



NUCALA

Frequently asked questions

*Please visit **NUCALA.ca** for more information*

This brochure is intended for patients who have been prescribed NUCALA in the autoinjector or pre-filled safety syringe. For full information, please refer to the patient information leaflet that came with the NUCALA carton.

If you need to report an adverse event for any GlaxoSmithKline product, please call: 1-800-387-7374.

Always read the patient information leaflet before taking this medicine. If you have any questions, speak to your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. If you think you may be having a reaction to NUCALA, stop taking NUCALA and seek medical attention immediately.



Q.

I've found out I have severe eosinophilic asthma. What does this mean?

A.

Severe eosinophilic asthma is a type of severe asthma in which there is a presence of eosinophils (a type of white blood cell). Eosinophils have an important role in helping your body fight off infections. But for some people, eosinophils are also associated with inflammation of the airways that can cause your asthma to get worse or can increase the number of asthma attacks.





Q.

What is NUCALA and how does it work?

A.

NUCALA (also known as mepolizumab) is a prescription medicine used in addition to other asthma medicines, specifically designed to treat adults with severe eosinophilic asthma, whose asthma is not controlled with their current asthma medicines, such as high-dose inhalers. It's an injection you take once every 4 weeks – either at home or at your doctor's office – in addition to your current asthma medications.

NUCALA works by binding to a specific protein called interleukin-5. By blocking the action of interleukin-5, NUCALA limits the production of more eosinophils from the bone marrow and lowers the number of eosinophils in the blood, lungs, and tissues.

NUCALA is not used to treat acute asthma symptoms, such as a sudden asthma attack.





Q.

I've been prescribed NUCALA to take at home. How often should I use it?

A.

You need to take NUCALA every 4 weeks as prescribed by your doctor, even if you're feeling better. NUCALA is taken in addition to your other asthma medications.

It may be easier to remember to take NUCALA every 4 weeks if you make it part of your routine. You can also write down your upcoming injection dates in a calendar.





Q.

How should I store my NUCALA at home?

A.

Until you need it, keep your NUCALA in its original carton, in your fridge (between 2–8°C), and out of the light. If necessary, unopened cartons can be stored at below 30°C for up to 7 days (again, out of the light).

**A few important things to remember:
do not freeze or shake your NUCALA,
and do not store it above 30°C.**

Safely dispose of any NUCALA that is expired or no longer needed. Throw the NUCALA away if it has been kept out of the refrigerator for more than 7 days when stored in the original carton. Throw the NUCALA away if the carton is opened and not used within 8 hours. Speak to your pharmacist if you have any questions about this.





Q.

How do I use my NUCALA at home?

A.

Please follow the instructions provided in the carton with your medicine. Detailed instructions on preparing your NUCALA and your injection site, as well as instructions for self-injecting, can also be found in the 'Instructions for Use' brochure that came with the NUCALA Patient Welcome Kit. If you have any questions, please ask your doctor.

You can also watch the 'Instructions for Use' video, available at NUCALA.ca.





Q.

***How do I safely dispose of my
NUCALA?***

A.

You should safely dispose of your used or expired NUCALA as per your local requirements.

When your sharps disposal container is almost full, you will need to follow your community guidelines for the right way to dispose of it.





For more information about how to safely dispose of your autoinjectors or pre-filled safety syringes, speak to your healthcare professional or visit healthsteward.ca.*

Do not throw away your used sharps disposal container in your household trash unless your community guidelines permit this.

Do not recycle your used sharps disposal container.

**Keep your sharps disposal container
out of the reach of children.**

*Healthsteward.ca is a third-party website that is not managed or monitored by GSK.



Q.

***What if I miss
a dose?***

A.

If you realize you've missed a dose, you or your caregiver should inject the next dose of NUCALA as soon as you remember. Then, you can resume dosing on the usual day of administration.

If it is already time for your next dose, then just inject the next dose as planned. If you are not sure what to do, ask your healthcare professional.





Q.

***How do I travel
with my NUCALA?***

A.

Travelling with NUCALA may be possible. Speak to your healthcare professional before doing so. Remember that you need to keep it in the original packaging and protected from light. You may keep NUCALA at room temperature, below 30°C, for no more than 7 days when kept in the original carton.

If you do take your medicine out of its carton, it should be used within 8 hours. Throw the NUCALA away if it has been kept out of the refrigerator for more than 7 days when stored in the original carton. Throw the NUCALA away if the carton is opened and not used within 8 hours.





Q.

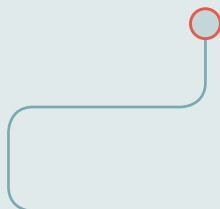
Will NUCALA work for me?

A.

Your doctor has prescribed NUCALA for you because they think it will help treat your severe eosinophilic asthma. Speak to your doctor if you have any questions. It may be a good idea to keep track of your asthma symptoms and share this at your appointments so that your doctor can follow any progress you may have.

It is important that you don't stop using NUCALA unless advised by your doctor. Interrupting or stopping the treatment with NUCALA may cause your symptoms to become worse or occur more frequently.

If your symptoms get worse when being treated with NUCALA, tell your doctor immediately.





Q.

What possible side effects might I get?

A.

Like all medication, NUCALA can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. The side effects caused by NUCALA are usually mild to moderate but can occasionally be serious.

Allergic reactions

Some people may have allergic or allergic-like reactions. They usually occur within minutes to hours after the injection, but sometimes symptoms can start up to several days later. You may experience this type of reaction even if it is not your first injection of NUCALA.

Symptoms can include:

- Becoming very wheezy, cough, difficulty breathing, chest tightness
 - Fainting, dizziness, suddenly feeling weak or lightheaded (due to a drop in blood pressure)
 - Swelling of your eyelids, face, lips, tongue, mouth, and other areas of the body (angioedema), skin rash, hives, redness
- 



Stop taking NUCALA and seek medical attention immediately if you think you may be having a reaction.

Other side effects include:

**Very common side effects
(may affect more than 1 in 10 people):**

- ☐ Headache
- ☐ Joint pain
- ☐ Sinus infection
- ☐ Cough, sore throat, runny nose, nasal congestion
(upper respiratory tract infection)
- ☐ Diarrhea
- ☐ Vomiting
- ☐ Back pain
- ☐ Rash
- ☐ Neck pain
- ☐ Mouth and/or throat pain
- ☐ Injection site reaction (pain, redness, swelling, itching,
and burning sensation of the skin near where the injection
was given)



Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people):

- Sore throat (pharyngitis)
- Congestion, cough, discomfort, fever (lower respiratory tract infection)
- Stuffy nose (nasal congestion)
- Stomach pain or discomfort in the upper area of the stomach (upper abdominal pain)
- Itchy red patches on the skin (eczema)
- Urinary tract infection (blood in urination, painful and frequent urination, fever, pain in lower back)
- High temperature (fever)
- Muscle and/or bone pain
- Sensation of spinning or feeling off balance, dizziness (vertigo)
- Lack of energy, muscle weakness
- Sensation of tingling and/or numbness (paraesthesia)
- Blurry vision

These are not all the possible side effects that you may feel when taking NUCALA. If you experience any side effects not listed in the package leaflet, contact your healthcare professional.





Where can I get further support?



The Vista Patient Support Program helps support you with personalized services.

By enrolling in the Vista Patient Support Program, you get access to customized services, which may include:

Reimbursement navigation

- Coordination of insurance benefits
- Reimbursement coverage assessment

Financial assistance

- Co-pay assistance
- Bridging to coverage

Patient education and nursing support

- Access to a toll-free helpline, available Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm EST
- Registered nurses to provide patient education
- Injection services offered through your doctor's office or clinics affiliated with the patient support program

Pharmacy services

- Patient counselling by experienced specialty pharmacy staff
- Convenient, free delivery to your doctor's office or clinics affiliated with the patient support program

Talk to your doctor for more information about the Vista Patient Support Program.



Safety information

NUCALA is a prescription medicine used in addition to other asthma medicines to treat adult patients with severe eosinophilic asthma, whose asthma is not controlled with their current asthma medicines, such as high-dose inhalers.

Do not use NUCALA to treat acute asthma symptoms, such as a sudden asthma attack, or if you are allergic to mepolizumab or any of the other ingredients of this medicine.

Before you use NUCALA, talk to your healthcare professional if you: have had a severe allergic reaction with monoclonal antibodies before; are taking corticosteroids or other asthma medicines; have an existing parasitic infection, live in a region where parasitic infections are common, or if you are travelling to such a region; have not had chickenpox or chickenpox vaccine; are pregnant, think you may be pregnant, or are planning to become pregnant; breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed; are taking or have recently taken medicines, including drugs or medicines obtained without a prescription (vitamins, minerals, natural supplements, or alternative medicines).

Tell your healthcare team if your asthma symptoms remain uncontrolled or get worse while being treated with NUCALA.

NUCALA can cause serious side effects, including allergic reactions. Serious allergic reactions can happen after you take your injection of NUCALA, but can sometimes happen hours or days later. **Stop taking NUCALA and seek medical attention immediately if you have any of the following symptoms of an allergic reaction:** becoming very wheezy, cough, difficulty breathing, chest tightness; fainting, dizziness, suddenly feeling weak or lightheaded (due to a drop in blood pressure); swelling of your eyelids, face, lips, tongue, mouth, and other areas of the body (angioedema), skin rash, hives, redness. If you may have had a similar reaction before, tell your doctor before you take NUCALA.

The most common side effects of NUCALA (may affect more than 1 in 10 people) include: headache, joint pain, sinus infection, cough, sore throat, runny nose, nasal congestion (upper respiratory tract infection), diarrhea, vomiting, back pain, rash, neck pain, mouth and/or throat pain, injection site reaction (pain, redness, swelling, itching, and burning sensation of the skin near where the injection was given).

If you have any other questions, please speak to your healthcare professional.

Nucala 
mepolizumab

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