



**CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
MINISTRY FOR HEALTH, THE ELDERLY AND COMMUNITY CARE**

**DH CIRCULAR No. 83/2012**  
DH 1179/2012

**29 February 2012**

**Attention All:** Consultants  
Medical Officers  
Pharmacists  
Pharmacy Technicians  
Nurses

**Re: Teriparatide 20mcg/80mcl solution for injection in a pre-filled pen**

Teriparatide 20mcg/80mcl solution for injection in a pre-filled pen has been recommended by the Government Formulary List Advisory Committee and approved by the Superintendent of Public Health for introduction onto the Government Formulary List.

Teriparatide is the active fragment (1-34) of endogenous human parathyroid hormone. It is indicated the treatment of osteoporosis associated with sustained systemic glucocorticoid therapy in women and men at increased risk for fracture.

The recommended dose is 20 micrograms administered once daily by subcutaneous injection in the thigh or abdomen.

Consultant Rheumatologists can prescribe teriparatide for the treatment of steroid induced osteoporosis as per license, for patients who fail to respond to treatment defined as continuous bone loss and at least 2 fragility fractures despite adherence to the previously prescribed anti-resorptive treatment for at least 12 months.

Candidates for treatment need to be chosen through the established committee made up of rheumatologists.

Teriparatide 20mcg/80mcl solution for injection in a pre-filled pen is protocol-regulated with protocol number 190 (attached). Teriparatide 20mcg/80mcl solution for injection in a pre-filled pen has been procured through the Centralised Procurement and Supplies and is now available for use as per protocol.

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**Teriparatide 20mcg/80mcl solution for injection in a pre-filled pen**

**Prescriber criteria:** Consultant Rheumatologist

**Out-patient and In-patient use:**

1. Rheumatoid Arthritis

Patients with the above-mentioned Schedule V condition, with steroid induced osteoporosis where long term steroids are prescribed, who fail to respond to treatment defined as continuous bone loss and at least 2 fragility fractures despite adherence to the previously prescribed anti-resorptive treatment for at least 12 months.

*Candidates for treatment need to be chosen through the established committee made up of rheumatologists.*

**Duration of Approval:**

1 year