

Insulin identification checker

Introduction

This resource has been created to assist pharmacists and their relevant members of staff, for example an accuracy checking technician (ACT), with selecting the correct insulin for dispensing against generic prescriptions.

When dispensing generic prescriptions, patient familiarity with a particular item should be established as the patient may be trained to use a certain type of device; for example the self injection technique associated with Lantus® SoloStar® as opposed to the Abasaglar® solution for injection in a pre-filled pen.

Table Headings

The table headings below have been selected based on the listings on the NHS [Dictionary of Medicines and Devices Browser](#) (dm+d).

- The unique code for each drug/device created by dm+d is the same as that used by prescribing and pharmacy systems when identifying products – this ensures compatibility between the systems. This is particularly important due to an increase in electronic prescribing.
- Should your pharmacy system display an error message when dispensing an electronic prescription, or when the product prescribed cannot be identified, the system supplier helpdesk should be contacted to report this. This occurs where the particular drug/device is not mapped with the dm + d code on the pharmacy system.

The four tables contained in this resource list the brands and types of insulin available for generic drug(s) commonly found:

- **Table 1: Rapid acting insulin**
- **Table 2: Intermediate acting insulin**
- **Table 3: Long acting insulin**
- **Table 4: Mixed insulin preparations**

Insulin identification checker

Table 1: Rapid acting insulin

Active ingredients and strength	Source	Solution for injection cartridges	Solution for injection vials	Solution for injection pre-filled disposable devices
Insulin glulisine 100units/ml	Synthetic	Apidra® (Sanofi)	Apidra® (Sanofi)	Apidra® SoloStar® (Sanofi)
Insulin lispro 100units/ml	Synthetic	Humalog® (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)	Humalog® (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)	Humalog®KwikPen™ (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)
Insulin lispro 200units/ml	Synthetic	X	X	Humalog®KwikPen™ (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)
Insulin insoluble bovine 100units/ml	Bovine	Hypurin® Bovine Neutral (Wockhardt UK Ltd)	Hypurin® Bovine Neutral (Wockhardt UK Ltd)	X
Insulin soluble porcine 100units/ml	Porcine	Hypurin® Porcine Neutral (Wockhardt UK Ltd)	Hypurin® Porcine Neutral (Wockhardt UK Ltd)	X
Insulin soluble human 100 units/ml	Human	Humulin® S (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)	Humulin® S (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)	X
		Insuman® Rapid (Sanofi)	Actrapid® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)	
Insulin aspart 100 units/ml	Synthetic	NovoRapid® Penfill® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)	NovoRapid® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)	NovoRapid® FlexPen® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)
		NovoRapid® PumpCart® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)	Fiasp® ▼ (Novo Nordisk Ltd)	NovoRapid® FlexTouch® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)
		Fiasp® (Penfill) ▼ (Novo Nordisk Ltd)		Fiasp® (FlexTouch) ▼ (Novo Nordisk Ltd)

Insulin identification checker

Table 2: Intermediate acting insulin

Active ingredients and strength	Source	Suspension for injection cartridges	Suspension for injection vials	Suspension for injection pre-filled disposable devices
Insulin isophane human 100units/ml	Human	Insulatard® Penfill® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)	Humulin® I (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)	Humulin® I Kwikpen™ (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)
		Insuman® Basal (Sanofi)	Insulatard® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)	Insulatard® Innolet® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)
Insulin isophane bovine 100 units/ml	Bovine	Hypurin® Bovine Isophane (Wockhardt UK Ltd)	Hypurin® Bovine Isophane (Wockhardt UK Ltd)	X
Insulin isophane porcine 100units/ml	Porcine	Hypurin® Porcine Isophane (Wockhardt UK Ltd)	Hypurin® Porcine Isophane (Wockhardt UK Ltd)	X

Insulin identification checker

Table 3: Long acting insulin

Active ingredients and strength	Source	Solution for injection cartridges	Solution for injection vials	Solution for injection pre-filled disposable devices	Suspension for injection vials
Insulin zinc mixed bovine suspension 100units/ml	Bovine	X	X	X	Hypurin® Bovine Lente (Wockhardt UK Ltd)
Insulin degludec 100units/ml	Synthetic	Tresiba® Penfill ▼ (Novo Nordisk Ltd)	X	Tresiba® ▼ (FlexTouch) (Novo Nordisk Ltd)	X
Insulin degludec 200units/ml	Synthetic	X	X	Tresiba® ▼ (FlexTouch) (Novo Nordisk Ltd)	X
Insulin protamine zinc bovine 100units/ml	Bovine	X	X	X	Hypurin® Bovine Protamine Zinc (Wockhardt UK Ltd)
Insulin detemir 100units/ml	Synthetic	Levemir® Penfill® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)	Levemir® FlexPen® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)	X	X
			Levemir® InnoLet® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)		
Insulin glargine 100 units/ml	Synthetic	Lantus® (Sanofi)	Lantus® (Sanofi)	Lantus® Solostar® (Sanofi)	X
		Abasaglar® ▼ (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)	X	Abasaglar® ▼ (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)	X
Insulin glargine 300units/ml	Synthetic	X	X	Toujeo® (Sanofi)	X

Insulin identification checker

Table 4: Mixed insulin combinations

Active ingredients and strength	Source	Suspension for injection cartridges	Suspension for injection vials	Suspension for injection pre-filled disposable devices
Insulin lispro biphasic 25/75 100 units/ml	Synthetic	Humalog® Mix25™ (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)	Humalog® Mix25™ (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)	Humalog® Mix25™Kwikpen™ (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)
Insulin lispro biphasic 50/50 100 units/ml	Synthetic	Humalog® Mix50™ (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)	X	Humalog® Mix50™Kwikpen™ (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)
Insulin isophane biphasic human 30/70 100units/ml	Human	Humulin® M3 (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)	Humulin® M3 (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)	Humulin® M3 KwikPen™ (Eli Lilly and Company Ltd)
Insulin isophane biphasic porcine 30/70 100units/ml	Porcine	Hypurin® Porcine 30/70 Mix (Wockhardt UK Ltd)	Hypurin® Porcine 30/70 Mix (Wockhardt UK Ltd)	X
Insulin isophane biphasic human 15/85 100units/ml	Human	Insuman® Comb 15 (Sanofi)	X	X
Insulin isophane biphasic 25/75 100units/ml	Human	Insuman® Comb 25 (Sanofi)	Insuman® Comb 25 (Sanofi)	Insuman® Comb 25 SoloStar® (Sanofi)
Insulin isophane biphasic human 50/50 100units/ml	Human	Insuman® Comb 50 (Sanofi)	X	X
Insulin aspart biphasic 30/70 100units/ml	Synthetic	NovoMix®30 Penfill® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)	X	NovoMix®30 FlexPen® (Novo Nordisk Ltd)

Insulin identification checker

References

- Diabetes UK
<https://www.diabetes.org.uk/>
- NICE BNF July 2017: NHS Evidence
<https://bnf.nice.org.uk/>
- NHS Dictionary of Medicines and Devices browser:
<http://dmd.medicines.org.uk/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabid=1>
- Patient: Insulin
<https://patient.info/medicine/insulin>
- Summary of Product Characteristics on eMC:
<https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/>
- Summary of Product Characteristics on Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA):
<http://www.mhra.gov.uk/spc-pil/>

Disclaimer: The information published is, to the best of our knowledge, correct at the time of publication. However, no responsibility will be accepted for any consequences of decisions made using this information