

**PATIENT/CAREGIVER INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE -  
ORENCIA ABATACEPT INJECTION  
PREFILLED SYRINGE WITH BD ULTRASAFE  
PASSIVE™ NEEDLE GUARD WITH FLANGE  
EXTENDERS**

**Getting started with ORENCIA therapy**

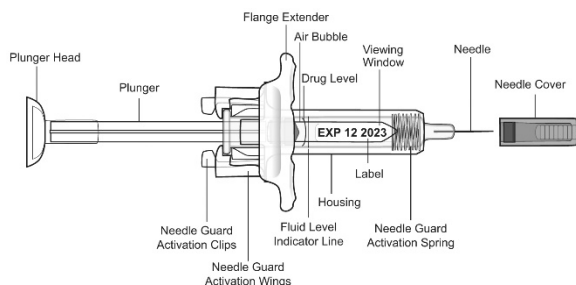
**Did you receive self-injection training from a healthcare professional?**

Your doctor or nurse should arrange for in-person training to familiarize you and/or your caregiver with the use of your prefilled syringe.

**Keep away from children and pets.**

**Your ORENCIA prefilled syringe with  
BD UltraSafe Passive™ Needle Guard with  
Flange Extenders overview**

**DO NOT REMOVE THE NEEDLE COVER  
(THE CAP) UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO  
INJECT**



**Figure 1**

- The ORENCIA prefilled syringe is designed for easy use by you or your caregiver. It has a flange extender that makes it easier to hold the syringe and inject and a needle guard that automatically extends over the needle after the injection is complete (see Figure 1).
- Always handle the syringe carefully, especially when you are around other people, children and animals.

**Before you use the ORENCIA prefilled syringe with BD UltraSafe Passive™ Needle Guard with Flange Extenders**

**Do**

- Always hold the syringe by the body of the syringe.
- Remove the syringe from the refrigerator 30 to 60 minutes prior to injecting.
- Check the expiration date on the carton and syringe (see Figure 1). Do not use if expired.
- Store unused syringes in the refrigerator in the original carton.
- Have your additional injection supplies ready prior to injection.
  - Supplies checklist: Alcohol swab, cotton ball or gauze, adhesive bandage and Sharps container (see Figure 2).

**Don't**

- Do not remove the needle cover until you are ready to inject.
- Do not pull back on the plunger at any time.
- Do not shake the ORENCIA syringe, as this may damage the medicine.
- **DO NOT FREEZE.** If product has been frozen, do not use.



**Figure 2**

**STEP 1: Get your syringe ready**

- A. Check the expiration date
- The expiration date can be found on the ORENCIA carton and on each syringe.

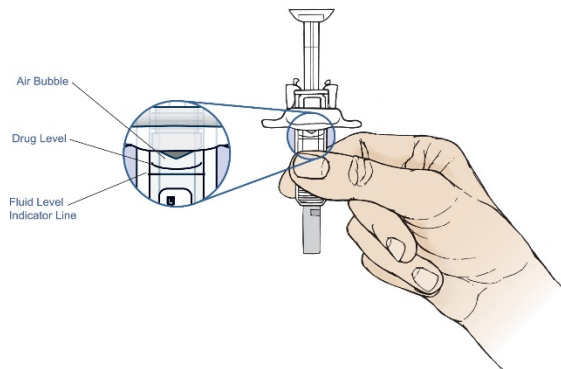
- If the expiration date has passed, do not use the prefilled syringe. Please contact your doctor or pharmacist for assistance.

B. Let it warm up for 30 to 60 minutes

- Find a comfortable space with a clean, flat working surface.
- Remove the syringe from the refrigerator. Keep remaining unused syringes in their original carton and keep in refrigerator. **DO NOT FREEZE.**
- Inspect the syringe for obvious flaws, **but do not remove needle cover.**
- Allow the syringe to rest at room temperature for at least 30 to 60 minutes prior to injection. This may allow for a more comfortable injection experience.
  - **Do not** speed the warming process in any way, such as using the microwave or placing the syringe in warm water.

C. Check the liquid in the prefilled syringe

- Hold your ORENCIA prefilled syringe by the housing with the covered needle pointing down (see Figure 3).



**Figure 3**

- Look at the liquid through the viewing window of your prefilled syringe. The liquid in your syringe should be clear to pale yellow. Do not inject if the liquid is cloudy, discolored or has large particles.
- Confirm the drug level is above the fluid indicator level (see Figure 3). Do not inject

if the drug level is outside of the fluid level indicator lines. It is normal to see an air bubble and there is no reason to remove it.

D. Gather your additional supplies and keep them within easy reach.

E. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water.

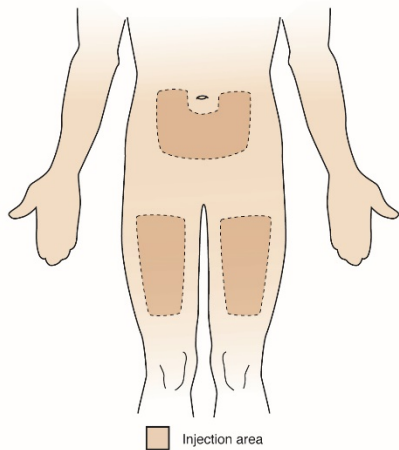
**STEP 2: Choose and prepare a section on your body for the injection (injection site)**

Have your ORENCIA prefilled syringe with BD UltraSafe Passive™ Needle Guard with Flange Extenders ready for use immediately after preparing the injection site.

A. Choose your injection site

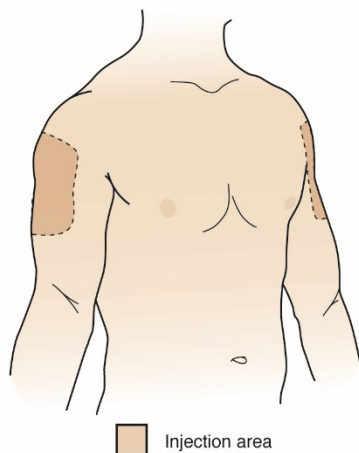
- The front of your thigh is a recommended injection area. You may use your abdomen except for the 2-inch area around the navel (see Figure 4).
- The outer area of the upper arms may also be used only if the injection is being given by a caregiver. Do not attempt to use the upper arm area by yourself (see Figure 5).
- Choose a different injection site for each new injection. You may use the same thigh for weekly injections, as long as each injection is approximately 1 inch apart from the last time you injected yourself in that area.
- Do not inject into areas where your skin is tender, bruised, red, scaly, or hard. Avoid any areas with scars or stretch marks.

**Areas appropriate for self-injection and caregiver injection**



**Figure 4**

**Additional injection area option for caregivers only**



**Figure 5**

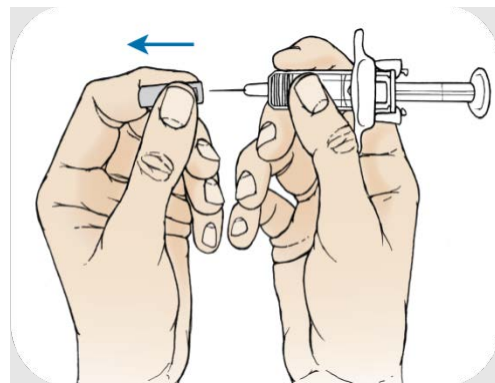
**B. Prepare your injection site**

- Wipe the injection site with an alcohol swab in a circular motion.
- Let your skin dry before injecting. Do not touch the injection site again before giving the injection.
- Do not fan or blow on the clean area.

**STEP 3: Inject ORENCIA**

**A. Remove the needle cover**

- Do not touch the plunger while you remove the needle cover.
- Hold the housing of the ORENCIA prefilled syringe with one hand and pull the needle cover straight off with your other hand (see Figure 6). **Do not** touch the plunger while you remove the needle cover.
- **Do not remove the needle cover until you are ready to inject ORENCIA. Inject ORENCIA as soon as possible after removing the needle cover.**



**Figure 6**

- Discard the needle cover in your household trash.
- There may be a small air bubble in the syringe tube containing the medication. There is no need to remove the air bubble.
- You may notice a drop of fluid leaving the needle. This is normal and will not affect your dose.
- Do not touch the needle or let it touch any surfaces.
- Do not use the prefilled syringe if it is dropped without the needle cover in place.

B. Position the prefilled syringe and inject ORENCIA

- Hold the housing of your prefilled syringe in one hand between the thumb and index finger (see Figure 7).

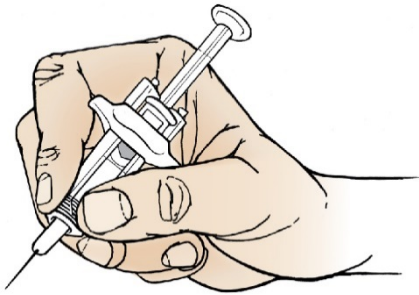


Figure 7

- Do not apply pressure to the plunger head until you are ready to begin your injection.
- Do not pull back on the plunger of the syringe at any time.
- Use your other hand and gently pinch the area of skin you cleansed. Hold firmly.
- Use a quick, dart-like motion to insert the needle into the pinched skin at a 45° angle (see Figure 8).

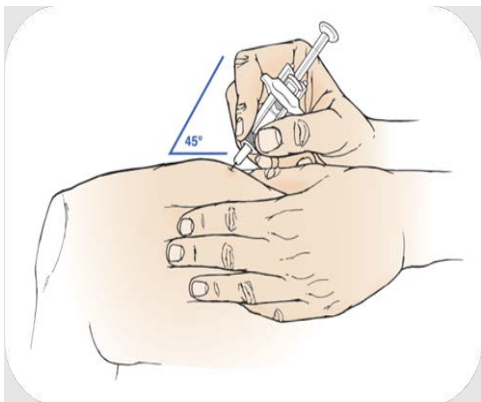


Figure 8

- To inject all of the medicine, use your thumb to push the plunger until the plunger head is

completely between the needle guard sides (see Figure 9).

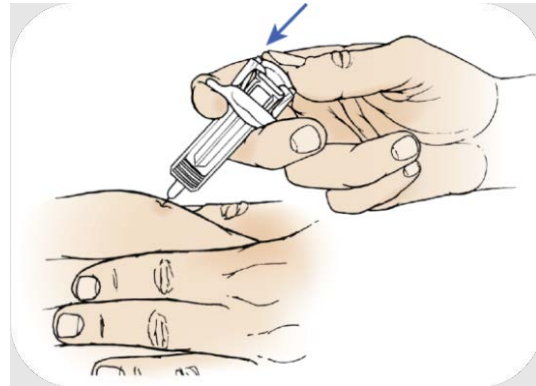


Figure 9

- When the plunger is pushed in as far as it will go, continue to apply pressure to the plunger head (see Figure 9).
- Slowly remove your thumb from the plunger head. This allows the empty syringe to move up until the entire needle is covered by the needle guard (see Figure 10).
- Remove the needle from your skin and let go of the surrounding skin.

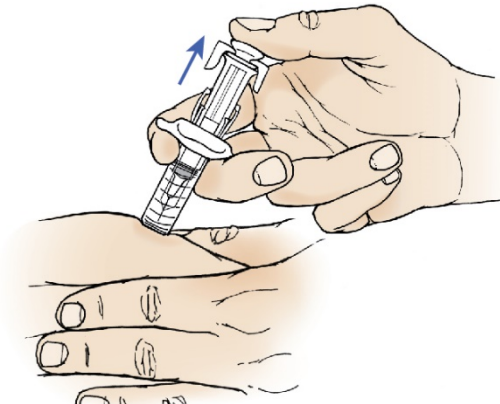


Figure 10

- Press a cotton ball over the injection site and hold for 10 seconds.
  - Do not rub the injection site. Slight bleeding is normal.
  - If needed, you may apply a small adhesive bandage to the injection site.

#### STEP 4: Disposal and record keeping

A. Dispose of your used syringe in a Sharps container.

- Sharps containers are special puncture-resistant disposal bins that can be purchased at many pharmacies.



Sharps container

- If you do not have a Sharps container, you may dispose of your used syringe in a puncture-resistant hard plastic or metal container that can be closed with a lid or cap, such as a laundry detergent bottle or coffee can. Do not use glass or clear plastic containers.
- Always keep your Sharps container out of reach of children and animals.
- Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist about provincial and local laws regarding the proper disposal of medical products that contain needles.
- Do not throw away your used prefilled syringes in your household trash or recycling bins.

B. Record your injection

- Write down the date, time and specific part of the body where you injected yourself. It may be helpful to write down any questions or concerns about the injection so you can ask your healthcare provider.

**If you have questions or concerns about your ORENCIA prefilled syringe with BD UltraSafe Passive™ Needle Guard with Flange Extenders, please contact a healthcare provider familiar with ORENCIA.**

**This document plus the full product monograph, prepared for health professionals, can be obtained by contacting the sponsor, Bristol-Myers Squibb Canada at 1-866-463-6267.**

**This leaflet was prepared by Bristol-Myers Squibb Canada**

**Last Revised: MAY 19, 2023**