Genentech
A Member of the Roche Group

IMPORTANT PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

October 2021

Subject: Temporary Shortage of Activase® (alteplase) 100 mg Kits and Instructions for Alternate Preparation of Activase Doses Exceeding 50 mg

Dear Health Care Provider,

The purpose of this communication is to inform providers of a temporary supply shortage of Activase 100 mg kits (NDC 50242-0085-27) and to provide instructions for preparing Activase doses exceeding 50 mg. Currently the co-packed transfer device in the Activase 100 mg kit is unavailable, resulting in a shortage of Activase 100 mg kits. Until availability is restored, Genentech recommends using two Activase 50 mg vials (NDC 50242-0044-13) for doses exceeding 50 mg. The Health Care Provider Action section below describes dose preparation using Activase 50 mg vials which is different from preparation of Activase 100 mg vials. Sites may need to assess internal processes to use with the Activase 50 mg vial configuration.

This shortage is temporary. The disruption is limited to the 100 mg kits and we do not anticipate supply limitations in 50 mg.

This shortage is not due to any quality issue or safety concerns with Activase (alteplase) 100 mg powder or diluent for reconstitution.

Approved Indications
Activase is indicated for the treatment of:

- Acute Ischemic Stroke (AIS)
  - Exclude intracranial hemorrhage as the primary cause of stroke signs and symptoms prior to initiation of treatment. Initiate treatment as soon as possible but within 3 hours after symptom onset.
- Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI) to reduce mortality and incidence of heart failure
  - Limitation of Use: The risk of stroke may outweigh the benefit produced by thrombolytic therapy in patients whose AMI puts them at low risk for death or heart failure
- Acute Massive Pulmonary Embolism (AMPE) for lysis, defined as:
  - Acute pulmonary emboli obstructing blood flow to a lobe or multiple lung segments
  - Acute pulmonary emboli accompanied by unstable hemodynamics, eg, failure to maintain blood pressure without supportive measures

Health Care Provider Action
Due to this temporary shortage, in place of the 100 mg kits, consider preparing doses of Activase exceeding 50 mg from 2 vials of Activase 50 mg. For patients requiring a dose more than 50 mg, the full instructions for preparation using Activase 50 mg vials can be accessed at: https://www.gene.com/download/pdf/activase_instructions_for_alternate_preparation.pdf.

Also, to avoid any delays in patient treatment, sites may need to assess, identify and modify internal processes to ensure appropriate time to care including:

- availability of adequate storage for the Activase 50 mg cartons and preparation supplies e.g., syringes, needles, empty polyvinyl IV bags
- any need to change preparation procedures e.g., from bedside to the pharmacy
- any need to make the preparation instructions available to the relevant staff
- any additional staff training

For additional information on the treatment of AIS, AMI, and AMPE, please refer to your medical society guidelines (references 1-3).

Please forward a copy of this communication and the instructions for preparation to any individuals or teams who may be affected by this temporary shortage.

Reporting Adverse Events and Product Complaints
Health Care Providers should report any adverse events and product complaints suspected to be associated with the use of Activase to Genentech at 1-888-835-2555 and 1-800-334-0290, respectively.

Alternatively, this information may be reported to FDA's MedWatch reporting system by phone (1-800-FDA-1088) or online (www.fda.gov/medwatch).

Company Contact Point
Should you have any questions about the information in this letter or the safe and effective use of Activase, please feel free to contact the Genentech Medical Information/Communications Department at 1-800-821-8590.

This letter is not intended as a complete description of the benefits and risks related to the use of Activase. Please refer to the full prescribing information.

Genentech is diligently working to increase supply and to ensure Health Care Providers can continue to deliver Activase in a timely manner to patients in need. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Jamie Freedman
Head of U.S. Medical Affairs

References:

1. Clinical practice guidelines for the management of ST-elevation myocardial infarction have been issued by the American College of Cardiology (www.acc.org) and the American Heart Association (www.heart.org).
2. Clinical practice guidelines for management of acute massive pulmonary embolism have been published by the American College of Chest Physicians (www.chestnet.org), the American Heart Association (www.heart.org), and the Pulmonary Embolism Response Team (www.pertconsortium.org).
3. Clinical practice guidelines and standards for the management of acute ischemic stroke have been released by American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (www.stroke.org), Society of Vascular and Interventional Neurology (www.svin.org), and the Society of Neurointerventional Surgery (www.snisonline.org).