

The Medical Letter[®]

on Drugs and Therapeutics

Volume 58

September 12, 2016

ISSUE No.

1503

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Volume 58 (Issue 1503)

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IN BRIEF

Repatha Pushtronex – A New Evolocumab Injection Device

The PCSK9 inhibitor evolocumab (*Repatha* – Amgen) is now available in a single-dose, hands-free device (*Repatha Pushtronex*) for once-monthly subcutaneous infusion. Evolocumab is FDA-approved as an adjunct to diet and maximally tolerated statin therapy for patients with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HeFH) or clinical atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease who require additional lowering of low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C), and as an adjunct to diet and other LDL-lowering therapies for patients with homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HoFH).

Evolocumab is also available in 140-mg single-use prefilled syringes and autoinjectors (*Repatha Sureclick*).¹ Use of these formulations to administer the once-monthly dose (420 mg) requires patients to inject themselves three consecutive times within 30 minutes. Another PCSK9 inhibitor, alirocumab (*Praluent*), is injected every 2 weeks; it is available in single-dose prefilled syringes and pens.

Drug	Formulations	Usual Adult Dosage
<i>Repatha</i> (Amgen)	140 mg/mL single-use prefilled syringe	140 mg SC q2 wks or 420 mg SC once/month ^{1,2}
<i>Repatha Sureclick</i>	140 mg/mL single-use prefilled autoinjector	140 mg SC q2 wks or 420 mg SC once/month ^{1,2}
<i>Repatha Pushtronex</i>	420 mg/3.5 mL single-use infusor with prefilled cartridge	420 mg SC once/month

1. Dosage for patients with HeFH or atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease. Dosage for patients with HoFH is 420 mg SC once monthly.
2. The 420-mg dose is given as three consecutive 140-mg injections within 30 minutes.

The *Repatha Pushtronex* system consists of a single-use, battery-powered infusor and a prefilled cartridge containing a 420-mg dose of evolocumab. Once assembled, the patient adheres the device to the skin of the abdomen, thigh, or upper arm and presses a button to begin the subcutaneous injection; infusion of the dose takes about 9 minutes. One *Repatha Pushtronex* device costs \$1175. Three 140-mg *Repatha Sureclick* autoinjectors or *Repatha* prefilled syringes cost \$1627.²

1. Evolocumab (*Repatha*) – a second PCSK9 inhibitor to lower LDL-cholesterol. *Med Lett Drugs Ther* 2015; 57:140.
2. Approximate WAC for one 420-mg dose. WAC = wholesaler acquisition cost or manufacturer's published price to wholesalers; WAC represents a published catalogue or list price and may not represent an actual transactional price. Source: AnalySource® Monthly. August 5, 2016. Reprinted with permission by First Databank, Inc. All rights reserved. ©2016. www.fdbhealth.com/policies/drug-pricing-policy.

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