

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

### **Vimpat 10 mg/ml solution for infusion** lacosamide

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using 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 or pharmacist.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

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

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

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

#### **What Vimpat is**

Vimpat contains lacosamide. This belongs to a group of medicines called “antiepileptic medicines”. These medicines are used to treat epilepsy.

- You have been given this medicine to lower the number of fits (seizures) you have.

#### **What Vimpat is used for**

- Vimpat is used:
  - on its own and in association with other antiepileptic medicines in adults, adolescents and children aged 2 years and older to treat a certain type of epilepsy characterised by the occurrence of partial-onset seizure with or without secondary generalisation. In this type of epilepsy, fits first affect only one side of your brain. However, these may then spread to larger areas on both sides of your brain;
  - in association with other antiepileptic medicines in adults, adolescents and children aged 4 years and older to treat primary generalised tonic-clonic seizures (major fits, including loss of consciousness) in patients with idiopathic generalised epilepsy (the type of epilepsy that is thought to have a genetic cause).

### **2. What you need to know before you use Vimpat**

#### **Do not use Vimpat**

- if you are allergic to lacosamide, or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6). If you are not sure whether you are allergic, please discuss with your doctor.
- if you have a certain type of heart beat problem called second- or third-degree AV block.

Do not use Vimpat if any of the above applies to you. If you are not sure, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using this medicine.

#### **Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor before using Vimpat if:

- you have thoughts of harming or killing yourself. A small number of people being treated with antiepileptic medicinal products such as lacosamide have had thoughts of harming or killing themselves. If you have any of these thoughts at any time, tell your doctor straight away.
- you have a heart problem that affects the beat of your heart and you often have a particularly

- slow, fast or irregular heart beat (such as AV block, atrial fibrillation and atrial flutter).
- you have severe heart disease such as heart failure or have had a heart attack.
- you are often dizzy or fall over. Vimpat may make you dizzy - this could increase the risk of accidental injury or a fall. This means that you should take care until you are used to the effects of this medicine.

If any of the above apply to you (or you are not sure), talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Vimpat.

If you are taking Vimpat, talk to your doctor if you are experiencing a new type of seizure or worsening of existing seizures.

If you are taking Vimpat and you are experiencing symptoms of abnormal heartbeat (such as slow, rapid or irregular heartbeat, palpitations, shortness of breath, feeling lightheaded, fainting), seek medical advice immediately (see section 4).

### **Children**

Vimpat is not recommended for children aged under 2 years with epilepsy characterised by the occurrence of partial-onset seizure and not recommended for children aged under 4 years with primary generalised tonic-clonic seizures. This is because we do not yet know whether it will work and whether it is safe for children in this age group.

### **Other medicines and Vimpat**

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

In particular, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any of the following medicines that affect your heart - this is because Vimpat can also affect your heart:

- medicines to treat heart problems;
- medicines which can increase the “PR interval” on a scan of the heart (ECG or electrocardiogram) such as medicines for epilepsy or pain called carbamazepine, lamotrigine or pregabalin;
- medicines used to treat certain types of irregular heart beat or heart failure.

If any of the above apply to you (or you are not sure), talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Vimpat.

Also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any of the following medicines - this is because they may increase or decrease the effect of Vimpat on your body:

- medicines for fungal infections such as fluconazole, itraconazole or ketoconazole;
- a medicine for HIV such as ritonavir;
- medicines for bacterial infections such as clarithromycin or rifampicin;
- a herbal medicine used to treat mild anxiety and depression called St. John’s wort.

If any of the above apply to you (or you are not sure), talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Vimpat.

### **Vimpat with alcohol**

As a safety precaution do not use Vimpat with alcohol.

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

Fertile women should discuss the use of contraceptives with the doctor.

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 using this medicine.

It is not recommended to take Vimpat if you are pregnant, as the effects of Vimpat on pregnancy and the unborn baby are not known.

It is not recommended to breast-feed your baby while taking Vimpat, as Vimpat passes into the breast milk.

Seek advice immediately from your doctor if you get pregnant or are planning to become pregnant. They will help you decide if you should use Vimpat or not.

Do not stop treatment without talking to your doctor first as this could increase your fits (seizures). A worsening of your disease can also harm your baby.

### **Driving and using machines**

Do not drive, cycle or use any tools or machines until you know how this medicine affects you. This is because Vimpat may make you feel dizzy or cause blurred vision.

### **Vimpat contains sodium**

This medicine contains 59.8 mg sodium (main component of cooking/table salt) in each vial. This is equivalent to 3 % of the recommended maximum daily dietary intake of sodium for an adult.

## **3. How to use Vimpat**

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

### **Using Vimpat**

- Vimpat can be started by:
  - taking the medicine by mouth or
  - by being given as an intravenous infusion (sometimes called an “IV infusion”) where the medicine is given into your vein by a doctor or nurse. It is given over 15 to 60 minutes.
- The IV infusion is usually used for a short time when you cannot take the medicine by mouth.
- Your doctor will decide for how many days you will have infusions. There is experience with twice daily infusions of Vimpat for up to 5 days. For longer term treatment Vimpat tablets and syrup are available.

When you change from the infusion to taking the medicine by mouth (or the other way around) the total amount you take each day and how often you take it stays the same.

- Use Vimpat twice each day (approximately 12 hours apart).
- Try to use it at about the same time each day.

### **How much to use**

Listed below are the normal recommended doses of Vimpat for different age groups and weights. Your doctor may prescribe a different dose if you have problems with your kidneys or with your liver.

### **Adolescents and children weighing 50 kg or more and adults**

#### When you use Vimpat on its own

- The usual starting dose of Vimpat is 50 mg twice a day.
- The treatment with Vimpat may also start with a dose of 100 mg of Vimpat twice a day.
- Your doctor may increase your twice daily dose every week by 50 mg. This will be until you reach a maintenance dose of between 100 mg and 300 mg twice a day.

#### When you use Vimpat with other antiepileptic medicines

- The usual starting dose of Vimpat is 50 mg twice a day.
- Your doctor may increase your twice daily dose every week by 50 mg. This will be until you reach a maintenance dose of between 100 mg and 200 mg twice a day.
- If you weigh 50 kg or more, your doctor may decide to start Vimpat treatment with a single “loading” dose of 200 mg. You would then start your ongoing maintenance dose 12 hours later.

### **Children and adolescents weighing less than 50 kg**

- *In the treatment of partial-onset seizure:* Observe that Vimpat is not recommended for children under 2 years of age.
- *In the treatment of primary generalised tonic-clonic seizures:* Observe that Vimpat is not recommended for children under 4 years of age.

When you use Vimpat on its own

- Your doctor will decide the dose of Vimpat based on your body weight.
- The usual starting dose is 1 mg (0.1 ml), for each kilogram (kg) of body weight, twice a day.
- Your doctor may then increase your twice daily dose every week by 1 mg (0.1 ml), for each kg of your body weight. This will be until you reach a maintenance dose.
- Dosing charts including the maximum recommended dose are provided below. This is for information only. Your doctor will work out the right dose for you.

**To be used twice daily** for children from 2 years of age **weighing from 10 kg to less than 40 kg**

Weight	Week 1 Starting dose: 0.1 ml/kg	Week 2 0.2 ml/kg	Week 3 0.3 ml/kg	Week 4 0.4 ml/kg	Week 5 0.5 ml/kg	Week 6 Maximum recommended dose: 0.6 ml/kg
10 kg	1 ml	2 ml	3 ml	4 ml	5 ml	6 ml
15 kg	1.5 ml	3 ml	4.5 ml	6 ml	7.5 ml	9 ml
20 kg	2 ml	4 ml	6 ml	8 ml	10 ml	12 ml
25 kg	2.5 ml	5 ml	7.5 ml	10 ml	12.5 ml	15 ml
30 kg	3 ml	6 ml	9 ml	12 ml	15 ml	18 ml
35 kg	3.5 ml	7 ml	10.5 ml	14 ml	17.5 ml	21 ml

**To be used twice daily** for children and adolescents **weighing from 40 kg to less than 50 kg**

Weight	Week 1 Starting dose: 0.1 ml/kg	Week 2 0.2 ml/kg	Week 3 0.3 ml/kg	Week 4 0.4 ml/kg	Week 5 Maximum recommended dose: 0.5 ml/kg
40 kg	4 ml	8 ml	12 ml	16 ml	20 ml
45 kg	4.5 ml	9 ml	13.5 ml	18 ml	22.5 ml

When you use Vimpat with other antiepileptic medicines

- Your doctor will decide the dose of Vimpat based on your body weight.
- For children and adolescents weighing from 10 kg to less than 50 kg, the usual starting dose is 1 mg (0.1 ml), for each kilogram (kg) of body weight, twice a day.
- Your doctor may then increase your twice daily dose every week by 1 mg (0.1 ml) for each kg of body weight. This will be until you reach a maintenance dose.
- Dosing charts including the maximum recommended dose are provided below. This is for information only. Your doctor will work out the right dose for you.

**To be used twice daily** for children from 2 years of age **weighing from 10 kg to less than 20 kg**

Weight	Week 1 Starting dose: 0.1 ml/kg	Week 2 0.2 ml/kg	Week 3 0.3 ml/kg	Week 4 0.4 ml/kg	Week 5 0.5 ml/kg	Week 6 Maximum recommended dose: 0.6 ml/kg
10 kg	1 ml	2 ml	3 ml	4 ml	5 ml	6 ml
15 kg	1.5 ml	3 ml	4.5 ml	6 ml	7.5 ml	9 ml

**To be used twice daily for children and adolescents weighing from 20 kg to less than 30 kg**

Weight	Week 1 Starting dose: 0.1 ml/kg	Week 2 0.2 ml/kg	Week 3 0.3 ml/kg	Week 4 0.4 ml/kg	Week 5 Maximum recommended dose: 0.5 ml/kg
20 kg	2 ml	4 ml	6 ml	8 ml	10 ml
25 kg	2.5 ml	5 ml	7.5 ml	10 ml	12.5 ml

**To be used twice daily for children and adolescents weighing from 30 kg to less than 50 kg**

Weight	Week 1 Starting dose: 0.1 ml/kg	Week 2 0.2 ml/kg	Week 3 0.3 ml/kg	Week 4 Maximum recommended dose: 0.4 ml/kg
30 kg	3 ml	6 ml	9 ml	12 ml
35 kg	3.5 ml	7 ml	10.5 ml	14 ml
40 kg	4 ml	8 ml	12 ml	16 ml
45 kg	4.5 ml	9 ml	13.5 ml	18 ml

**If you stop using Vimpat**

If your doctor decides to stop your treatment with Vimpat, they will decrease the dose step by step. This is to prevent your epilepsy from coming back again or becoming worse.

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.

Nervous system side effects such as dizziness may be higher after a single “loading” dose.

**Talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you get any of the following:**

**Very common:** may affect more than 1 in 10 people

- Headache;
- Feeling dizzy or sick (nausea);
- Double vision (diplopia).

**Common:** may affect up to 1 in 10 people

- Short jerks of a muscle or group of muscles (myoclonic seizures);
- Difficulties in coordinating your movements or walking;
- Problems in keeping your balance, shaking (tremor), tingling (paresthesia) or muscle spasms, falling easily and getting bruises;
- Troubles with your memory, thinking or finding words, confusion;
- Rapid and uncontrollable movements of the eyes (nystagmus), blurred vision;
- A spinning sensation (vertigo), feeling drunk;
- Being sick (vomiting), dry mouth, constipation, indigestion, excessive gas in the stomach or bowel, diarrhoea;
- Decreased feeling or sensitivity, difficulty in articulating words, disturbance in attention;
- Noise in the ear such as buzzing, ringing or whistling;
- Irritability, trouble sleeping, depression;
- Sleepiness, tiredness or weakness (asthenia);
- Itching, rash.

**Uncommon:** may affect up to 1 in 100 people

- Slow heart rate, palpitations, irregular pulse or other changes in the electrical activity of your heart (conduction disorder);
- Exaggerated feeling of wellbeing, seeing and/or hearing things which are not there;
- Allergic reaction to medicine intake, hives;
- Blood tests may show abnormal liver function, liver injury;
- Thoughts of harming or killing yourself or attempting suicide: tell your doctor straight away;
- Feeling angry or agitated;
- Abnormal thinking or losing touch with reality;
- Serious allergic reaction which causes swelling of the face, throat, hands, feet, ankles, or lower legs;
- Fainting;
- Abnormal involuntary movements (dyskinesia).

**Not known:** frequency cannot be estimated from available data

- Abnormal rapid heartbeat (ventricular tachyarrhythmia);
- A sore throat, high temperature and getting more infections than usual. Blood tests may show a severe decrease in a specific class of white blood cells (agranulocytosis);
- A serious skin reaction which may include a high temperature and other flu-like symptoms, a rash on the face, extended rash, swollen glands (enlarged lymph nodes). Blood tests may show increased levels of liver enzymes and a type of white blood cell (eosinophilia);
- A widespread rash with blisters and peeling skin, particularly around the mouth, nose, eyes and genitals (Stevens–Johnson syndrome), and a more severe form causing skin peeling in more than 30 % of the body surface (toxic epidermal necrolysis);
- Convulsion.

#### **Additional side effects when given as an intravenous infusion**

There may be local side effects.

**Common:** may affect up to 1 in 10 people

- Injection site pain or discomfort or irritation.

**Uncommon:** may affect up to 1 in 100 people

- Injection site redness.

#### **Additional side effects in children**

The additional side effects in children were fever (pyrexia), runny nose (nasopharyngitis), sore throat (pharyngitis), eating less than usual (decreased appetite), changes in behaviour, not acting like themselves (abnormal behavior) and lacking in energy (lethargy). Feeling sleepy (somnolence) is a very common side effect in children and may affect more than 1 in 10 children.

#### **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 via:

Yellow Card Scheme

Website: [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard) or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store.

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

### **5. How to store Vimpat**

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 carton and vial after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not store above 25°C.

Each vial of Vimpat solution for infusion must be used only once (single use). Any unused solution should be discarded.

Only clear solution free from particles and discoloration should be used.

Do not throw away any 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 Vimpat contains**

- The active substance is lacosamide.  
1 ml Vimpat solution for infusion contains 10 mg lacosamide.  
1 vial contains 20 ml Vimpat solution for infusion equivalent to 200 mg lacosamide.
- The other ingredients are: sodium chloride, hydrochloric acid, water for injections.

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

- Vimpat 10 mg/ml solution for infusion is a clear, colourless solution.
- Vimpat solution for infusion is available in packages of 1 vial and 5 vials. Each vial contains 20 ml. Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder**

UCB Pharma Limited, 208 Bath Road, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 3WE, United Kingdom.

### **Manufacturer**

Aesica Pharmaceuticals GmbH, Alfred-Nobel Strasse 10, D-40789 Monheim am Rhein, Germany

**This leaflet was last revised in June 2022.**

### **The following information is intended for medical or healthcare professionals only.**

Each vial of Vimpat solution for infusion must be used only once (single use). Any unused solution should be discarded (see section 3).

Vimpat solution for infusion can be administered without further dilution, or may be diluted with the following solutions: sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9 %), glucose 50 mg/ml (5 %) or lactated Ringer's solution.

From a microbiological point of view, the product should be used immediately. If not used immediately, in-use storage times and conditions prior to use are the responsibility of the user and would not be longer than 24 hours at 2 to 8°C, unless dilution has taken place in controlled and validated aseptic conditions.

Chemical and physical in-use stability has been demonstrated for 24 hours at temperatures up to 25°C for product mixed with these diluents and stored in glass or PVC bags.