

## **Package leaflet: Information for the patient**

### **Januvia® 100 mg film-coated tablets** Sitagliptin

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist, or nurse.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist, or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### **What is in this leaflet**

1. What Januvia is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Januvia
3. How to take Januvia
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Januvia
6. Contents of the pack and other information

#### **1. What Januvia is and what it is used for**

Januvia contains the active substance sitagliptin which is a member of a class of medicines called DPP-4 inhibitors (dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitors) that lowers blood sugar levels in adult patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. Type 2 diabetes is also called non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, or NIDDM.

This medicine helps to improve the levels of insulin after a meal and decreases the amount of sugar made by the body.

Your doctor has prescribed this medicine to help lower your blood sugar, which is too high because of your type 2 diabetes. This medicine can be used alone or in combination with certain other medicines (insulin, metformin, sulphonylureas, or glitazones) that lower blood sugar, which you may already be taking for your diabetes together with a food and exercise plan.

What is type 2 diabetes?

Type 2 diabetes is a condition in which your body does not make enough insulin, and the insulin that your body produces does not work as well as it should. Your body can also make too much sugar.

When this happens, sugar (glucose) builds up in the blood. This can lead to serious medical problems like heart disease, kidney disease, blindness, and amputation.

#### **2. What you need to know before you take Januvia**

##### **Do not take Januvia**

- if you are allergic to sitagliptin or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).

##### **Warnings and precautions**

Cases of inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis) have been reported in patients receiving Januvia (see section 4).

Tell your doctor if you have or have had:

- pancreatitis, gallstones, alcoholism or very high triglycerides. These medical conditions can increase your chance of getting pancreatitis, or getting it again.
- type 1 diabetes
- diabetic ketoacidosis (a complication of diabetes with high blood sugar, rapid weight loss, nausea or vomiting)
- any past or present kidney problems.
- an allergic reaction to Januvia (see section 4).

This medicine is unlikely to cause low blood sugar because it does not work when your blood sugar is low. However, when this medicine is used in combination with a sulphonylurea medicine or with insulin, low blood sugar (hypoglycaemia) can occur. Your doctor may reduce the dose of your sulphonylurea or insulin medicine.

### **Children and adolescents**

Children and adolescents below 18 years should not use this medicine. It is not known if this medicine is safe and effective when used in children and adolescents under 18 years of age.

### **Other medicines and Januvia**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

### **Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

You should not take this medicine during pregnancy.

It is not known if this medicine passes into breast milk. You should not take this medicine if you are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed.

### **Driving and using machines**

This medicine has no known influence on the ability to drive and use machines. However, dizziness and drowsiness have been reported, which may affect your ability to drive or use machines.

Taking this medicine in combination with medicines called sulphonylureas or with insulin can cause hypoglycaemia, which may affect your ability to drive and use machines or work without safe foothold.

## **3. How to take Januvia**

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

The recommended dose is:

- one 100 mg film-coated tablet
- once a day
- by mouth

If you have kidney problems, your doctor may prescribe lower doses.

You can take this medicine with or without food and drink.

Your doctor may prescribe this medicine alone or with certain other medicines that lower blood sugar.

Diet and exercise can help your body use its blood sugar better. It is important to stay on the diet, exercise and weight loss program recommended by your doctor while taking Januvia.

**If you take more Januvia than you should**

If you take more than the prescribed dosage of this medicine, contact your doctor immediately.

**If you forget to take Januvia**

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If you do not remember until it is time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular schedule. Do not take a double dose of this medicine.

**If you stop taking Januvia**

Continue to take this medicine as long as your doctor prescribes it so you can continue to help control your blood sugar. You should not stop taking this medicine without talking to your doctor first.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

**4. Possible side effects**

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

Cases of inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis) have been reported in patients receiving Januvia (frequency not known, cannot be estimated from the available data). Pancreatitis can be a serious, potentially life-threatening medical condition. Stop taking Januvia and call your doctor if you experience severe and persistent stomach pain, with or without vomiting, because you could have pancreatitis.

If you have a serious allergic reaction (frequency not known), including rash, hives, and swelling of the face, lips, tongue, and throat that may cause difficulty in breathing or swallowing, stop taking this medicine and call your doctor right away. Your doctor may prescribe a medicine to treat your allergic reaction and a different medicine for your diabetes.

Some patients have experienced the following side effects after adding sitagliptin to metformin:

Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people): low blood sugar, nausea, flatulence, vomiting

Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people): abdominal pain, diarrhoea, constipation, drowsiness.

Some patients have experienced stomach discomfort when starting the combination of sitagliptin and metformin together.

Some patients have experienced the following side effects while taking sitagliptin in combination with a sulphonylurea:

Common: low blood sugar.

Some patients have experienced the following side effects while taking sitagliptin in combination with a sulphonylurea and metformin:

Very common (may affect more than 1 in 10 people): low blood sugar

Common: constipation.

Some patients have experienced the following side effects while taking sitagliptin and pioglitazone:

Common: low blood sugar and flatulence. In addition, some patients have reported foot swelling while taking sitagliptin and pioglitazone.

Some patients have experienced the following side effects while taking sitagliptin in combination with pioglitazone and metformin:

Common: low blood sugar, swelling of the hands or legs.

Some patients have experienced the following side effects while taking sitagliptin in combination with insulin (with or without metformin):

Common: headache, low blood sugar and flu

Uncommon: dry mouth, constipation.

Some patients have experienced the following side effects while taking sitagliptin alone in clinical studies, or during post-approval use alone and/or with other diabetes medicines:

Common: low blood sugar, headache, upper respiratory infection, stuffy or runny nose and sore throat, osteoarthritis, arm or leg pain

Uncommon: dizziness, constipation

Frequency not known: kidney problems (sometimes requiring dialysis); vomiting; joint pain; muscle pain; back pain; interstitial lung disease.

### **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly (see details below). By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

**United Kingdom:** Yellow Card Scheme Website: [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard)

**Ireland:** Pharmacovigilance Section, Irish Medicines Board, Kevin O'Malley House, Earlsfort Centre, Earlsfort Terrace, IRL - Dublin 2, Tel: +353 1 6764971, Fax: +353 1 6762517, Website: [www.imb.ie](http://www.imb.ie), e-mail: [imbpharmacovigilance@imb.ie](mailto:imbpharmacovigilance@imb.ie)

**Malta:** ADR Reporting, The Medicines Authority, Post-Licensing Directorate, 203 Level 3, Rue D'Argens, GŻR-1368 Gżira Website: [www.medicinesauthority.gov.mt](http://www.medicinesauthority.gov.mt), e-mail: [postlicensing.medicinesauthority@gov.mt](mailto:postlicensing.medicinesauthority@gov.mt)

## **5. How to store Januvia**

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the blister and the carton after 'EXP'. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

This medicine does not require any special storage conditions.

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

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What Januvia contains**

- The active substance is sitagliptin. Each film-coated tablet (tablet) contains sitagliptin phosphate monohydrate, equivalent to 100 mg sitagliptin.
- The other ingredients are: microcrystalline cellulose (E460), calcium hydrogen phosphate, anhydrous (E341), croscarmellose sodium (E468), magnesium stearate (E470b), and sodium stearyl fumarate. The tablet film coating contains: poly(vinyl alcohol), macrogol 3350, talc (E553b), titanium dioxide (E171), red iron oxide (E172), and yellow iron oxide (E172).

### **What Januvia looks like and contents of the pack**

Round, beige film-coated tablet with "277" on one side.

Opaque blisters (PVC/PE/PVDC and aluminum). Packs of 14, 28, 56, 84 or 98 film-coated tablets and 50 x 1 film-coated tablets in perforated unit dose blisters.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer**

The **Marketing Authorisation Holder** is:

Merck Sharp & Dohme Ltd.  
Hertford Road, Hoddesdon  
Hertfordshire EN11 9BU  
United Kingdom

The **Manufacturer** is:

Merck Sharp & Dohme Ltd.  
Shotton Lane, Cramlington  
Northumberland NE23 3JU  
United Kingdom

For any information about this medicine, please contact the local representative of the Marketing Authorisation Holder:

#### **Belgique/België/Belgien**

MSD Belgium BVBA/SPRL  
Tél/Tel: 0800 38 693 (+32(0)27766211)  
dpoc\_belux@merck.com

#### **Lietuva**

UAB Merck Sharp & Dohme  
Tel.: +370 5 278 02 47  
msd\_lietuva@merck.com

#### **България**

Мерк Шарп и Доум България ЕООД  
Тел.: +359 2 819 3737  
info-msdbg@merck.com

#### **Luxembourg/Luxemburg**

MSD Belgium BVBA/SPRL  
Tél/Tel: 0800 38 693 (+32(0)27766211)  
dpoc\_belux@merck.com

#### **Česká republika**

Merck Sharp & Dohme s.r.o.  
Tel.: +420 233 010 111  
dpoc\_czechslovak@merck.com

#### **Magyarország**

MSD Pharma Hungary Kft.  
Tel.: +36 1 888 5300  
hungary\_msd@merck.com

#### **Danmark**

MSD Danmark ApS  
Tlf: +45 4482 4000  
dkmail@merck.com

#### **Malta**

Merck Sharp & Dohme Cyprus Limited  
Tel: 8007 4433 (+356 99917558)  
malta\_info@merck.com

#### **Deutschland**

MSD SHARP & DOHME GMBH  
Tel: 0800 673 673 673 (+49 (0) 89 4561 2612)  
e-mail@msd.de

#### **Nederland**

Merck Sharp & Dohme BV  
Tel: 0800 9999000 (+31 23 5153153)  
medicalinfo.nl@merck.com

#### **Eesti**

Merck Sharp & Dohme OÜ  
Tel.: +372 6144 200  
msdeesti@merck.com

#### **Norge**

MSD (Norge) AS  
Tlf: +47 32 20 73 00  
msdnorge@msd.no

#### **Ελλάδα**

MSD A.Φ.Β.Ε.Ε  
Τηλ: + 30-210 98 97 300  
dpoc\_greece@merck.com

#### **Österreich**

Merck Sharp & Dohme Ges.m.b.H.  
Tel: +43 (0) 1 26 044  
msd-medizin@merck.com

**España**

Merck Sharp & Dohme de España, S.A.  
Tel: +34 91 321 06 00  
msd\_info@merck.com

**France**

MSD France  
Tél: + 33 (0) 1 80 46 40 40

**Hrvatska**

Merck Sharp & Dohme d.o.o.  
Tel: + 385 1 66 11 333  
croatia\_info@merck.com

**Ireland**

Merck Sharp & Dohme Ireland (Human Health)  
Limited  
Tel: +353 (0)1 2998700  
medinfo\_ireland@merck.com

**Ísland**

Vistor hf.  
Sími: +354 535 7000

**Italia**

MSD Italia S.r.l.  
Tel: +39 06 361911  
medicalinformation.it@merck.com

**Κύπρος**

Merck Sharp & Dohme Cyprus Limited  
Τηλ: 80000 673 (+357 22866700)  
cyprus\_info@merck.com

**Latvija**

SIA Merck Sharp & Dohme Latvija  
Tel: +371 67364224  
msd\_lv@merck.com

**Polska**

MSD Polska Sp. z o.o.  
Tel.: +48 22 549 51 00  
msdpolska@merck.com

**Portugal**

Merck Sharp & Dohme, Lda  
Tel: +351 21 4465808  
clic@merck.com

**România**

Merck Sharp & Dohme Romania S.R.L.  
Tel: +4021 529 29 00  
msdromania@merck.com

**Slovenija**

Merck Sharp & Dohme, inovativna zdravila  
d.o.o.  
Tel: + 386 1 5204 201  
msd\_slovenia@merck.com

**Slovenská republika**

Merck Sharp & Dohme, s. r. o.  
Tel.: +421 2 58282010  
dpoc\_czechslovak@merck.com

**Suomi/Finland**

MSD Finland Oy  
Puh/Tel: +358 (0)9 804 650  
info@msd.fi

**Sverige**

Merck Sharp & Dohme (Sweden) AB  
Tel: +46 77 5700488  
medicinskinfo@merck.com

**United Kingdom**

Merck Sharp & Dohme Limited  
Tel: +44 (0) 1992 467272  
medicalinformationuk@merck.com

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Detailed information on this medicine is available on the European Medicines Agency web site:  
<http://www.ema.europa.eu>.

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