

**PART III: CONSUMER INFORMATION****Pr DEPO-MEDROL WITH LIDOCAINE\*  
(sterile methylprednisolone acetate 40 mg/mL and  
lidocaine hydrochloride 10 mg/mL)**

This leaflet is part III of a three-part "Product Monograph" published when DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine was approved for sale in Canada and is designed specifically for Consumers. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine. Contact your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions about the drug.

**ABOUT THIS MEDICATION****What the medication is used for:**

DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine is used as an adjunctive treatment of acute or worsening (exacerbation) inflammation of joints and tendons.

**What it does:**

DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine contains a corticosteroid hormone and a local anaesthetic. It decreases the body's immune response to certain diseases and it helps to reduce pain and inflammation.

**When it should not be used:**

**Do not take DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine if you have:**

- allergies to methylprednisolone acetate or any other steroid medicine or lidocaine or any similar local anaesthetics or any of the other ingredients in DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine; or
- any fungal infection; or
- a blood condition called idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (low platelet count), if DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine is administered intramuscularly; or
- received certain types of vaccines (shots) that are live or live-attenuated; or
- viral diseases including vaccinia (cow pox), varicella (chicken pox), and herpes simplex of the eye; or
- unstable joints when DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine is injected into the joint.

DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine should not

- be injected into your veins or your spine; or
- be given to premature infants because the formulation contains benzyl alcohol.

**What the medicinal ingredients are:**

Methylprednisolone acetate and lidocaine hydrochloride.

**What the nonmedicinal ingredients are:**

Benzyl alcohol, myristyl gamma picolinium chloride, polyethylene glycol 3350 and sodium chloride.

**What dosage forms it comes in:**

1, 2 and 5 mL vials containing 40 mg/mL methylprednisolone acetate and 10 mg/mL lidocaine hydrochloride of suspension.

**WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**

DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine is not to be injected into the vein (intravenous), or into the spinal cord (intrathecal).

Before taking DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine, talk to your doctor if you have:

- an infection (such as herpes simplex, chicken pox, tuberculosis, threadworm);
- recently had myocardial infarction (heart attack);
- thromboembolic disorders (bleeding or blood clotting problems);
- brittle bone (osteoporosis);
- high blood pressure;
- water retention (oedema);
- seizures (fits);
- thyroid problem;
- muscle pain or weakness (such as myasthenia gravis);
- skin cancer (Kaposi's sarcoma);
- heart problems such as heart failure;
- certain eye diseases such as glaucoma, cataracts; herpes infection;
- kidney disease;
- liver disease such as cirrhosis;
- certain mental or mood conditions (such as depression);
- stomach or gut problems (ulcer, ulcerative colitis);
- low potassium or calcium;
- Cushing's disease (caused by an excess of cortisol hormone);
- weak immune response;
- high blood sugar.

**Before you have any operation**, tell your doctor, dentist or anesthetist that you are taking DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine.

**Pregnancy and breast feeding**

You must tell your doctor if you are pregnant, think you might be pregnant or are trying to become pregnant as this medicine could slow the baby's growth.

You should also tell your doctor if you are breast feeding as small amounts of corticosteroid medicines may get into breast milk. It is not known whether Lidocaine can get into breast milk.

**Children:**

Corticosteroids can affect growth in children.

DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine contains benzyl alcohol and is not recommended to be used in infants since benzyl alcohol has been reported to cause “gasping syndrome” that may result in death.

### INTERACTIONS WITH THIS MEDICATION

Before taking DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine talk to your doctor about all your other medications, including those you bought without prescription, herbal or natural products. The following may interact with DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine:

- drugs to treat glaucoma and epilepsy such as acetazolamide
- drugs to prevent or alleviate nausea and vomiting such as aprepitant or fosaprepitant
- drugs to treat cancer such as aminoglutethimide or cyclophosphamide
- drugs to “thin” the blood; anticoagulants such as acenocoumarol, phenindione and warfarin
- drugs to treat myasthenia gravis (a muscle condition) such as distigmine and neostigmine
- antibiotics and antifungals (such as ketoconazole, itraconazole, amphotericin B, erythromycin, clarithromycin, troleandomycin, rifampicin and rifabutin)
- aspirin and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicines (also called NSAIDs) such as ibuprofen
- drugs to treat epilepsy such as barbiturates, carbamazepine, phenytoin and primidone
- drugs for heartburn and acid indigestion such as cimetidine
- cyclosporine
- drugs for heart problems or high blood pressure such as calcium channel blockers, digoxin and diltiazem
- water pills (diuretics)
- hormone replacement therapy or hormonal oral contraceptives
- drugs to treat HIV infections such as indinavir or ritonavir
- pancuronium or vecuronium – or other medicines called neuromuscular blocking agents which are used in some surgical procedures
- tacrolimus – used following an organ transplant to prevent rejection of the organ
- vaccines – tell your doctor or nurse if you have recently had, or are about to have any vaccination
- drugs to treat diabetes
- drugs to treat tuberculosis
- drugs to treat high cholesterol (cholestyramine)
- aromatase inhibitors (drugs to treat breast or ovarian cancer)
- immunosuppressants (drugs that suppress or reduce the strength of the body's immune system)

Do not drink grapefruit juice while taking DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine.

### Driving and Using Machines

DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine may cause dizziness, vertigo, vision problems and fatigue. If you experience these side effects you should not drive or operate machinery.

### PROPER USE OF THIS MEDICATION

DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine is to be given to you as an injection into the joint (intra-articular or intra-synovial, peri-articular and intrabursal injection) or the tendon (intratendinous or intra-ganglion injection) by your health care provider. The dose of DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine will depend on your condition and how severe it is.

When your condition has improved, your dose will be reduced gradually. DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine should not be stopped abruptly.

### Overdose:

In case of drug overdose, contact a health care practitioner, hospital emergency department or regional Poison Control Centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

### SIDE EFFECTS AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM

Like all medicines, DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine can have side effects although not everybody gets them.

DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine may hide symptoms of infections, may cause latent infections to become active, and may induce infections by normally inoffensive organisms due to lowered body resistance.

Potential side effects with DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine include:

#### Allergic Reactions:

- anaphylaxis (a severe, life-threatening allergic reaction)
- cardiac arrest
- bronchospasm (narrowing of the airway)
- trouble breathing

#### Cardiovascular:

- heart failure
- heart attack
- arrhythmia (irregular heartbeat)
- bradycardia (slow heartbeat)
- high and low blood pressure
- blood clots
- thrombophlebitis (vein inflammation)

#### Dermatologic:

- thin fragile skin
- impaired wound healing

- swelling
- ecchymosis (spots caused by ruptured blood vessels)
- petechiae (reddish spot containing blood that appears in skin)
- stretch marks
- dry, scaly skin
- rash
- redness
- itching
- acne
- increased sweating
- injection site reaction
- lightening or darkening of an area of skin
- abscess
- suppressed reaction to skin tests
- thinning hair

**Endocrine and Metabolism:**

- development of Cushingoid state (abnormal bodily condition caused by excess corticosteroids)
- moon face (enlargement of chin and forehead)
- weight gain
- abnormal fat deposits
- suppression of pituitary-adrenal axis (a condition that could lead to disabling the body's responses to physiological stress such as severe infections or trauma)
- suppression of growth in children
- abnormal hair growth
- new symptoms of diabetes

**Gastrointestinal:**

- stomach ulcer
- stomach bleeding
- inflammation of the pancreas and esophagus
- perforation of the bowel
- nausea
- vomiting or altered sense of taste (with rapid administration of large doses)
- abdominal pain
- bloating
- diarrhea
- indigestion
- bowel/bladder dysfunction
- increased appetite
- peritonitis

**Hematology:**

- Above normal white blood cell count
- Above normal cholesterol or triglycerides

**Hepatic:**

- enlarged liver

**Musculoskeletal:**

- loss of muscle mass
- muscle weakness
- muscle pain
- malaise (feeling of general discomfort or uneasiness)
- osteoporosis
- pathological fractures
- vertebral compression fractures
- tendon rupture, (particularly of the Achilles tendon)
- Charcot joint disease (neuropathic arthropathy)
- pain and inflammation of the tissues surrounding the injection site
- joint pain

**Neurologic:**

- seizures
- headache
- vertigo
- pain and tenderness
- impaired sensation, strength, and reflexes
- sensation of tingling, tickling, prickling, or burning of a person's skin
- sensation of heat, cold, numbness
- twitching
- light-headedness
- dizziness
- drowsiness
- ringing in the ears
- tremors
- fainting
- amnesia
- dizziness

**Ophthalmologic:**

- cataracts
- increased intraocular pressure
- glaucoma
- bulging of the eye
- blurred or double vision
- blindness

**Psychiatric:**

- depression
- emotional instability
- euphoria (intense feelings of well-being, elation, happiness, excitement and joy)
- insomnia
- mood swings
- personality changes
- nervousness
- apprehension
- confusion
- thoughts of suicide
- delusion

- hallucination
- confusion
- schizophrenia
- anxiety

**Sexual Function/Reproduction:**

- menstrual irregularities
- increased or decreased motility and number of sperm

**Other:**

- hiccups, fatigue, irritability, swelling

<b>SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS, HOW OFTEN THEY HAPPEN AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM</b>			
Symptom / effect	Talk with your doctor or pharmacist		Seek IMMEDIATE medical attention
	Only if severe	In all cases	
Burst or bleeding ulcers: symptoms of which are stomach pain, bleeding from the back passage, black or bloodstained stools and/or vomiting blood			√
Flare up of a previous TB* : symptoms of which could be coughing blood or pain in the chest			√
Serious allergic reaction: symptoms of which include rash, itching/swelling (especially of the face/tongue/throat), severe dizziness and trouble breathing			√
Signs of infection (such as persistent fever/cough/sore throat, painful urination, eye pain/discharge)		√	
High blood pressure (symptoms of which are headaches or generally feeling unwell)		√	

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	Only if severe	In all cases	
Fast/pounding/irregular heartbeat		√	
Swelling		√	
Cramps and spasms		√	
Vision changes		√	
Increased thirst/urination		√	
Mental/mood changes (such as mood swings, depression, suicidal thinking, agitation, anxiety)		√	
Tendon pain			√
Bone/joint pain			√
Easy bruising/bleeding			√
Pain/redness/swelling at the injection site	√		
Thinning skin	√		
Poor wound healing	√		
Unusual hair growth	√		
Unusual skin growth (nodules or blotches that may be red, purple, brown, or black and may be raised)		√	

*This is not a complete list of side effects. For any unexpected effects while taking DEPO-MEDROL with Lidocaine, contact your doctor or pharmacist.*

**HOW TO STORE IT**

Store between 15°C and 30°C. Protect from freezing. Keep out of reach and sight of children.

**REPORTING SUSPECTED SIDE EFFECTS**

You can report any suspected adverse reactions associated with the use of health products to the Canada Vigilance Program by one of the following 3 ways:

- Report online at [www.healthcanada.gc.ca/medeffect](http://www.healthcanada.gc.ca/medeffect)
- Call toll-free at 1-866-234-2345
- Complete a Canada Vigilance Reporting Form and:
  - Fax toll-free to 1-866-678-6789, or
  - Mail to: Canada Vigilance Program  
Health Canada  
Postal Locator 0701E  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0K9

Postage paid labels, Canada Vigilance Reporting Form and the adverse reaction reporting guidelines are available on the MedEffect™ Canada Web site at [www.healthcanada.gc.ca/medeffect](http://www.healthcanada.gc.ca/medeffect).

*NOTE: Should you require information related to the management of side effects, contact your health professional. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.*

**MORE INFORMATION**

This document plus the full Product Monograph, prepared for health professionals can be found at:

<http://www.pfizer.ca>

or by contacting the sponsor, Pfizer Canada Inc., at: 1-800-463-6001.

This leaflet was prepared by Pfizer Canada Inc.

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