

29<sup>th</sup> June 2023

## **DIRECT HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION**

### **Menopur<sup>®</sup> 600 IU Powder and solvent for solution for injection (menotropin) Interim supply of Irish packs to mitigate supply disruptions in UK**

Dear Healthcare Professional,

FERRING Pharmaceuticals in agreement with the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) would like to inform you of the following:

#### **Summary**

- **Menopur is indicated for the treatment of female and male infertility. Women who cannot become pregnant including polycystic ovarian disease, women in assisted reproduction programmes (ART), and men who have low sperm count.**
- **Ferring suspended all shipments of Menopur in all presentations from October 2022 which may lead to potential shortages.**
- **Ferring is working with MHRA to obtain the necessary approvals and ensure continued supply in UK.**
- **2 batches of Menopur 600 IU, packaged with Irish approved labelling have been approved by MHRA to be marketed in UK from early July.**
- **Pharmacist, when dispensing a Menopur pack, should remove the Irish patient information leaflet from the carton and replace it with the UK-approved leaflet (attached to this DHPC letter).**
- **Please ensure all relevant staff are made aware of the content of this letter and that the information is communicated to patients.**

#### **Background on the safety concern**

Menopur is indicated for the treatment of female and male infertility in the following groups of patients:

- Anovulation, including polycystic ovarian disease (PCOD) in women who have been unresponsive to treatment with clomiphene citrate.
- Women undergoing controlled ovarian hyperstimulation: Menopur can induce the development of multiple follicles for assisted reproductive technologies (ART) (e.g. in vitro fertilisation/embryo transfer (IVF/ET), gamete intra-fallopian transfer (GIFT) and intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI)).
- Hypogonadotrophic hypogonadism in men: Menopur may be given in combination with human chorionic gonadotrophin (e.g. Choragon) for the stimulation of spermatogenesis. Patients with primary testicular failure are usually unresponsive.

Ferring was made aware of unapproved changes made in the manufacturing process of the drug substance for Menopur. As a precautionary measure, Ferring suspended all shipments of Menopur in October 2022, and the manufacturing at the drug substance supplier was paused for a period of time. As a consequence, a market shortage of Menopur is expected.

In order to continue supply of Menopur, MHRA has approved to market Irish labelled packs in UK. Details of the batches affected are provided below;

Product Name	Pack size	Batch Number	Expiry date
Menopur 600 IU, powder and solvent for solution for injection	1 vial of powder and 1 pre-filled syringe with solvent	T15163M	30/04/2024
		U12655U	28/02/2025

The Irish packs have the same formulation as the UK packs and are manufactured according to the same manufacturing process and quality controls as the UK product. The packaging material for both packs are different, the key differences for the carton and vial label are listed in Appendix 1 (attached), followed by an image of the Irish carton pack.

The patient information leaflet is requested to be replaced. The pharmacist when dispensing a Menopur pack should remove the Irish patient information leaflet from the carton and replace it with the UK-approved leaflet (attached to this DHPC letter).

Further information on the UK approved Summary of Product Characteristics and Patient Information Leaflet can be found at: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/search?q=menopur>.

### Call for reporting

Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions (ADRs) to the MHRA through the Yellow Card scheme.

You can report via:

- the Yellow Card website – <https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/>
- the free Yellow Card app available from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store
- some clinical IT systems (EMIS/SystemOne/Vision/MiDatabank) for healthcare professionals

Alternatively, you can report a suspected side effect to the Yellow Card scheme by calling 0800 731 6789 for free, Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm.

When reporting please provide as much information as possible, including information about medical history, any concomitant medication, onset timing, treatment dates, and product brand name.

### Company contact point

For further information, please contact Medical Information at Ferring Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Drayton Hall, Church Road, West Drayton, UB7 7PS.  
Tel: 0844 931 0050, Email: [contact2@ferring.co.uk](mailto:contact2@ferring.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,

*Nassima Bekkat-Berkani*  
Nassima Bekkat-Berkani (Jun 28, 2023 16:32 GMT+1)

**Nassima Bekkat-Berkani**  
Medical Director  
Ferring UK and Ireland

**Appendix 1: Differences between the Irish and UK Menopur 600 IU packs listed in the table below, followed by an image of carton pack.**

Please note: the information which is identical between the packs is NOT listed in the table below.

<b>Packaging material</b>	<b>Irish pack</b>	<b>UK pack</b>
<b>Carton</b>	<b>Active:</b> Menotrophin	<b>Active:</b> HIGHLY PURIFIED MENOTROPHIN
	<b>PC:</b> 05391505670535	<b>PC:</b> 05015919823775
	<p><b>Storage Conditions:</b> Prior to reconstitution, store in a refrigerator at 2°C - 8°C. Do not freeze.</p> <p>After reconstitution, do not store above 25°C. Do not freeze. Discard any unused solution after 28 days.</p> <p>After reconstitution, 1 ml of the reconstituted solution contains 600 IU highly purified menotrophin.</p>	<p><b>Storage Conditions:</b> Prior to reconstitution, store in a refrigerator at 2°C - 8°C. Do not freeze. Keep in the original container in order to protect from light. After reconstitution, the solution may be stored for a maximum of 28 days at room temperature, not more than 25°C. Do not freeze.</p>
	<p><b>Product Authorisation Holder:</b> Ferring Ireland Ltd., United Drug House, Magna Drive, Magna Business Park, Citywest Road, Dublin 24 Licence No.: PA 1009/15/2</p>	<p><b>Product Licence Holder:</b> Ferring Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Drayton Hall, Church Road, West Drayton, UB7 7PS, UK Licence No.: Menopur – PL 03194/0106</p>
	<p><b>Others:</b> NO barcode</p>	<p><b>Others:</b> Barcode – 5015919 823775</p>
<b>Powder label</b>	<p>Menotrophin 600IU/vial</p> <p>PA 1009/15/2</p>	<p>Menotrophin equivalent to 600IU FSH + 600IU LH per vial.</p> <p>PL 03194/0106</p> <p>POM</p>

Please see below a mock-up of the Menopur 600 IU Irish pack, which will be provided:

