Risk of mix-ups between insulin Fiasp®▼ (fast-acting insulin aspart) and Tresiba® (basal insulin degludec)

Direct Healthcare Professional Communication

16 April 2018

Dear Healthcare Professional,

Novo Nordisk A/S in agreement with the European Medicines Agency and the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) would like to inform you of the following:

Summary

- Cases have been reported where patients have mistakenly administered the mealtime insulin Fiasp® (currently available as yellow pens) instead of the basal insulin Tresiba® (available as light green pens) or vice versa.
- Such mix-ups can have serious clinical consequences, specifically hypo- or hyperglycaemia.
- Advise patients using both products to be extra vigilant and always check the name of the insulin before each injection to make sure that they administer the correct insulin.
- To strengthen the differentiation between the products, from 01 June 2018 Fiasp® will be available as red and yellow cartridges, pre-filled pens and vials (see Figure 1 below).

What to be aware of while dispensing existing products

- Check if the patient also uses Tresiba®.
- If so, remind the patient of the risk of mix-ups and the need for extra vigilance.
- Advise them to check the name of the insulin before each injection and to take extra care if preparing injections in poor light.
- Advise patients to contact their diabetes nurse or doctor or their GP immediately if they do mix up injections.
**Background information**

A new colour for Fiasp® products will be introduced from 01 June 2018 in order to increase differentiation (see illustrations). Until the colour change of Fiasp® products has been fully implemented patients should be extra vigilant.

Figure 1. New Fiasp® presentation:

Cases have been reported where patients have mistakenly administered mealtime Fiasp® instead of basal insulin Tresiba® mainly due to similarity in colour between the products. Poor lighting conditions have contributed to some of the mix-ups.

Figure 2. Current Fiasp® and Tresiba® presentation:

**Call for reporting**

Adverse reactions relating to Fiasp® or Tresiba®, including medication errors should be reported to Novo Nordisk [Customer Care Centre 0845 6005055] or to local authorities: MHRA 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.

**Company contact point**

Further information can be obtained at novonordisk.com or by contacting Novo Nordisk Limited Customer Care Centre 0845 6005055.

Kind regards,

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