



Announcing – PrandiMet[®] (repaglinide/metformin HCl) tablets for adults with type 2 diabetes uncontrolled by a meglitinide or metformin HCl

Dear Pharmacist:

Sciele Pharma, Inc. and Novo Nordisk A/S are pleased to announce the availability of **PrandiMet**[®] the first and only fixed dose combination tablet of a short-acting secretagogue—Prandin[®] (repaglinide) tablets—and an insulin sensitizer, metformin HCl tablets. **PrandiMet**[®] is indicated as an adjunct to diet and exercise in adults with type 2 diabetes who remain uncontrolled on meglitinide or metformin HCl therapy alone. **PrandiMet**[®] is also indicated in patients who are currently treated with concomitant therapy of meglitinide and metformin HCl. **PrandiMet**[®] is available in two convenient strengths: 1 mg/500 mg and 2 mg/500 mg tablets.

PrandiMet[®] was approved by the FDA based upon data demonstrating that **PrandiMet**[®] 1 mg/500 mg and 2 mg/500 mg tablets resulted in similar bioequivalence to co-administration of corresponding doses of repaglinide and metformin HCl as individual tablets.

PrandiMet[®] offers the convenience of two medications in one tablet (Prandin[®] and metformin HCl) while targeting the multiple defects of type 2 diabetes. The Prandin[®] component stimulates the release of insulin from the pancreas post meal. The metformin HCl component decreases hepatic glucose production and decreases insulin resistance by helping the body respond better to the insulin it makes.

PrandiMet[®] helps to meet the individual patient needs in the treatment of type 2 diabetes. Both Prandin[®] and metformin HCl have been used concomitantly for over 10 years.^{1,2} Now the new fixed dose combination provides the convenience of reduced pill burden and a single co-pay to the patient.

PrandiMet[®] is supported by many valuable resources, including 325 specialized diabetes sales professionals covering 25,000 physicians nationwide, physician samples, pharmacy point of care messaging, as well as educational materials. **PrandiMet**[®] has managed care and prescription insurance coverage. **PrandiMet**[®] is now available so stock it today.

NDC Numbers	Description	Strength	Size	WAC
0169-0093-01	PrandiMet [®] Tablets	1 mg/500 mg	100/Bottle	\$161.78
0169-0092-01	PrandiMet [®] Tablets	2 mg/500 mg	100/Bottle	\$161.78

INDICATION

PrandiMet[®] is a meglitinide and biguanide combination product indicated as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycemic control in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus who are already treated with a meglitinide and metformin HCl or who have inadequate glycemic control on a meglitinide alone or metformin HCl alone. Do not use to treat type 1 diabetes or diabetic ketoacidosis.

PrandiMet®

(repaglinide/metformin HCl) tablets

WARNING: LACTIC ACIDOSIS

See full Prescribing Information for complete boxed warning

- Lactic acidosis can occur due to metformin accumulation. The risk increases with conditions such as sepsis, dehydration, excess alcohol intake, hepatic impairment, renal impairment, and acute congestive heart failure.
- Symptoms include malaise, myalgias, respiratory distress, increasing somnolence, and nonspecific abdominal distress. Laboratory abnormalities include low pH, increased anion gap and elevated blood lactate.
- If acidosis is suspected, discontinue **PrandiMet®** and hospitalize the patient immediately.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Lactic acidosis is a rare but serious metabolic complication that can occur due to metformin accumulation. It is fatal in approximately 50% of cases. Reported cases have occurred primarily in diabetic patients with significant renal impairment, including both intrinsic renal disease and renal hypoperfusion, often in the setting of multiple concomitant medical/surgical problems and multiple concomitant medications.

PrandiMet® is contraindicated in patients with renal impairment [e.g., serum creatinine levels greater than or equal to 1.5 mg/dL (males), greater than or equal to 1.4 mg/dL (females), or abnormal creatinine clearance], metabolic acidosis, including diabetic ketoacidosis, or patients receiving both gemfibrozil and itraconazole.

Before initiation of therapy with **PrandiMet®** and at least annually thereafter, renal function should be assessed and verified as normal.

In patients in whom development of renal impairment is anticipated, renal function should be assessed more frequently and **PrandiMet®** discontinued if evidence of renal impairment is present.

PrandiMet® should generally be avoided in patients with hepatic impairment.

PrandiMet® should be temporarily discontinued in patients undergoing radiologic studies involving intravascular administration of iodinated contrast materials and may be resumed 48 hours after the procedure only after renal function has been re-evaluated and found to be normal.

Use of PrandiMet® in Special Populations:

Pregnancy - Unknown risks to fetus. Use only if clearly needed; *Lactation* - Not recommended.

Pediatrics - Not recommended; *Elderly* - Assess renal function and adjust dose accordingly.

Repaglinide is not indicated for use in combination with NPH insulin.

In a single study (n=83) the most common adverse reactions reported among patients treated with repaglinide in combination with metformin HCl were hypoglycemia (33%) vs. repaglinide (11%), headache (22%) vs. repaglinide (11%), diarrhea (19%) vs. metformin HCl (8%) and nausea (15%) vs. metformin HCl (7%).

The incidence of total serious cardiovascular adverse events, including ischemia, was higher for repaglinide (4%) than for sulfonylurea drugs (3%) in controlled clinical trials. In 1-year controlled trials, repaglinide treatment was not associated with excess mortality when compared to the rates observed with other oral hypoglycemic agent therapies such as glyburide and glipizide.

Thank you for helping to make **PrandiMet®** readily available to your physicians and their patients. If you have any questions, please contact Novo Nordisk, Inc. Customer Relations at 1-800-727-6200 or visit www.PrandiMet.com.

Sincerely,

Danny Burrell
Director, Cardiovascular and Diabetes

Please see enclosed full Prescribing Information.

References: 1. Prandin® Prescribing Information, Novo Nordisk A/S. 2. IMS Data (1998 - 2008).

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