



Shortage of Increlex (mecasermin) Solution for subcutaneous injection

Indication	Increlex is used for the long-term treatment of patients aged 2 to 18 years who are of short stature due to a condition known as 'severe primary insulin-like growth factor-1 deficiency'.
Reason for shortage	Manufacturing difficulties led to a shortage in the supply of Increlex in August 2013. These problems have now been addressed by the company and the shortage is therefore resolved. Information issued previously by the EMA on the supply of Increlex can be found here .
Member States affected¹	All European Union (EU) Member States where Increlex was previously available.
Information to healthcare professionals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A letter from the marketing authorisation holder has been sent out to healthcare professionals informing them that the shortage is now resolved.• Patients whose treatment had to be interrupted should be restarted as per dosing recommendations in the Summary of Product Characteristics.• Patients and carers should be re-trained in how to safely use mecasermin.• To ensure an orderly return to normal supply levels, healthcare professionals are advised to limit initial prescriptions to one month.• Patients should be assessed one month after starting or re-starting mecasermin. If treatment has been well tolerated, prescriptions for longer periods may be issued.• The marketing authorisation holder has established an advisory board of external experts to answer any queries from healthcare professionals. Contact details are included in the letter that was sent to healthcare professionals and are available from the company. <p>Additional advice may be available from the national competent authority.</p>

¹ This information may change. For accurate information about the status of a medicine shortage in a particular member state the national competent authority should be contacted.



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Information to patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The shortage of Increlex is now resolved.• Increlex may be prescribed again by your doctor.• If you are self-injecting Increlex your healthcare professional will remind you how to do this.• If you have any questions should speak to your doctor or pharmacist.• Additional advice may be available from the national competent authority.• Patients may also contact Eurordis, an organisation representing people with rare disease in Europe.
Status	Resolved
Date of last update	19 December 2013