0.3%). Superiority testing against insulin glargine was only performed after demonstration of non-inferiority. By Week 48, the percentage of patients treated with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> who up-titrated was 67.1%.

At Week 52, albiglutide -treated subjects had an adjusted mean weight decrease from Baseline of 1.1 kg, and insulin glargine subjects had an adjusted mean weight increase from Baseline of 1.6 kg.

# Table 8Results at 52 Weeks in a Trial Comparing EPERZAN™ to Insulin Glargine<br/>as Add-On Therapy in Patients Inadequately Controlled on Metformin ±<br/>Sulfonylurea

	EPERZAN <sup>TM</sup> ± Metformin (with or without sulfonylurea)	Insulin glargine ± Metformin (with or without sulfonylurea)
ITT <sup>a</sup> (N)	N=496	N=239
HbA <sub>1c</sub> (%)		
Baseline (mean)	8.3	8.4
Change at Week 52 <sup>b</sup>	-0.7	-0.8
Difference from insulin glargine <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	0.1 (-0.04, 0.27)	
P value <sup>c</sup> (non-inferiority)	0.0086	
P value <sup>c</sup> (superiority)	0.1463 <sup>d</sup>	
Patients (%) achieving HbA <sub>1c</sub> <7%	32	33
FPG (mmol/L)		
Baseline (mean)	9.4	9.7
Change at Week 52 <sup>b</sup>	-0.9	-2.1
Difference from insulin glargine <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	1.2 (0.8, 1.6)<0.0001	
<i>P</i> value <sup>c</sup> (superiority)		

a. Intent to treat population. At Week 52, the last value recorded prior to rescue therapy or missing data was used in the analyses for 41% and 36% of individuals randomized to EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and insulin glargine.

b. Adjusted mean based on analysis of covariance (ANCOVA): Change = treatment + baseline HbA1c (+Baseline FPG for the FPG analyses) + prior myocardial infarction history + age category + region + current antidiabetic therapy. The difference of least squares means (albiglutide – insulin glargine) and 95% CI is from the ANCOVA model.

c. The Type I error rate is controlled for multiple testing using a gatekeeping procedure.

d. Superiority not shown.

As this analysis is based on the last value prior to hyperglycemia rescue, these results should be interpreted with caution given the potential for bias against treatment groups with higher proportions of subjects with hyperglycemia rescue and with shorter time to hyperglycemia rescue. The incidence of hyperglycemia rescue at Week 52 was 22.0% and 21.3% in the albiglutide and insulin glargine groups, respectively. Over the total duration of treatment of 156 weeks, the median time to hyperglycemia rescue was 107.6 weeks for albiglutide. As the probability of hyperglycemia rescue did not reach 50% for insulin glargine over the total

duration of treatment of 156 weeks, the median time to hyperglycemia rescue could not be estimated.

Active-Controlled Study Versus Liraglutide in Combination With Metformin, Thiazolidinedione, or Sulfonylurea (as Monotherapy or Dual Therapy) (Harmony 7): The efficacy of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> was evaluated in a 32-week, randomized, open-label, liraglutide-controlled study (N = 805). EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> 30 mg SC weekly (with up-titration to 50 mg weekly at Week 6) was compared to liraglutide 1.8 mg daily (titrated up from 0.6 mg at Week 1 and 1.2 mg at Week 1 to Week 2) in patients inadequately controlled on monotherapy or combination oral antidiabetic therapy (metformin, thiazolidinedione, or sulfonylurea, or a combination of these) compared to liraglutide. The primary endpoint was change in HbA<sub>1c</sub> from baseline at 32 weeks compared to liraglutide.

Results at 32 weeks are presented in Table 9. The between-treatment difference of 0.2% (0.08, 0.34) for albiglutide and liraglutide did not meet the pre-specified non-inferiority margin (0.3%).

At Week 32, albiglutide- and liragltide-treated subjects had an adjusted mean weight decrease from Baseline of 0.6 kg, and 2.2 kg, respectively.

	EPERZAN <sup>TM</sup>	Liraglutide			
ITT <sup>a</sup> (N)	N=402	N=403			
$HbA_{1c}$ (%)					
Baseline (mean)	8.2	8.2			
Change at Week 32 <sup>b</sup>	-0.8	-1.0			
Difference from liraglutide <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	0.2 (0.08, 0.34)				
<i>P</i> value <sup>c</sup> (non-inferiority)	$0.0846^{d}$				
Patients (%) achieving HbA <sub>1c</sub> <7%	42	52			
FPG (mmol/L)					
Baseline (mean)	9.4	9.3			
Change at Week 32 <sup>b</sup>	-1.2	-1.7			
Difference from liraglutide <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	0.5 (0.1, 0.8)				
P value <sup>c</sup> (superiority)	0.0048				

#### Table 9 Results of Controlled Trial of EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> Versus Liraglutide at 32 Weeks

a. Intent to treat population. At Week 32, the last value recorded prior to rescue therapy or missing data was used in the analyses for 31% and 24% of individuals randomized to EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and liraglutide, respectively.

b. Adjusted mean based on ANCOVA: Change = treatment + baseline HbA1c (+Baseline FPG for the FPG analyses) + prior myocardial infarction history + age category + region. The difference of least squares means (albiglutide – liraglutide) and 95% CI was from the ANCOVA model.

c. The Type I error rate is controlled for multiple testing using a gatekeeping procedure.

d. Did not meet non-inferiority margin of 0.3%.

As this analysis is based on the last value prior to hyperglycemia rescue, these results should be interpreted with caution given the potential for bias against treatment groups with higher proportions of subjects with hyperglycemia rescue and with shorter time to hyperglycemia rescue. The incidence of hyperglycemia rescue at 32 weeks was 15.2% and 8.4% in the albiglutide and liraglutide groups, respectively. As the probability of hyperglycemia rescue did not reach 50%, the median time to hyperglycemia rescue over the total duration of treatment of 32 weeks could not be estimated.

<u>Renal Impairment (Harmony 8):</u> The efficacy of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> was evaluated in a randomized, double-blind, active-controlled 52-week study versus sitagliptin in 486 patients with mild, moderate, and severe renal impairment inadequately controlled on a current regimen of diet and exercise or other antidiabetic therapy (metformin, thiazolidinedione and sulfonylurea, either alone or in combination). EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> 30 mg SC weekly (with optional up-titration to 50 mg weekly if needed as early as Week 4) was compared to sitagliptin. Sitagliptin was dosed according to renal function [100 mg daily in mild renal impairment (estimated glomerular filtration rate, eGFR  $\geq$ 50 to 89 mL/min), 50 mg in moderate renal impairment (eGFR  $\geq$ 30 to <50 mL/min), and 25 mg daily in severe renal impairment (eGFR <30 mL/min)]. The primary endpoint was change in HbA<sub>1c</sub> from baseline at 26 weeks.

Results at 26 weeks are presented in Table 10. The mean decrease in HbA<sub>1c</sub> from baseline with albiglutide was -0.80 (n = 125), -0.83 (n = 98), and -1.08 (n = 19) in patients with mild, moderate, and severe renal impairment, respectively. Superiority testing against active control was only performed after demonstration of non-inferiority. By Week 26, the percentage of patients treated with EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> who up-titrated was 34.5%.

At Week 26, albiglutide- and sitagliptin-treated subjects had an adjusted mean weight decrease from Baseline of 0.8 kg, and 0.2 kg, respectively.

	EPERZAN <sup>TM</sup>	Sitagliptin
ITT <sup>a</sup> (N)	N=246	N=240
HbA <sub>1c</sub> (%)		
Baseline (mean)	8.1	8.2
Change at Week 26 <sup>b</sup>	-0.8	-0.5
Difference from sitagliptin <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	-0.3 (-0.49, -0.15)	
<i>P</i> -value <sup>c</sup> (Non-inferiority) <sup>c</sup>	< 0.0001	
<i>P</i> -value <sup>c</sup> (Superiority)	0.0003	
Patients (%) Achieving HbA <sub>1c</sub> <7%	43	31
FPG (mmol/L)		
Baseline (mean)	9.2	9.2
Change at Week 26 <sup>b</sup>	-1.4	-0.2
Difference from sitagliptin <sup>b</sup> (95% CI)	-1.2 (-1.7, -0.7)	
<i>P</i> -value <sup>c</sup> (Superiority)	<0.0001	

# Table 10Results of EPERZAN™ in Trial in Patients with Renal Impairment at<br/>26 Weeks

a. Intent to treat population. At Week 26, the last value recorded prior to rescue therapy or missing data was used in the analyses for 17% and 25% of individuals randomized to EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and sitagliptin.

b. Adjusted mean Based on ANCOVA: Change = treatment + baselineHbA1c (or baseline FPG for the FPG analyses) + renal impairment + prior myocardial infarction history + age category + region. The difference of least squares means (albiglutide – sitagliptin) and corresponding 95% CI is from the ANCOVA model.

c. The Type I error rate is controlled for multiple testing using a gatekeeping procedure.

As this analysis is based on the last value prior to hyperglycemia rescue, these results should be interpreted with caution given the potential for bias against treatment groups with higher proportions of subjects with hyperglycemia rescue and with shorter time to hyperglycemia rescue. The incidence of hyperglycemia rescue at 26 weeks was 6.1% and 12.1% in the albiglutide and sitagliptin groups, respectively. As the probability of hyperglycemia rescue did

not reach 50%, the median time to hyperglycemia rescue over the total duration of treatment of 52 weeks could not be estimated.

# **DETAILED PHARMACOLOGY**

Pharmacology studies were conducted to determine the receptor specificity of albiglutide in vitro and its effects on glucose sensitive insulin secretion in an insulinoma cell line. The effects of albiglutide on glucose and insulin were investigated in vivo using pre-diabetic [CD-1 or severe combined immunodeficient (SCID)], diabetic (db/db) and DIO mice and diabetic rats [Zucker diabetic fatty (ZDF)], all of which are generally accepted as the most predictable models for determination of this activity in humans.

Aggregate findings of in vitro and in vivo effects of albigutide in nonclinical species are consistent with those observed with other GLP-1 receptor agonists in humans and nonclinical species, and support a beneficial effect on fuel homeostasis in Type 2 diabetes mellitus. Taken together, effects to reduce food intake and to slow gastric emptying reduce nutrient uptake (rate of appearance; Ra). Collectively, effects to augment insulin action, such as by increasing nutrient-stimulated insulin secretion or improving the insulin/proinsulin ratio, increase glucose disposal (rate of disappearance; Rd). Decreased Ra combined with increased Rd support an anti-diabetic effect of albiglutide.

#### TOXICOLOGY

In a 52-week monkey study, there was a small increase in pancreas tissue weight at 50 mg/kg/week (75 times clinical exposure based on AUC) associated with acinar cell hypertrophy. A small increase in islet cell number was also observed. The pancreas tissue weight changes were not associated with histomorphologic abnormalities or evidence of increased proliferation.

#### **Carcinogenicity and Mutagenicity**

No carcinogenicity studies have been performed with albiglutide due to immunogenicity in rodents. Thyroid C-cell tumours were observed in 2-year rodent carcinogenicity studies with other GLP-1 receptor agonists. Increased serum calcitonin levels have been associated with the thyroid C-cell hyperplasia and tumours observed in rodent studies with these other agents. Albiglutide also produced dose-dependent increases in serum calcitonin levels in a 21 day study in mice, suggesting that thyroid tumours in rodents are a theoretical possibility for albiglutide. The clinical relevance of the findings observed with other GLP-1 receptor agonists is unknown.

As albiglutide is a recombinant protein, no genotoxicity studies have been conducted.

#### **Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology**

#### Fertility

In reproductive toxicology studies with albiglutide in mice, there were no effects on mating or fertility at doses up to 50 mg/kg/day (34 times and 39 times clinical exposure based on AUC in male and female mice, respectively). Reductions in oestrous cycles were observed at 50

mg/kg/day, a dose associated with maternal toxicity (body weight loss and reduced food consumption). Effects on embryo-fetal development (embryo-fetal lethality and skeletal variations) were observed at 50 mg/kg/day (39 times clinical exposure based on AUC). Offspring of mice dosed with 50 mg/kg/day during organogenesis had reduced pre-weaning body weight (which recovered after weaning), dehydration and coldness, and a delay in balanopreputial separation. No effects were seen at 5 mg/kg/day (2.2 times clinical exposure based on AUC).

#### **Pregnancy and Lactation**

In pre and postnatal development studies in mice administered albiglutide during pregnancy or while nursing, reduced pre-weaning body weight of F1 offspring was observed at  $\geq 1 \text{ mg/kg/day}$  at exposures below clinical exposure based on AUC. Reduced F1 body weight reversed postweaning with the exception of F1 females from dams treated perinatally (end of gestation to 10 days postpartum) at  $\geq 5 \text{ mg/kg/day}$  (2.2 times clinical exposure based on AUC) with no other effects on development. Trace levels of albiglutide were detected in plasma of offspring. It is unknown whether the reduced offspring body weight was caused by a direct albiglutide effect on the offspring or secondary to effects on the dam.

Increased mortality and morbidity were seen at all doses ( $\geq 1 \text{ mg/kg/day}$ ) in lactating females in mouse pre and postnatal development studies. Mortalities have not been observed in previous toxicology studies in non-lactating or non-pregnant mice, nor in pregnant mice. These findings are consistent with lactational ileus syndrome which has been previously reported in mice. Since the relative stress of lactation energy demands is much lower in humans than mice and humans have large energy reserves, the mortalities observed in lactating mice are considered not relevant to humans.

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

#### PART III: PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION

#### Pr**EPERZAN**<sup>TM</sup>

#### (albiglutide)

For injection, for subcutaneous use

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

#### **Serious Warnings and Precautions**

Thyroid C-cell tumors have been observed in rodent studies with glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonists at clinically relevant exposures. We cannot confirm whether or not EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> causes thyroid C-cell tumors, including medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC), in humans.

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is contraindicated in patients with a personal or family history of MTC and in patients with Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN 2).

#### What is EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> used for?

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is used along with diet and exercise to lower blood glucose (sugar) in adult patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus:

- as monotherapy in patients inadequately controlled by diet, exercise and when metformin is inappropriate due to contraindications or intolerance.
- in combination with one of the following therapeutic options in patients who have not achieved adequate glycemic control:
  - metformin, when diet and exercise plus maximal tolerated dose of metformin do not achieve adequate glycemic control
  - metformin and sulfonylurea, when diet and exercise plus dual therapy with metformin and sulfonylurea do not achieve adequate glycemic control

- basal insulin with oral antidiabetic therapies, when diet and exercise plus basal insulin with oral antidiabetic therapies do not achieve adequate glycemic control.
- It is not known if EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> can be used with mealtime insulin.
- EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is not a substitute for insulin. EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> should not be used in type 1 diabetes (formerly known as insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus or IDDM) or diabetic ketoacidosis.
- EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> has not been studied in children under 18 years of age.

#### How does EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> work?

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> belongs to a class of medicines called GLP-1 receptor agonists. EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is an injectable medicine used to lower blood sugar in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus.

#### What are the ingredients in EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>?

Medicinal ingredient: albiglutide

Non-medicinal ingredients: mannitol, polysorbate 80, sodium phosphate monobasic monohydrate, sodium phosphate dibasic anhydrous, trehalose dihydrate, water for injection

#### EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> comes in the following dosage form:

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is supplied as a prefilled, single use pen for self injection. Each pen contains a white to yellow powder and a colourless liquid in separate compartments. A needle is provided with each pen.

EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is available in 30 mg/0.5 mL (after reconstitution) and 50 mg/0.5 mL (after reconstitution) strengths.

#### Do not use EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> if:

- you are allergic to albiglutide or any other ingredient in the injection (see What are the ingredients in EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>? for a complete list of ingredients).
- you or a member of your family has ever had medullary thyroid cancer.
- you have Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN 2). This is a disease where people have tumours in more than one gland in their body.
- you are pregnant or breastfeeding. EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> may harm your unborn baby.

# To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>. Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if you:

- have type 1 diabetes
- have ever had diabetic ketoacidosis (increased ketones in the blood or urine)
- have ever had an allergic reaction to EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>
- or a member of your family has or has had medullary thyroid carcinoma, or if you have Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN 2)

- are pregnant or plan to have a baby. EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> may harm your unborn baby. Tell your doctor if you become pregnant while taking EPERZAN<sup>™</sup>. If you are pregnant, stop using EPERZAN<sup>™</sup>.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> passes into your breast milk. You and your doctor should decide if you will take EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> or breastfeed.
- have a high heart rate (fast pulse)
- have a condition called heart block
- have any heart disease, such as angina, heart rhythm disturbances or congestive heart failure; or if you have ever had a myocardial infarction (heart attack)
- have kidney problems
- have liver problems
- have inflammation of your pancreas (pancreatitis)
- have severe stomach or intestinal problems
- have severe vomiting and/or diarrhea and/or dehydration

#### Other warnings you should know about:

- See "Serious Warnings and Precautions" black box.
- Heart rate increase and PR interval prolongation. EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> may increase heart rate and could cause changes known as PR prolongation, which are detected by electrocardiogram (ECG) tracings. Increased heart rate is the same as a faster pulse. Rarely, drugs with these effects can cause changes in heart rhythm that could result in dizziness, palpitations (a feeling of rapid, pounding, or irregular heart beat), fainting or death. These heart rhythm changes are more likely if you have heart disease, or if you are taking certain other drugs. It is important to follow your doctor's advice about the dose of EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> or about any special tests that you may need.
- Inflammation of your pancreas (pancreatitis). Stop using EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> and call your healthcare provider right away if you have severe pain in your stomach area (abdomen) that will not go away, with or without vomiting. You may feel pain from your abdomen to your back.

It is not known if EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> can be used in people who have had pancreatitis.

- Gastrointestinal disorders. EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> is not recommended for use in people with severe stomach or intestinal problems.
- Low blood sugar (hypoglycemia). Your risk for getting low blood sugar may be higher if you use EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> with another medicine that can cause low blood sugar, such as a sulfonylurea or insulin.
- Serious allergic reactions. Stop using EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> and get medical help right away if you have any symptoms of a serious allergic reaction including itching, rash, or difficulty breathing.
- Kidney problems (kidney failure). In people who have kidney problems, diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting may cause a loss of fluids (dehydration) which may cause kidney problems to get worse.
- Liver problems. The use of EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> in patients with hepatic impairment has not been studied.

Talk to your healthcare provider about any side effect that bothers you or does not go away. These are not all the possible side effects of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>.

#### The following may interact with EPERZAN<sup>™</sup>:

Before using EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>, talk to your healthcare provider about low blood sugar and how to manage it. Tell your healthcare provider if you are taking other medicines to treat diabetes including insulin or sulfonylureas. You may get hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) when using EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> with other medicines for diabetes.

The following list includes some, but not all, of the drugs that may increase the risk of heart rhythm problems while receiving EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>:

- Drugs to treat hypertension
- Drugs to treat heart failure
- Drugs to treat HIV infection
- Drugs to treat attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder
- Drugs to suppress appetite/cause weight loss
- Decongestants
- Drugs to treat asthma

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

#### How to take EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>:

- EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> is injected under the skin (subcutaneously) of your stomach (abdomen), thigh, or upper arm. Do not inject EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> into a vein or muscle. Change (rotate) your injection site with each weekly injection. Do not use the same site for each injection.
- EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> should be injected within 8 hours after mixing your medicine.
- EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> should be injected right after you attach the needle.
- Always use a new needle for each injection
- Do not share your EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> pen or needles with another person. You may give another person an infection or get an infection from them.
- See the Instructions for Use. They describe the right way to mix and use your pen. Follow the Instructions for Use carefully. Failure to follow the steps in the correct order may result in damage to the pen.
- If you also give yourself insulin injections in addition to EPERZAN<sup>™</sup>, never mix insulin and EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> together, rather give yourself 2 separate injections. You may give both injections in the same body area (for example, your stomach area), but you should not give the injections right next to each other.
- Keep pens and needles out of the reach of children

#### Usual dose:

Use EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> exactly as prescribed. Do not change your dose or stop EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> without talking to your doctor.

- EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> is injected one time on the same day each week, at any time of the day. You can take EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> with or without food. The recommended dose of EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> is 30 mg once per week, administered subcutaneously. The dose may be increased to 50 mg onceweekly based on your glycemic response.
- Your healthcare provider will teach you how to mix and inject EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> before you use it for the first time. If you have questions or do not understand the Instructions for Use, talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist.
- Your doctor should start you on a diet and exercise program when you start taking EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>. Stay on this program while you are taking EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>.
- Your dose of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> and other diabetes medicines may need to change because of: change in level of physical activity or exercise, weight gain or loss, increased stress, illness, change in diet, or because of other medicines you take.

#### **Overdose:**

If you think you have taken too much EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>, contact your healthcare professional, hospital emergency department or regional Poison Control Centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

#### **Missed Dose:**

If you miss a dose of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>, take it as soon as possible within 3 days after the missed dose. You can then take your next dose at your usual weekly time. If it has been longer than 3 days after the missed dose, wait and take EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> at your next usual weekly time. Do not take an extra dose of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> to make up for your missed dose.

Do not take 2 doses of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> within 3 days of each other.

#### What are possible side effects from using EPERZAN<sup>™</sup>?

These are not all the possible side effects you may feel when taking EPERZAN<sup>™</sup>. If you experience any side effects not listed here, contact your healthcare professional. Please also see Warnings and Precautions.

Very common ( $\geq 1$  in 10):

- low blood sugar (hypoglycemia) when used in combination with other diabetes medicines, especially a sulfonylurea medicine or insulin. The dose of the sulfonylurea medicine or insulin may need to be lowered while using EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>
- diarrhea
- nausea
- rash, redness, or itching of the skin where you have injected EPERZAN<sup>™</sup>
- infection of the upper airways

Common ( $\geq 1$  in 100 and < 1 in 10):

- chest infection (pneumonia)
- hypoglycaemia (when albiglutide is used as monotherapy or in combination with metformin or pioglitazone)
- irregular heartbeat (atrial fibrillation/flutter)
- being sick (vomiting)
- constipation
- indigestion
- heartburn (gastroesophageal reflux)

Uncommon ( $\geq 1$  in 1,000 and < 1 in 100):

- appendicitis
- pancreatitis (an inflamed pancreas)

Rare (< 1 in 1,00	0): hypersensiti	ivity reaction
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Serious side effects and what to do about them					
	Talk to your healthcare		Stop taking drug		
Symptom / effect	professional		and get immediate		
	Only if severe	In all cases	medical help		
COMMON					
Pneumonia, symptoms such as increased					
cough with increase in					
mucus (sputum) production, fever that may be					
accompanied by shaking chills, shortness of					
breath, sharp or stabbing chest pain during					
deep breaths, and increased rapid breathing					
Atrial fibrillation/ flutter, irregular heart rate,			N		
palpitations, fatigue or shortness of breath			v		
UNCOMMON	,				
Severe hypoglycemia; disorientation, loss of	$\checkmark$				
consciousness, or seizures					
Pancreatitis; severe pain in your stomach area					
(abdomen) that does not go away (with or			$\checkmark$		
without vomiting) or nausea					
Severe form of allergic reaction (anaphylactic					
reaction) with symptoms of breathing			1		
problems, swelling of throat and face, and fast			$\checkmark$		
heart beat. You should seek immediate					
medical attention					
Appendicitis					
Thyroid tumour / lump in the neck, difficulty					
in swallowing difficulty in breathing or		$\checkmark$			
persistent hoarseness					

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

#### **Reporting Side Effects**

You can help improve the safe use of health products for Canadians by reporting serious and unexpected side effects to Health Canada. Your report may help to identify new side effects and change the product safety information.

#### 3 ways to report:

- Online at <u>MedEffect;</u>
- By calling 1-866-234-2345 (toll-free);
- By completing a Patienter Side Effect Reporting Form and sending it by:
  - Fax to 1-866-678-6789 (toll-free), or
  - Mail to: Canada Vigilance Program
    - Health Canada, Postal Locator 0701E Ottawa, ON
      - K1A 0K9

Postage paid labels and the Patienter Side Effect Reporting Form are available at <u>MedEffect</u>.

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

#### **Storage:**

- Store pens in the original carton until use.
- Refrigerate at 2°C to 8°C. Do not freeze.
- You may store pens at room temperature not to exceed 30°C for no more than 4 weeks. If storing for more than 4 weeks, keep refrigerated at 2°C to 8°C.
- Once the needle is attached, inject immediately. Do not store with needle attached.
- Do not use EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> if it has been frozen.
- Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need.
- Keep EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> out of the reach of children.
- Dispose of EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup> as instructed in the **Instructions for Use**.

#### If you want more information about EPERZAN<sup>TM</sup>:

- Talk to your healthcare professional
- Find the full product monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals and includes this Patient Medication Information by visiting the <u>Health Canada website</u> (http://hc-sc.gc.ca/index-eng.php); the manufacturer's website <u>http://www.gsk.ca</u>, or by calling 1-800-387-7374.

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#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE**

# PrEPERZAN™ (albiglutide) powder for solution for injection

#### ANTIDIABETIC AGENT 30 mg/0.5 mL after reconstitution

Read all the instructions and follow the steps below to mix the medicine and prepare the pen for injection.

# Failure to follow Steps A to C in the correct order may result in damage to your pen.

#### What is Unique About This Pen

- This medication is injected once per week.
- The pen has the medicine powder in one compartment and the water in another compartment. You will need to mix them together by twisting the pen, then wait for 15 minutes for the medicine and water to fully mix.



# **A** CAUTION:

Do not allow the pen to freeze. Discard it if frozen. If stored in refrigerator, allow to sit at room temperature for 15 minutes before starting Step A. Do not reuse needles, recap needles or remove needles from the pen after injection. Safely dispose of the pen and needle right away after injecting (see Step C).

# Before You Begin: Wash Your Hands, Gather & Inspect Materials

- Wash your hands.
- Take a pen and new needle out of the box and check the label on your pen to make sure it is your prescribed dose of medicine.
- Gather a <u>clean empty cup</u> to hold the pen while the medicine mixes, a <u>clock/timer</u> to measure the time while the medication mixes and a <u>container</u> for pen disposal as directed by your healthcare provider. These items are not provided in the pack.









# **STEP A**

# Inspect Your Pen and Mix Your Medicine

# **Inspect Your Pen**

- Make sure that you have all of the supplies listed above (pen, needle, cup, timer, disposal container).
- Check the expiration date on the pen. Do not use if expired.



Check that the pen has a [1] in the number window.
 <u>DO NOT</u> use if the [1] is not showing.



• If the pen is expired, or the **[1]** is not in the number window, return the pen to your pharmacist for disposal.

#### **Twist Pen to Mix Your Medicine**

- Hold the pen body with the clear cartridge pointing up so that you can see the [1] in the number window.
- With your other hand, twist the clear cartridge in the direction of the arrow until you feel/hear the pen "click" into place and you **see the [2] in the number window**. This will mix the medicine powder and liquid in the clear cartridge.





• Slowly and gently rock the pen side to side 5 times, with the clear cartridge pointing up, to mix the drug (like a windshield wiper). **DO NOT** shake the pen hard to avoid foaming which may affect your dose.



# Wait for Medicine to Dissolve

- Place the pen into the clean, empty cup with the clear cartridge pointing up.
- Set the clock/timer for 15 minutes.





You must wait 15 minutes for the medicine to dissolve

before continuing to Step B.

The reconstituted pen can be stored for no more than 8 hours before continuing to Step B. Once the needle is attached the pen must be used immediately.

# **STEP B**

Attach the Needle and Prepare Pen for Injection

After the 15 minute wait, wash your hands and finish the rest of the steps right away.

**Inspect Your Dissolved Medicine** 

 Again, slowly and gently rock the pen side to side 5 times to re-mix the medicine (like a windshield wiper). **DO NOT** shake the pen hard to avoid foaming which may affect your dose.



• Look through the viewing window to check that the liquid in the cartridge is clear and free of solid particles.



• The liquid will have a yellow colour and there will be **large** air bubbles on top of the liquid.

#### **Attach the Needle**

• Peel the tab from the outer needle cap.



 Hold the pen with the clear cartridge pointing up and push the needle straight down onto the clear cartridge until you hear a "click" and feel the needle "snap" down into place – This means the needle is attached.



#### **Tap for Air Bubbles**

• With the needle point up, gently tap the clear cartridge 2-3 times with your finger to bring large air bubbles to the top.



<u>Small</u> bubbles are okay and do not need to rise to the top.

#### **Twist Pen to Prime the Needle**

Slowly twist the clear cartridge several times in the direction of the arrow (clockwise) until you feel/hear the pen "click" and you see the [3] in the number window. This removes the large air bubbles from the clear cartridge. The injection button will also pop out from the bottom of the pen.





# **STEP C**

# Remove Both Needle Caps and Inject Your Medicine

#### **Remove Needle Caps**

• Carefully remove the outer needle cap, then the inner needle cap. A few drops of liquid may come out of the needle. This is normal.



# **Inject the Medicine**

• Insert the needle into the skin on your abdomen, thigh or upper arm and inject as shown to you by your healthcare provider.



- With your thumb, press the injection button slowly and steadily to inject your medicine. **The slower you press, the easier the injection will feel.**
- Keep the injection button pressed down until you hear a "click". After hearing the click, continue holding your thumb down on the button and then slowly count to 5 to deliver the full dose of the medicine.



• After hearing the click and then slowly counting to 5, pull the needle out of your skin.

# **Dispose the Pen**

- Do not recap the needle or remove the needle from the pen.
- Do not dispose of the used pen in the household waste. Dispose the pen as your healthcare provider has instructed, such as in a sharps container.

#### PrEPERZAN™ (albiglutide) powder for solution for injection ANTIDIABETIC AGENT 30 mg/0.5 mL after reconstitution

**Frequently Asked Questions** 

**Medication Dosing** 

#### How often should I take my medicine?

• Take once a week, on the same day each week. You can administer your medicine at any time of day, with or without meals.

What if I need to take my medicine on a different day of the week?

• If you need to change the day of the week that you take your medicine, you may take your next dose of medicine from 4 to 10 days after the last dose.

What if I forget to take the medicine on the day I'm supposed to?

• Take your next dose of medicine within 3 days after your usual day, then return to your usual day for your next dose. If you miss more than 3 days after your usual day, wait until your next regularly scheduled weekly dose.

# Storage

When and how should I store my EPERZAN™ Pen?

- Store your pens in the original carton until use. Refrigerate at 2°C to 8°C. You
  may store your pens at room temperature (not to exceed 30°C) for no more
  than 4 weeks.
- If a box of pens will be stored for more than 4 weeks, keep it refrigerated at 2°C to 8°C. **DO NOT FREEZE.** If the liquid in the pen is frozen, do not use the pen, use another pen.
- Keep away from dust, dirt and liquids and out of the reach of children.

# **Number Window**

Are the Numbers 1, 2 & 3 how I select my dose of medicine?

- No, you do not have to select your dose. The numbers are to help you prepare and administer your medicine.
  - Number 1 The pen is ready to be mixed. Medicine powder and water are in separate compartments in the clear cartridge. If you don't see a number 1 in the window, return the pen to your pharmacist for disposal.
  - Number 2 Medicine powder and water are mixed. After you gently rock the pen 5 times, wait 15 minutes. Then gently rock the pen again 5 times, and attach needle.
  - Number 3 Large air bubble are removed, the injection button pops out, and the pen is ready for injection.

#### What if I do not hear the "CLICK" when the 2 or 3 are moved into the Number Window?

If you do not hear a "click" when 2 or 3 are moved into the number window, you
may not have the number fully centered in the window. Twist clear cartridge
slightly in the direction of the arrow to complete the "click" and center the
number in the window. Do not turn the clear cartridge in the opposite direction
from the arrows.

#### **Step A - Inspect Your Pen and Mix Your Medicine**

What if I do not wait 15 minutes after turning the pen to the Number 2?

 Waiting the full 15 minutes ensures that the medicine powder and water are properly mixed, even though it may visually appear to be mixed sooner than that. If you do not wait the full 15 minutes the drug may not be properly mixed with the water. This can result in particles floating in the clear cartridge, an ineffective dose and/or a blocked needle.

# What if I leave my pen for more than 15 minutes after turning the pen to the Number 2 in Step A?

• As long as the needle has not been attached, the pen can be used for up to 8 hours from the time Step A was started. If it has been more than 8 hours since the medicine was mixed in Step A, discard pen and use another pen.

# **Step B - Attach the Needle and Prepare Pen for Injection** What if I do not attach the needle at Step B?

- If the needle is not attached in Step B, and you go to Step C to turn the pen from Position 2 to 3, this can damage the pen.
- Do not attach the needle at Step A. Some of the medicine may be lost during mixing. Return the pen to your pharmacist for disposal.

What if I leave my pen with the needle attached at Step B, and come back later to finish Step C?

• This can cause your needle to block, you should continue from Step B to Step C right away.

# **Step C - Remove Both Needle Caps and Inject Your Medicine**

After I turn the pen to Number 3 (Step C), there are still some small air bubbles remaining. Can I still use the pen?

• Yes, if you see small air bubbles that don't rise to the top, it is normal and you will receive the correct dose of your medicine. The small air bubbles will not harm you.

#### Can I inject the medicine into my arm?

• Yes, the upper arm can be used as one of the injection sites.

After I administer my medicine, there is some liquid still visible in the clear cartridge.

• This is normal. If you have heard/felt the injection button "click" and slowly counted to 5 before pulling the needle out of your skin, you have received the correct dose of your medicine.



Please verify you are using the correct dosage.

These instructions are for:



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#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE**

# PrEPERZAN™ (albiglutide) powder for solution for injection ANTIDIABETIC AGENT 50 mg/0.5 mL after reconstitution

Read all the instructions and follow the steps below to mix the medicine and prepare the pen for injection.

# Failure to follow Steps A to C in the correct order may result in damage to your pen.

#### What is Unique About This Pen

- This medication is injected once per week.
- The pen has the medicine powder in one compartment and the water in another compartment. You will need to mix them together by twisting the pen, then wait for 30 minutes for the medicine and water to fully mix.



# **CAUTION:**

Do not allow the pen to freeze. Discard it if frozen.

If stored in refrigerator, allow to sit at room temperature for 15 minutes before starting Step A.

Do not reuse needles, recap needles or remove needles from the pen after injection. Safely dispose of the pen and needle right away after injecting (see Step C).

# Before You Begin: Wash Your Hands, Gather & Inspect Materials

- Wash your hands.
- Take a pen and new needle out of the box and check the label on your pen to make sure it is your prescribed dose of medicine.
- Gather a <u>clean empty cup</u> to hold the pen while the medicine mixes, a <u>clock/timer</u> to measure the time while the medication mixes and a <u>container</u> for pen disposal as directed by your healthcare provider. These items are not provided in the pack.





This EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> 50 mg Pen requires <u>30</u> <u>minutes</u> to let the medicine powder and water mix in Step A. This is different from the EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> 30 mg Pen you may have used previously.





# **STEP A**

# **Inspect Your Pen and Mix Your Medicine**

#### **Inspect Your Pen**

- Make sure that you have all of the supplies listed above (pen, needle, cup, timer, disposal container).
- Check the expiration date on the pen. Do not use if expired.



Check that the pen has a [1] in the number window.
 <u>DO NOT</u> use if the [1] is not showing.



• If the pen is expired, or the **[1]** is not in the number window, return the pen to your pharmacist for disposal.

#### **Twist Pen to Mix Your Medicine**

- Hold the pen body with the clear cartridge pointing up so that you can see the [1] in the number window.
- With your other hand, twist the clear cartridge in the direction of the arrow until you feel/hear the pen "click" into place and you **see the [2] in the number window**. This will mix the medicine powder and liquid in the clear cartridge.





• Slowly and gently rock the pen side to side 5 times, with the clear cartridge pointing up, to mix the drug (like a windshield wiper). **DO NOT** shake the pen hard to avoid foaming which may affect your dose.



# Wait for Medicine to Dissolve

- Place the pen into the clean, empty cup with the clear cartridge pointing up.
- Set the clock/timer for 30 minutes.





# You <u>must</u> wait 30 minutes for the medicine to dissolve

# before continuing to Step B.

The reconstituted pen can be stored for no more than 8 hours before continuing to Step B. Once the needle is attached the pen must be used immediately.

# **STEP B**

# Attach the Needle and Prepare Pen for Injection

After the 30 minute wait, wash your hands and finish the rest of the steps right away.

#### **Inspect Your Dissolved Medicine**

• Again, slowly and gently rock the pen side to side 5 times to re-mix the medicine (like a windshield wiper). **DO NOT** shake the pen hard to avoid foaming which may affect your dose.



• Look through the viewing window to check that the liquid in the cartridge is clear and free of solid particles.



• The liquid will have a yellow colour and there will be **large** air bubbles on top of the liquid.

#### Attach the Needle

• Peel the tab from the outer needle cap.



• Hold the pen with the clear cartridge pointing up and push the needle straight down onto the clear cartridge until you hear a "click" and feel the needle "snap" down into place – This means the needle is attached.



#### **Tap for Air Bubbles**

• With the needle point up, gently tap the clear cartridge 2-3 times with your finger to bring large air bubbles to the top.



<u>Small</u> bubbles are okay and do not need to rise to the top.

#### **Twist Pen to Prime the Needle**

Slowly twist the clear cartridge several times in the direction of the arrow (clockwise) until you feel/hear the pen "click" and you see the [3] in the number window. This removes the large air bubbles from the clear cartridge. The injection button will also pop out from the bottom of the pen.





# **STEP C**

# **Remove Both Needle Caps and Inject Your Medicine**

#### **Remove Needle Caps**

• Carefully remove the outer needle cap, then the inner needle cap. A few drops of liquid may come out of the needle. This is normal.





#### **Inject the Medicine**

• Insert the needle into the skin on your abdomen, thigh, or upper arm and inject as shown to you by your healthcare provider.



- With your thumb, press the injection button slowly and steadily to inject your medicine. **The slower you press, the easier the injection will feel.**
- Keep the injection button pressed down until you hear a "click". After hearing the click, continue holding your thumb down on the button and then slowly count to 5 to deliver the full dose of the medicine.



• After hearing the click and then slowly counting to 5, pull the needle out of your skin.

# **Dispose the Pen**

- Do not recap the needle or remove the needle from the pen.
- Do not dispose of the used pen in the household waste. Dispose the pen as your healthcare provider has instructed, such as in a sharps container.

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# **Frequently Asked Questions**

# **Medication Dosing**

#### How often should I take my medicine?

• Take once a week, on the same day each week. You can administer your medicine at any time of day, with or without meals.

What if I need to take my medicine on a different day of the week?

• If you need to change the day of the week that you take your medicine, you may take your next dose of medicine from 4 to 10 days after the last dose.

#### What if I forget to take the medicine on the day I'm supposed to?

• Take your next dose of medicine within 3 days after your usual day, then return to your usual day for your next dose. If you miss more than 3 days after your usual day, wait until your next regularly scheduled weekly dose.

#### Storage

#### When and how should I store my EPERZAN<sup>™</sup> Pen?

- Store your pens in the original carton until use. Refrigerate at 2°C to 8°C. You may store your pens at room temperature (not to exceed 30°C) for no more than 4 weeks.
- If a box of pens will be stored for more than 4 weeks, keep it refrigerated at 2°C to 8°C. **DO NOT FREEZE.** If the liquid in the pen is frozen, do not use the pen, use another pen.
- Keep away from dust, dirt and liquids and out of the reach of children.

# **Number Window**

#### Are the Numbers 1, 2 & 3 how I select my dose of medicine?

- No, you do not have to select your dose. The numbers are to help you prepare and administer your medicine.
  - Number 1 The pen is ready to be mixed. Medicine powder and water are in separate compartments in the clear cartridge. If you don't see a number 1 in the window, return the pen to your pharmacist for disposal.
  - Number 2 Medicine powder and water are mixed. After you gently rock the pen 5 times, wait 30 minutes. Then gently rock the pen again 5 times, and attach needle.
  - Number 3 Large air bubble are removed, the injection button pops out, and the pen is ready for injection.

# What if I do not hear the "CLICK" when the 2 or 3 are moved into the Number Window?

If you do not hear a "click" when 2 or 3 are moved into the number window, you
may not have the number fully centered in the window. Twist clear cartridge
slightly in the direction of the arrow to complete the "click" and center the
number in the window. Do not turn the clear cartridge in the opposite direction
from the arrows.

# **Step A - Inspect Your Pen and Mix Your Medicine**

What if I do not wait 30 minutes after turning the pen to the Number 2?

 Waiting the full 30 minutes ensures that the medicine powder and water are properly mixed, even though it may visually appear to be mixed sooner than that. If you do not wait the full 30 minutes the drug may not be properly mixed with the water. This can result in particles floating in the clear cartridge, an ineffective dose and/or a blocked needle.

# What if I leave my pen for more than 30 minutes after turning the pen to the Number 2 in Step A?

• As long as the needle has not been attached, the pen can be used for up to 8 hours from the time Step A was started. If it has been more than 8 hours since the medicine was mixed in Step A, discard pen and use another pen.

# **Step B - Attach the Needle and Prepare Pen for Injection**

# What if I do not attach the needle at Step B?

- If the needle is not attached in Step B, and you go to Step C to turn the pen from Position 2 to 3, this can damage the pen.
- Do not attach the needle at Step A. Some of the medicine may be lost during mixing. Return the pen to your pharmacist for disposal.

What if I leave my pen with the needle attached at Step B, and come back later to finish Step C?

• This can cause your needle to block, you should continue from Step B to Step C right away.

# **Step C - Remove Both Needle Caps and Inject Your Medicine**

# After I turn the pen to Number 3 (Step C), there are still some small air bubbles remaining. Can I still use the pen?

• Yes, if you see small air bubbles that don't rise to the top, it is normal and you will receive the correct dose of your medicine. The small air bubbles will not harm you.

#### Can I inject the medicine into my arm?

• Yes, the upper arm can be used as one of the injection sites.

After I administer my medicine, there is some liquid still visible in the clear cartridge.

• This is normal. If you have heard/felt the injection button "click" and slowly counted to 5 before pulling the needle out of your skin, you have received the correct dose of your medicine.



Please verify you are using the correct dosage.

These instructions are for:



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