Australian Government
Department of Health

BE COVIDSAFE

Use of Evusheld

Updated 8 June 2022

Evusheld® (tixagevimab and cilgavimab) by AstraZeneca Pty Ltd is the first medication for the pre-exposure prophylaxis of COVID-19 in Australia.

It was provisionally approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) on 24 February 2022.

Evusheld is an intra-muscular (IM) injection for the prevention (pre-exposure prophylaxis) of COVID-19 in people aged 12 years and older weighing at least 40kg with sub-optimal or no protection from COVID-19 vaccines.

Evusheld is not recommended as a substitute for COVID-19 vaccination.

The TGA is currently evaluating treatment of COVID-19 as another indication for Evusheld, but this is still under review.

The drug must be prescribed by an authorised prescriber, who has assessed the suitability of this medication, prior to administration to an individual.

Who is the medicine for?

Global supply constraints necessitate triaging of patient access to Evusheld for those who are at highest risk of disease progression and likely to derive the most benefit.

Evusheld will initially be prioritised for pre-exposure prophylaxis in severely immunocompromised individuals not expected to mount an adequate immune response to COVID-19 vaccination or due to underlying medical conditions or treatments that compromise the body's immune system.

Clinical particulars

Side effects

For side effects and precautions for use please refer to the TGA product information sheet on Evusheld.

Dose adjustment

No dosage adjustment is recommended in pregnant or lactating individuals, in geriatrics, and in individuals with renal impairment.

Interactions

Tixagevimab and cilgavimab (Evusheld) are not renally excreted or metabolized by cytochrome P450 (CYP) enzymes; therefore, interactions with concomitant medications that are renally excreted or that are substrates, inducers, or inhibitors of CYP enzymes are unlikely.

Dosing

The dosage of Evusheld in adults and paediatric individuals (12 years of age and older weighing at least 40 kg) is 150 mg of tixagevimab and 150 mg of cilgavimab administered as two separate sequential IM injections, one in each of the gluteal muscles.

> See the TGA consumer medicine information summary.
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> See the TGA product information for clinical and healthcare details.

Accessing this medication

Evusheld is a prescription only (S4) medicine which requires a prescription from an authorised prescriber.

This medicine is being supplied by the Australian Government to all state and territory governments through the National Medical Stockpile (NMS).

To access supplies of Evusheld, healthcare professionals should contact their relevant state or territory health department.

The Department is encouraging AstraZeneca to progress an application to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) to list Evusheld on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) as soon as possible.

A PBS listing for Evusheld would mean that eligible patients could access this medicine from their local community pharmacy on a prescription from their doctor or specialist.

By law, medicines can only be listed on the PBS following a positive recommendation from the PBAC.

Medicine administration

Supply of the medications can be used in a manner consistent with medicine regulation in your jurisdiction.

Evusheld is supplied as a co-packaged carton containing two vials:

- one single-dose vial of tixagevimab injection as a sterile, preservative-free, clear to opalescent and colourless to slightly yellow solution.
- one single-dose vial of cilgavimab injection as a sterile, preservative-free, clear to opalescent and colourless to slightly yellow solution.

Store unopened vials in a refrigerator at 2°C to 8°C in the original carton to protect from light.

Discard any unused portion. DO NOT FREEZE. DO NOT SHAKE.

Please review the TGA Evusheld product information and ensure that this medication is administered safely.

Adverse events

Please ensure that all possible adverse reactions are reported using the usual existing mechanisms. Anyone can report an adverse event.

To report an event online you will need the following information:

- reporter details
- patient details
- medicine details
- reaction details

See the TGA Adverse Event Management System privacy statement.