

# innohep® Important Information Card





### "innohep" All about blood clots<sup>2,3</sup>

#### What are blood clots?

A blood clot is a normal body process that helps stop bleeding after an injury, but sometimes clots form when they shouldn't.

When a blood vessel becomes damaged or if the blood flow is slowed down or stops, a blood clot can form. When this occurs in an artery or vein, it can act like a 'plug', changing the speed of blood flow or even blocking the flow entirely.

There are two types of clots (Venous Thromboembolism – VTE)

#### **Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT):**

a blood clot that forms deep inside a vein in the body, usually in the lower leg.

#### What are the symptoms of a DVT blood clot?

- Swelling of/or sense of heaviness in the leg or arm
- Pain, tenderness or cramping in the calf
- Redness, discolouration or warmth of the affected leg or arm

### **Pulmonary Embolism (PE):**

a blood clot that travels through your bloodstream to your lungs.

#### What are the symptoms of a PE blood clot?

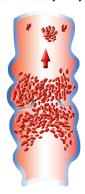
- Shortness of breath
- Chest pains with breathing
- Less commonly, feeling faint, light-headedness, dizziness, coughing up blood, upper back pain

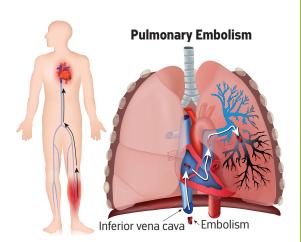
**Normal Vein** 

**Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT)** 









#### It's also important to know...

You can have a DVT/PE without any noticeable symptoms...this is referred to as asymptomatic, for example, your doctor may have diagnosed a DVT/PE when they were scanning for something else

# What are the risk factors that can increase the chance of having a blood clot?

□ Previous blood clots (DVT or PE)
□ Permanent IV catheter for chemotherapy
□ Recent major surgery
□ Obesity
□ Recent immobility, such as prolonged travel, siting, or bed rest
□ Chronic infection
□ A family history of DVT or PE
□ Age > 65 years

# Cancer Associated Thrombosis (CAT)<sup>4</sup>

Cancer treatments

Cancer

The risk of developing blood clots may be increased when someone has cancer due to a number of factors relating to the cancer itself and its treatment.

When a blood clot occurs in the context of cancer, it's referred to as cancer-associated thrombosis (CAT).

## Why do some cancer patients get blood clots?

When you have cancer, you are more likely to experience events like hospitalization, major surgery, immobility and/or ongoing infections, which increases your chances of having a clot. There are also features of cancer and cancer treatments that may increase the

risk for a blood clot. The reasons for this are not well understood, but the type of cancer, the severity/ stage of cancer and chemotherapy treatments all play a role.<sup>5</sup>

#### What you need to know...

Patients with cancer are four to six times more likely to develop a blood clot than people with out cancer due to changes in their blood, reduced activity, and the toxic effect cancer has on cells. Cancer treatment can further increase this risk.

If you have cancer, it is important that you tell your doctor if you have had a blood clot in the past or have a family history of blood clots.

If you have a blood clot, it is likely that you will be on anti-coagulant/blood thinning medication for 3-6 months or even longer.

#### It's important to remember...

- Cancer and its treatment increase your risk of developing a blood clot
- Recognizing the symptoms of a clot is important as clots can happen at any time
- If your doctor has diagnosed a DVT/PE even if you had no symptoms, you should always follow your doctor's instructions
- If you have any symptoms of a DVT or PE, go to the emergency room and seek medical care immediately

#### **Medical History** My information innohep® syringe Name:\_\_\_\_\_ prescribed (circle box): Address: \_\_\_\_\_ 8,000 anti-Xa IU/0.4 mL Home phone: 10,000 anti-Xa/0.5 mL Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email:\_\_\_\_\_ 12,000 anti-Xa/0.6 mL **Emergency contact** Name:\_\_\_\_\_ 14,000 anti-Xa/0.7 mL Address: \_\_\_\_\_ 16,000 anti-Xa/0.8 mL Home phone:\_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ 18.000 anti-Xa/0.9 mL Email:\_\_\_\_ Other medications (list all): **Medical information** Prescription drugs: Name of medical oncologist: Address: Nurse's name:\_\_\_\_\_ Nurse's contact:\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Over-the-counter medicines: Emergency phone number: Other healthcare professionals (ie. Hematologist and/or Internal medicine specialist): Natural Health Supplements: Name:\_\_\_\_\_ Phone:\_\_\_\_\_ Name:\_\_\_\_\_ Phone:\_\_\_\_\_

This card contains important information. Please carry this card with you at all times to inform healthcare professionals that you are receiving treatment with innohep®. This medicine can cause side effects. Your doctor will discuss these with you and any questions you may have.

#### About innohep®

This medication is used for the following:

- to prevent the formation of blood clots (venous thromboembolism) which can form as a complication of cancer, orthopaedic or general surgery and,
- to prevent and treat clots that have blocked a blood vessel (deep vein thrombosis) or that have formed in the lungs (pulmonary embolism) and,
- to prevent bloods clots forming in dialysis lines

# BEFORE you use innohep® talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you:

- □ have liver or kidney disease. Elderly patients should have their kidney function checked by the doctor
- have stomach or intestinal ulcers or have diabetes
- are asthmatic or have a sensitivity to sulphites

- □ have or have had serious bleeding, have a medical condition with a risk of bleeding or have low platelet levels
- have high blood pressure or had a stroke
- are pregnant, nursing or planning on becoming pregnant
- □ have a prosthetic heart valve
- if you need to consult with another doctor or see your dentist, be absolutely sure to tell them that you are being treated with innohep®

#### innohep® side effects

Administration of innohep® may result in bleeding which can have serious or life-threatening consequences. Strokes and serious internal bleeding have been reported. Innohep® is generally well tolerated when used according to directions for use.

Always have a conversation with your doctor before any dental or surgical procedures to discuss whether or not you should stop taking your innohep® temporarily.

Contact your doctor promptly if:

- persistent bleeding at the injection site and/or from surgical wounds
- bruising without apparent cause
- allergic reactions
- other bleeding such as a heavy nosebleed, blood in the urine, coughing or throwing up blood, or excessive bleeding from the gums while brushing your teeth
- purplish or reddish discolouration or pain and bruising around the injection site
- dizziness, rapid heartbeat, shortness of breath. These signs could indicate you are bleeding internally

If you fall and hit your head resulting in a loss of consciousness, headaches, nausea, dizziness, changes in speech or balance.

## Stop taking innohep® and call your doctor or pharmacist if:

Rare: Major bleeding events (e.g. at a surgical site, stroke, blood in the urine)

Rare: Allergic reaction (incl. severe asthmatic episode)

This is not a complete list of side effects. For any unexpected effects while taking innohep®, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

## 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
- 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 0701D, Ottawa, ON 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

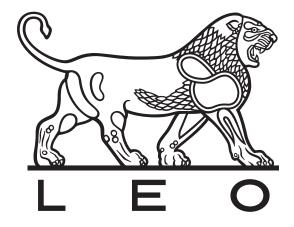
#### **Useful resources:**

Thrombosis Canada www.thrombosiscanada.ca

#### References

- Current innohep® product monograph. LEO Pharma Inc.
- Thrombosis Canada http://thrombosiscanada. ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/M159-You-Have-a-DVT Oct2016.pdf
- 3. Thrombosis Canada http://thrombosiscanada. ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/M159-You-Have-a-PE\_Oct2016.pdf
- 4. Thrombosis Canada http://thrombosiscanada. ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/M159-Cancer-Associated-Thrombosis\_Oct2016.pdf
- 5. Stoptheclot.org

The content was developed with involvement from Healthcare Professionals





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