ANNEX I

SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 1 000 IU/0.3 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 2 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 3 000 IU/0.9 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 4 000 IU/0.4 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 5 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 6 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 8 000 IU/0.8 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 10 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 20 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 30 000 IU/0.75 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 40 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Retacrit 1 000 IU/0.3 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
1 pre-filled syringe with 0.3 ml solution for injection contains 1 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta* (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 3 333 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Excipient with known effect
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.15 mg phenylalanine.

Retacrit 2 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
1 pre filled syringe with 0.6 ml solution for injection contains 2 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta* (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 3 333 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Excipient with known effect
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.30 mg phenylalanine.

Retacrit 3 000 IU/0.9 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
1 pre filled syringe with 0.9 ml solution for injection contains 3 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta* (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 3 333 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Excipient with known effect
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.45 mg phenylalanine.

Retacrit 4 000 IU/0.4 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
1 pre filled syringe with 0.4 ml solution for injection contains 4 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta* (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 10 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Excipient with known effect
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.20 mg phenylalanine.

Retacrit 5 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
1 pre filled syringe with 0.5 ml solution for injection contains 5 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta* (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 10 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Excipient with known effect
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.25 mg phenylalanine.

Retacrit 6 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
1 pre filled syringe with 0.6 ml solution for injection contains 6 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta* (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 10 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Excipient with known effect
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.30 mg phenylalanine.

Retacrit 8 000 IU/0.8 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
1 pre filled syringe with 0.8 ml solution for injection contains 8 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta* (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 10 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Excipient with known effect
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.40 mg phenylalanine.

Retacrit 10 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
1 pre-filled syringe with 1.0 ml solution for injection contains 10 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta* (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 10 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Excipient with known effect
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.50 mg phenylalanine.

Retacrit 20 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
1 pre filled syringe with 0.5 ml solution for injection contains 20 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta* (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 40 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Excipient with known effect
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.25 mg phenylalanine.

Retacrit 30 000 IU/0.75 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
1 pre filled syringe with 0.75 ml solution for injection contains 30 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta* (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 40 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Excipient with known effect
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.38 mg phenylalanine.

Retacrit 40 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
1 pre-filled syringe with 1 ml solution for injection contains 40 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta* (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 40 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Excipient with known effect
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.50 mg phenylalanine.

*Produced by recombinant DNA technology in Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell line.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Solution for injection in pre-filled syringe.
Clear, colourless solution.

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

- Treatment of symptomatic anaemia associated with chronic renal failure (CRF) in adult and paediatric patients:
    - Treatment of anaemia associated with chronic renal failure in adult and paediatric patients on haemodialysis and adult patients on peritoneal dialysis (See section 4.4).

- Treatment of severe anaemia of renal origin accompanied by clinical symptoms in adult patients with renal insufficiency not yet undergoing dialysis (See section 4.4).

– Treatment of anaemia and reduction of transfusion requirements in adult patients receiving chemotherapy for solid tumours, malignant lymphoma or multiple myeloma, and at risk of transfusion as assessed by the patient's general status (e.g. cardiovascular status, pre-existing anaemia at the start of chemotherapy).
– Retacrit can be used to increase the yield of autologous blood from patients in a predonation programme. Its use in this indication must be balanced against the reported risk of thromboembolic events. Treatment should only be given to patients with moderate anaemia (no iron deficiency), if blood saving procedures are not available or insufficient when the scheduled major elective surgery requires a large volume of blood (4 or more units of blood for females or 5 or more units for males).
– Retacrit can be used to reduce exposure to allogeneic blood transfusions in adult non-iron deficient patients prior to major elective orthopaedic surgery, having a high perceived risk for transfusion complications. Use should be restricted to patients with moderate anaemia (e.g. Hb 10-13 g/dl) who do not have an autologous predonation programme available and with expected moderate blood loss (900 to 1 800 ml).

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Treatment with Retacrit has to be initiated under the supervision of physicians experienced in the management of patients with above indications.

Posology

Treatment of symptomatic anaemia in adult and paediatric chronic renal failure patients

Retacrit should be administered either subcutaneously or intravenously.

The haemoglobin concentration aimed for is between 10 and 12 g/dl (6.2-7.5 mmol/l), except in paediatric patients in whom the haemoglobin concentration should be between 9.5 and 11 g/dl (5.9-6.8 mmol/l). The upper limit of the target haemoglobin concentration should not be exceeded.

Anaemia symptoms and sequaelea may vary with age, gender and overall burden of disease; a physician's evaluation of the individual patient's clinical course and condition is necessary. Retacrit should be administered either subcutaneously or intravenously in order to increase haemoglobin to not greater than 12 g/dL (7.5 mmol/L) Due to intra-patient variability, occasional individual haemoglobin values for a patient above and below the desired haemoglobin level may be observed. Haemoglobin variability should be addressed through dose management, with consideration for the haemoglobin target range of 10 g/dL (6.2 mmol/l) to 12 g/dl (7.5 mmol/l).

A sustained haemoglobin level of greater than 12 g/dl should be avoided; guidance for appropriate dose adjustment for when haemoglobin values exceeding 12 g/dl (7.5 mmol/l) are observed are described below. A rise in haemoglobin of greater than 2 g/dL (1.25 mmol/l) over a four week period should be avoided. If it occurs, appropriate dose adjustment should be made as provided.

Patients should be monitored closely to ensure that the lowest approved effective dose of Retacrit is used to provide adequate control of the symptoms of anaemia whilst maintaining a haemoglobin concentration below or at 12g/dl (7.5 mmol/l).

Caution should be exercised with escalation of Retacrit doses in patients with chronic renal failure. In patients with a poor haemoglobin response to Retacrit, alternative explanations for the poor response should be considered (see sections 4.4 and 5.1).

In patients with chronic renal failure and clinically evident ischemic heart disease or congestive heart failure, maintenance haemoglobin concentration should not exceed the upper limit of the target haemoglobin concentration.

Adult patients on haemodialysis

Retacrit should be administered either subcutaneously or intravenously.

The treatment is divided into two stages:
1. Correction phase: 50 IU/kg 3 times per week. When a dose adjustment is necessary, this should be done in steps of at least four weeks. At each step, the increase or reduction in dose should be of 25 IU/kg 3 times per week.
2. Maintenance phase: Dose adjustment in order to maintain haemoglobin (Hb) values at the desired level: Hb between 10 and 12 g/dl (6.2-7.5 mmol/l). The recommended total weekly dose is between 75 and 300 IU/kg.

The clinical data available suggest that those patients whose initial haemoglobin is very low (< 6 g/dl or < 3.75 mmol/l) may require higher maintenance doses than those whose initial anaemia is less severe (Hb > 8 g/dl or > 5 mmol/l).

Paediatric patients on haemodialysis

The treatment is divided into two stages:
1. Correction phase 50 IU/kg, 3 times per week by the intravenous route. When a dose adjustment is necessary, this should be done in steps of 25 IU/kg, 3 times per week at intervals of at least 4 weeks until the desired goal is achieved.
2. Maintenance phase: Dose adjustment in order to maintain haemoglobin (Hb) values at the desired level: Hb between 9.5 and 11 g/dl (5.9-6.8 mmol/l).

Generally, children and adolescents under 30 kg body weight require higher maintenance doses than adults and children over 30 kg. The following maintenance doses were observed in clinical trials after 6 months of treatment.

	Dose (IU/kg given 3 times per week)	
Weight (kg)	Median	Usual maintenance dose
< 10	100	75-150
10-30	75	60-150
> 30	33	30-100

The clinical data available suggest that those patients whose initial haemoglobin is very low (< 6.8 g/dl or < 4.25 mmol/l) may require higher maintenance doses than those whose initial haemoglobin is higher > 6.8 g/dl or> 4.25 mmol/l).

Adult patients on peritoneal dialysis

Retacrit should be administered either subcutaneously or intravenously.

The treatment is divided into two stages:
1. Correction phase: Starting dose of 50 IU/kg 2 times per week.
2. Maintenance phase: Dose adjustment in order to maintain haemoglobin (Hb) values at the desired level: Hb between 10 and 12 g/dl (6.2-7.5 mmol/l). Maintenance dose between 25 and 50 IU/kg 2 times per week into 2 equal doses.

Adult patients with renal insufficiency not yet undergoing dialysis

Retacrit should be administered either subcutaneously or intravenously.

The treatment is divided into two stages:

1. Correction phase: Starting dose of 50 IU/kg 3 times per week, followed if necessary by a dose increase with 25 IU/kg increments (3 times per week) until the desired goal is achieved (this should be done in steps of at least four weeks).
2. Maintenance phase: During the maintenance phase, Retacrit can be administered either 3 times per week, and in the case of subcutaneous administration, once weekly or once every 2 weeks. Appropriate adjustment of dose and dose intervals should be made in order to maintain haemoglobin (Hb) values at the desired level: Hb between 10 and 12 g/dl (6.2-7.5 mmol/l). Extending dose intervals may require an increase in dose.

The maximum dosage should not exceed 150 IU/kg 3 times per week, 240 IU/kg (up to a maximum of 20 000 IU) once weekly or 480 IU/kg (up to a maximum of 40 000 IU) once every 2 weeks.

Treatment of patients with chemotherapy induced anaemia

Retacrit should be administered by the subcutaneous route to patients with anaemia (e.g. haemoglobin concentration ≤ 10 g/dl (6.2 mmol/l). Anaemia symptoms and sequelae may vary with age, gender, and overall burden of disease; a physician´s evaluation of the individual patient´s clinical course and condition is necessary.

Due to intra-patient variability, occasional individual haemoglobin values for a patient above and below the desired haemoglobin level may be observed. Haemoglobin variability should be addressed through dose management with consideration for the haemoglobin target range of 10 g/dl (6.2 mmol/l) to 12 g/dl (7.5 mmol/l). A sustained haemoglobin level of greater than 12 g/dl (7.5 mmol/l) should be avoided; guidance for appropriate dose adjustment for when haemoglobin values exceeding 12 g/dl (7.5 mmol/l) are observed are described below.

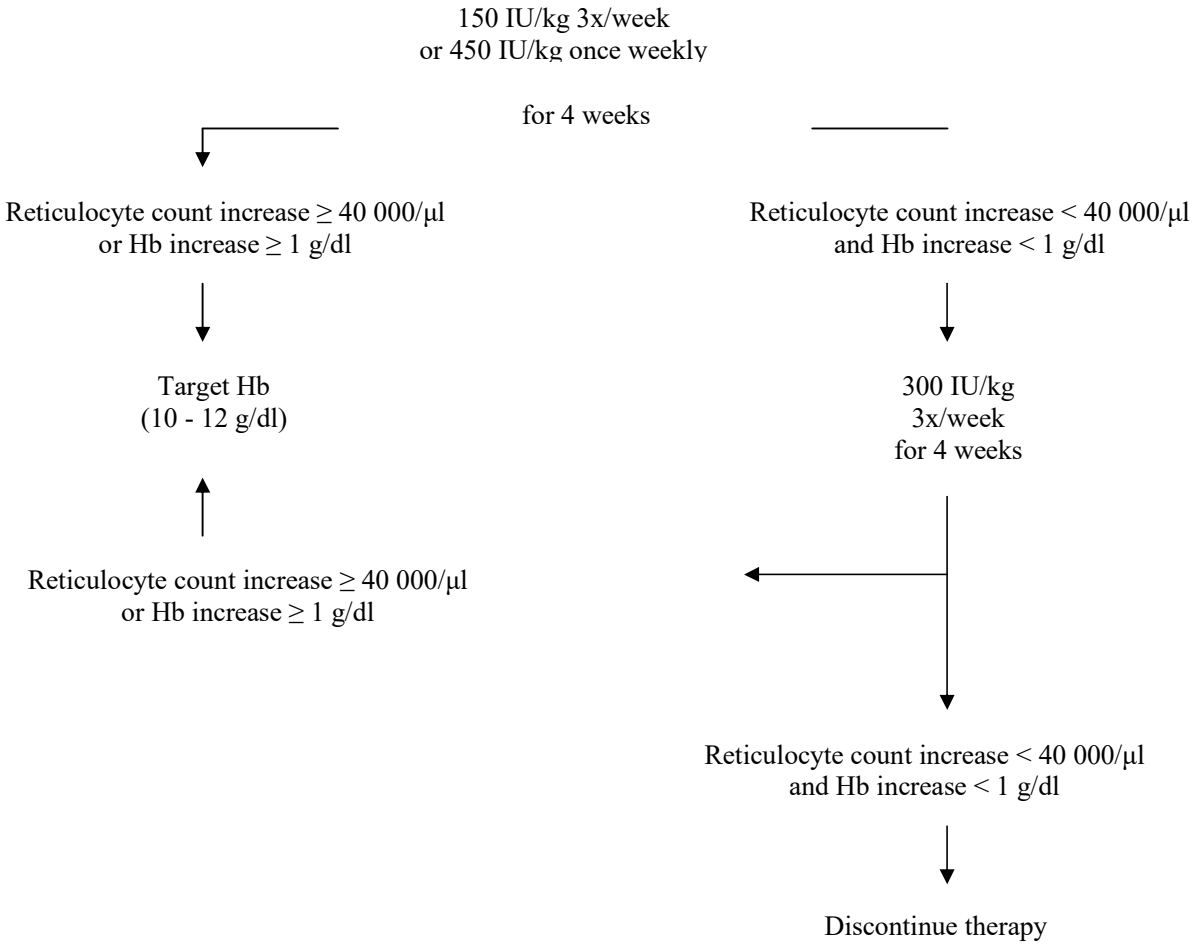
Patients should be monitored closely to ensure that the lowest approved dose of Retacrit is used to provide adequate control of the symptoms of anaemia.

Retacrit therapy should continue until one month after the end of chemotherapy.

The initial dose is 150 IU/kg given subcutaneously 3 times per week. Alternatively, Retacrit can be administered at an initial dose of 450 IU/kg subcutaneously once weekly.

If the haemoglobin has increased by at least 1 g/dl (0.62 mmol/l) or the reticulocyte count has increased ≥ 40 000 cells/µl above baseline after 4 weeks of treatment, the dose should remain at 150 IU/kg 3 times per week or 450 IU/kg once weekly. If the haemoglobin increase is < 1 g/dl (< 0.62 mmol/l) and the reticulocyte count has increased < 40 000 cells/µl above baseline, increase the dose to 300 IU/kg 3 times per week. If after an additional 4 weeks of therapy at 300 IU/kg 3 times per week, the haemoglobin has increased ≥ 1 g/dl (0.62 mmol/l) or the reticulocyte count has increased ≥ 40 000 cells/µl the dose should remain at 300 IU/kg 3 times per week. However, if the haemoglobin has increased < 1 g/dl (< 0.62 mmol/l) and the reticulocyte count has increased < 40 000 cells/µl above baseline, response is unlikely and treatment should be discontinued.

The recommended dosing regimen is described in the following diagram:



Once the therapeutic objective for an individual patient has been achieved, the dose should be reduced by 25 to 50% in order to maintain haemoglobin at that level. Appropriate dose titration should be considered.

Dose adjustment
At a rate of rise in haemoglobin of > 2 g/dl (> 1.25 mmol/l) per month the Retacrit dose should be reduced by about 25-50%. If haemoglobin level exceeds 12 g/dl (7.5 mmol/l), discontinue therapy until it falls to 12 g/dl (7.5 mmol/l) or lower and then reinstitute Retacrit therapy at a dose 25% below the previous dose.

Treatment of adult surgery patients in an autologous predonation programme

Retacrit should be given by the intravenous route.

At the time of donating blood, Retacrit should be administered after the completion of the blood donation procedure.

Mildly anaemic patients (haematocrit of 33-39%) requiring predeposit of ≥ 4 units of blood should be treated with Retacrit at a dose of 600 IU/kg body weight 2 times weekly for 3 weeks prior to surgery.

All patients being treated with Retacrit should receive adequate iron supplementation (e.g. 200 mg oral elemental iron daily) throughout the course of treatment. Iron supplementation should be started as soon as possible, even several weeks prior to initiating the autologous predeposit, in order to achieve high iron stores prior to starting Retacrit therapy.

Treatment of adult patients scheduled for major elective orthopaedic surgery

Retacrit should be administered subcutaneously.

A dose of 600 IU/kg body weight should be administered once weekly for three weeks (on day 21, 14 and 7) prior to surgery and on the day of surgery (day 0). If the lead time before surgery needs to be shortened to less than three weeks, a dose of 300 IU/kg body weight should be given daily for 10 consecutive days prior to surgery, on the day of surgery, and for four days immediately thereafter. When performing haematologic assessments during the preoperative period, if the haemoglobin level reaches 15 g/dl, or higher, administration of Retacrit should be stopped and further doses should not be given.

Iron deficiencies should be treated prior to starting treatment with Retacrit. In addition, all patients should receive adequate iron supplementation (e.g. 200 mg oral elemental iron daily) throughout the course of Retacrit treatment. If possible, iron supplementation should be started prior to treatment with Retacrit, to achieve adequate iron stores.

Method of administration

Intravenous injection

The dose should be administered over at least 1-5 minutes, depending on the total dose. In haemodialysed patients, a bolus injection may be given during the dialysis session through a suitable venous port in the dialysis line. Alternatively, the injection can be given at the end of the dialysis session via the fistula needle tubing, followed by 10 ml of sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution for injection to rinse the tubing and ensure satisfactory injection of the medicinal product into the circulation.

A slower injection is preferable in patients who react to the treatment with “flu-like” symptoms.

Retacrit must not be administered by intravenous infusion.
Retacrit must not be mixed with other medicinal products (see section 6.2).

Subcutaneous injection

A maximum volume of 1 ml at one injection site should generally not be exceeded. In case of larger volumes, more than one site should be chosen for the injection.

The injections are given in the limbs or the anterior abdominal wall.
For instructions on handling of the medicinal product before administration, see section 6.6.

4.3 Contraindications

- Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.
- Patients who develop Pure Red Cell Aplasia (PRCA) following treatment with any erythropoietin must not receive Retacrit or any other erythropoietin (see section 4.4).
- Uncontrolled hypertension.
- In the indication "increasing the yield of autologous blood": myocardial infarction or stroke in the month preceding treatment, unstable angina pectoris, increased risk of deep venous thrombosis such as history of venous thromboembolic disease.
- In the indication of major elective orthopaedic surgery: severe coronary, peripheral arterial, carotid or cerebral vascular disease, including patients with recent myocardial infarction or cerebral vascular accident.
- Patients who for any reason cannot receive adequate antithrombotic prophylaxis.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

General

Like in all patients receiving erythropoietin, blood pressure may rise during treatment with Retacrit. Blood pressure should be closely monitored and adequately controlled in all epoetin treatment naïve as well as pre-treated patients before, at initiation of, and during treatment with Retacrit. It may be necessary to add or increase anti-hypertensive treatment. If blood pressure cannot be well controlled, Retacrit treatment should be discontinued.

Retacrit should also be used with caution in the presence of epilepsy and chronic liver failure.

There may be a moderate dose-dependent rise in the platelet count within the normal range during treatment with erythropoietin. This regresses during the course of continued therapy. It is recommended that the platelet count is regularly monitored during the first 8 weeks of therapy.

All other causes of anaemia (iron deficiency, haemolysis, blood loss, vitamin B_{12}- or folate deficiencies) should be considered and treated prior to initiating and during therapy with Retacrit. In most cases, the ferritin values in the serum fall simultaneously with the rise in packed cell volume. In order to ensure optimum response to erythropoietin, adequate iron stores should be assured:

- iron supplementation, e.g. 200-300 mg/day orally (100-200 mg/day for paediatric patients) is recommended for chronic renal failure patients whose serum ferritin levels are below 100 ng/ml
- oral iron substitution of 200-300 mg/day is recommended for all cancer patients whose transferrin saturation is below 20%.

All of these additive factors of anaemia should also be carefully considered when deciding to increase the dose of erythropoietin in cancer patients.

A paradoxical decrease in haemoglobin and development of severe anaemia associated with low reticulocyte counts should prompt to discontinue treatment with epoetin and perform anti-erythropoietin antibody testing. Cases have been reported in patients with hepatits C treated with interferon and ribavirin, when epoetins are used concomitantly. Epoetins are not approved in the management of anaemia associated with hepatitis C.

In order to improve the traceability of erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (ESAs), the name of the prescribed ESA should be clearly recorded (or: stated) in the patient file.

Good blood management practices should always be used in the perisurgical setting.

Patients scheduled for major elective orthopaedic surgery

In patients scheduled for major elective orthopaedic surgery the cause of anaemia should be established and treated, if possible, before the start of Retacrit treatment.

Thrombotic events can be a risk in this population and this possibility should be carefully weighed against the benefit to be derived from the treatment.

Patients should receive adequate antithrombotic prophylaxis, as thrombotic and vascular events may occur in surgical patients, especially in those with underlying cardiovascular disease. In addition, special precaution should be taken in patients with predisposition for development of DVTs. Moreover, in patients with a baseline haemoglobin of > 13 g/dl, the possibility that Retacrit treatment may be associated with an increased risk of postoperative thrombotic/vascular events cannot be excluded. Therefore, it should not be used in patients with baseline haemoglobin > 13 g/dl.

Chronic renal failure patients

Haemoglobin concentration
In patients with chronic renal failure, maintenance haemoglobin concentration should not exceed the upper limit of the target haemoglobin concentration recommended in section 4.2. In clinical trials, an increased risk of death, serious cardiovascular events or cerebrovascular events including stroke were observed when ESAs were administered to target a haemoglobin of greater than 12 g/dl (7.5 mmol/l).

Controlled clinical trials have not shown significant benefits attributable to the administration of epoetins when haemoglobin concentration is increased beyond the level necessary to control symptoms of anaemia and to avoid blood transfusion.

Haemoglobin levels should be measured on a regular basis until a stable level is achieved and periodically thereafter. The rate of increase in haemoglobin should be approximately 1 g/dl (0.62 mmol/l) per month and should not exceed 2 g/dl (1.25 mmol/l) per month to minimize the risk of developing or worsening of hypertension.

Chronic renal failure patients treated with Retacrit by the subcutaneous route should be monitored regularly for loss of efficacy, defined as absent or decreased response to Retacrit treatment in patients who previously responded to such therapy. This is characterised by a sustained decrease in haemoglobin despite an increase in Retacrit dosage.

Some patients with more extended dosing intervals (greater than once weekly) of epoetin may not maintain adequate haemoglobin levels (see section 5.1) and may require an increase in epoetin dose. Haemoglobin levels should be monitored regularly.

Caution should be exercised with escalation of Retacrit doses in patients with chronic renal failure, since high cumulative epoetin doses may be associated with an increased risk of mortality, serious cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events. In patients with a poor haemoglobin response to epoetins, alternative explanations for the poor response should be considered (see sections 4.2 and 5.1).

Non response to erythropoietin therapy should prompt a search for causative factors. These include: iron, folate, or Vitamin B_{12} deficiency; aluminium intoxication; intercurrent infections; inflammatory or traumatic episodes; occult blood loss; haemolysis, and bone marrow fibrosis of any origin.

Cases of antibody-mediated PRCA have been very rarely reported in chronic renal failure patients with erythropoietin administered by the subcutaneous route. In patients developing sudden lack of

efficacy, defined by a decrease in haemoglobin (1-2 g/dl per month) with increased need for transfusions, a reticulocyte count should be obtained and typical causes of non-response (e.g. iron, folate, or Vitamin B_{12}-deficiency, aluminium intoxication, infection or inflammation, blood loss, and haemolysis) should be investigated. If no cause is identified, a bone marrow examination should be considered for diagnosis of PRCA.

If PRCA is diagnosed, therapy with Retacrit must be immediately discontinued and testing for erythropoietin antibodies should be considered. Patients should not be switched to another medicinal product as anti-erythropoietin antibodies cross-react with other erythropoietins. Other causes of PRCA should be excluded, and appropriate therapy initiated.

Monitoring of reticulocyte count on a regular basis is recommended to detect possible occurrence of lack of efficacy in chronic renal failure patients.

Hyperkalaemia has been observed in isolated cases. In chronic renal failure patients, correction for anaemia may lead to increased appetite, and potassium and protein intake. Dialysis prescriptions may have to be adjusted periodically to maintain urea, creatinine and potassium in the desired range. Serum electrolytes should be monitored in chronic renal failure patients. If an elevated (or rising) serum potassium level is detected then consideration should be given to ceasing erythropoietin administration until hyperkalaemia has been corrected.

An increase in heparin dose during haemodialysis is frequently required during the course of therapy with erythropoietin as a result of the increased packed cell volume. Occlusion of the dialysis system is possible if heparinisation is not optimum.

Based on information available to date, correction of anaemia with erythropoietin in adult patients with renal insufficiency not yet undergoing dialysis does not accelerate the rate of progression of renal insufficiency.

Adult cancer patients with symptomatic anaemia receiving chemotherapy

In cancer patients receiving chemotherapy, the 2-3 week delay between erythropoietin administration and the appearance of erythropoietin-induced red cells should be taken into account when assessing if Retacrit therapy is appropriate (patient at risk of being transfused).

Haemoglobin levels should be closely monitored until a stable level is achieved and periodically thereafter. If the rate of increase in haemoglobin exceeds 2 g/dl (1.25 mmol/l) per month or the haemoglobin level exceeds 12 g/dl (7.5 mmol/l), the dose adjustment detailed in section 4.2 should be thoroughly performed to minimise the risk of thrombotic events (see section 4.2).

As an increased incidence of thrombotic vascular events (TVEs) has been observed in cancer patients receiving erythropoietic agents (see section 4.8), this risk should be carefully weighed against the benefit to be derived from treatment (with Retacrit) particularly in cancer patients with an increased risk of thrombotic vascular events, such as obesity and patients with a prior history of TVEs (e.g. deep venous thrombosis or pulmonary embolism).

Adult surgery patients in an autologous predonation programme

All special warnings and precautions associated with autologous predonation programs, especially routine volume replacement, should be respected.

Tumour growth potential

Epoetins are growth factors that primarily stimulate red blood cell production. Erythropoietin receptors may be expressed on the surface of a variety of tumour cells. As with all growth factors, there is a concern that epoetins could stimulate the growth of any type of malignancy. In several

controlled studies, epoetins have not been shown to improve overall survival or decrease the risk of tumour progression in patients with anaemia associated with cancer.

Several controlled clinical studies in which epoetins were administered to patients with a variety of common tumours including squamous head and neck cancer, lung cancer, and breast cancer, have shown an unexplained excess mortality.

In controlled clinical studies, use of Epoetin alfa and other erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (ESAs) have shown:

- shortened time to tumour progression in patients with advanced head and neck cancer receiving radiation therapy when administered to target a haemoglobin of greater than 14 g/dl (8.7 mmol/l),
- shortened overall survival and increased deaths attributed to disease progression at 4 months in patients with metastatic breast cancer receiving chemotherapy when administered to target a haemoglobin of 12-14 g/dl (7.5 -8.7 mmol/l),
- increased risk of death when administered to target a haemoglobin of 12 g/dl (7.5 mmol/l) in patients with active malignant disease receiving neither chemotherapy nor radiation therapy. ESAs are not indicated for use in this patient population.

In view of the above, in some clinical situations blood transfusion should be the preferred treatment for the management of anaemia in patients with cancer. The decision to administer recombinant erythropoietins should be based on a benefit-risk assessment with the participation of the individual patient, which should take into account the specific clinical context. Factors that should be considered in this assessment should include the type of tumour and its stage; the degree of anaemia; life-expectancy; the environment in which the patient is being treated; and patient preference (see section 5.1).

Severe cutaneous adverse reactions

Severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs) including Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN), which can be life-threatening or fatal, have been reported in association with epoetin treatment. More severe cases have been observed with long-acting epoetins.
At the time of prescription patients should be advised of the signs and symptoms and monitored closely for skin reactions. If signs and symptoms suggestive of these reactions appear, Retacrit should be withdrawn immediately and an alternative treatment considered.

If the patient has developed a severe cutaneous skin reaction such as SJS or TEN due to the use of Retacrit, treatment with Retacrit must not be restarted in this patient at any time.

This medicinal product contains phenylalanine which may be harmful for people with phenylketonuria.

This medicinal product contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, i.e. essentially ‘sodium-free’.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

There is no evidence to indicate that treatment with erythropoietin alters the metabolism of other medicinal products.

However, since ciclosporin is bound by red blood cells there is potential for interactions with other medicinal products. If erythropoietin is given concomitantly with ciclosporin, blood levels of ciclosporin should be monitored and the dose of ciclosporin adjusted as the haematocrit rises.

No evidence exists that indicates an interaction between epoetin alfa and G-CSF or GM-CSF with regard to haematological differentiation or proliferation of tumour biopsy specimens in vitro.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Studies in animals have shown reproduction toxicity (see section 5.3). It is not known whether exogenous epoetin zeta is excreted in human milk. Consequently, erythropoietin should generally be used during pregnancy and lactation only if the potential benefit outweighs the potential risk to the foetus.

No data on the effects of epoetin zeta on fertility are available.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Retacrit has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

4.8 Undesirable effects

Summary of the safety profile

Data from clinical studies with Retacrit are in line with the safety profile of other authorized erythropoietins. Based on the results from clinical trials with other authorized erythropoietins approximately 8% of patients treated with erythropoietin are expected to experience adverse reactions. Adverse reactions during treatment with erythropoietin are observed predominantly in patients with chronic renal failure or underlying malignancies. These adverse reactions are most commonly headache and a dose dependent increase in blood pressure. Hypertensive crisis with encephalopathy-like symptoms can occur. Attention should be paid to sudden stabbing migraine-like headaches as a possible warning signal.

Respiratory tract congestion, which includes events of upper respiratory tract congestion, nasal congestion and nasopharyngitis, have been reported in studies with extended interval dosing in adult patients with renal insufficiency not yet undergoing dialysis.

Thrombotic/vascular events, such as myocardial ischaemia, myocardial infarction, cerebrovascular accidents (cerebral haemorrhage and cerebral infarction), transient ischaemic attacks, deep vein thrombosis, arterial thrombosis, pulmonary emboli, aneurysms, retinal thrombosis, and clotting of an artificial kidney have been reported in patients receiving erythropoietic agents.

Antibody-mediated erythroblastopenia (PRCA) has been reported after months to years of treatment with epoetin alfa. In most of these patients, antibodies to erythropoietins have been observed (see sections 4.3 and 4.4).

Tabulated list of adverse reactions

In this section frequencies of adverse reactions are defined as follows: Very common (≥1/10); common (≥1/100 to <1/10); uncommon (≥1/1 000 to <1/100); rare (≥1/10 000 to <1/1 000); very rare (<1/10 000), not known (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data).

Within each frequency grouping, adverse reactions are presented in order of decreasing seriousness.

Frequencies may vary depending on the indication.

SOC	Frequency	ADR
Blood and lymphatic system disorders	very rare	Thrombocytosis (see section 4.4)
	Frequency not known	Antibody-mediated erythroblastopenia (PRCA)
Immune system disorders	rare	Hypersensitivity reactions
	very rare	anaphylactic reaction

Nervous system disorders	very common	dizziness (chronic renal failure patients)
		headache (cancer patients)
	common	stroke
		dizziness (cancer patients)
		headache (chronic renal failure patients)
	uncommon	cerebral haemorrhage
	Frequency not known	cerebral infarction
		hypertensive encephalopathy
		transient ischaemic attacks
Eye disorders	Frequency not known	retinal thrombosis
Cardiac disorders	Frequency not known	myocardial infarction
		myocardial ischaemia
Vascular disorders	common	deep vein thrombosis (cancer patients)
		increase in blood pressure
	Frequency not known	aneurysms
		arterial thrombosis
		deep vein thrombosis (chronic renal failure patients)
		hypertensive crisis
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders	common	pulmonary embolism (cancer patients)
	uncommon	respiratory tract congestion
	Frequency not known	pulmonary embolism (chronic renal failure patients)
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	common	Non-specific skin rashes
	very rare	Angioedema
	Frequency not known	pruritus
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	very common	joint pains (chronic renal failure patients)
	common	joint pains (cancer patients)
General disorders and administration site conditions	very common	"Flu-like" symptoms (chronic renal failure patients)
		feelings of weakness (chronic renal failure patients)
		tiredness (chronic renal failure patients)
	common	"Flu-like" symptoms (cancer patients)
		feelings of weakness (cancer patients)
		tiredness (cancer patients)
Injury, poisoning and procedural complications	common	clotting of an artificial kidney

Description of selected adverse reactions

Adult and paediatric haemodialysis patients, adult peritoneal dialysis patients and adult patients with renal insufficiency not yet undergoing dialysis

The most frequent adverse reaction during treatment with epoetin alfa is a dose-dependent increase in blood pressure or aggravation of existing hypertension. These increases in blood pressure can be treated with medicinal products. Moreover, monitoring of the blood pressure is recommended particularly at the start of therapy. The following reactions have also occurred in isolated patients with normal or low blood pressure: hypertensive crisis with encephalopathy-like symptoms (e.g. headaches

and confused state) and generalised tonoclonal seizures, requiring the immediate attention of a physician and intensive medical care. Particular attention should be paid to sudden stabbing migraine like headaches as a possible warning signal.

Shunt thromboses may occur, especially in patients who have a tendency to hypotension or whose arteriovenous fistulae exhibit complications (e.g. stenoses, aneurysms, etc.). Early shunt revision and thrombosis prophylaxis by administration of acetylsalicylic acid, for example, is recommended in these patients.

Adult cancer patients with symptomatic anaemia receiving chemotherapy

Hypertension may occur in epoetin alfa treated patients. Consequently, haemoglobin and blood pressure should be closely monitored.

An increased incidence of thrombotic vascular events (see section 4.4 and section 4.8 - General) has been observed in patients receiving erythropoietic agents.

Surgery patients

Independent of erythropoietin treatment, thrombotic and vascular events may occur in surgical patients with underlying cardiovascular disease following repeated phlebotomy. Therefore, routine volume replacement should be performed in such patients.

In patients with a baseline haemoglobin of > 13 g/dl, the possibility that Retacrit treatment may be associated with an increased risk of postoperative thrombotic/vascular events cannot be excluded.

Severe cutaneous adverse reactions

Severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs) including Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN), which can be life-threatening or fatal, have been reported in association with epoetin treatment (see section 4.4).

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the national reporting system listed in Appendix V

4.9 Overdose

The therapeutic margin of erythropoietin is very wide. Overdose of erythropoietin may produce effects that are extensions of the pharmacological effects of the hormone. Phlebotomy may be performed if excessively high haemoglobin levels occur. Additional supportive care should be provided as necessary.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Other antianaemic preparations, erythropoietin
ATC code: B03XA01

Retacrit is a biosimilar medicinal product. Detailed information is available on the website of the European Medicines Agency http://www.ema.europa.eu.

Pharmacodynamic effects

Erythropoietin is a glycoprotein that stimulates, as a mitosis-stimulating factor and differentiating hormone, the formation of erythrocytes from precursors of the stem cell compartment.

The apparent molecular weight of erythropoietin is 32 000-40 000 Dalton. The protein moiety of the molecule contributes about 58% of total molecular weight and consists of 165 amino acids. The four carbohydrate chains are attached via three N-glycosidic bonds and one O-glycosidic bond to the protein. Epoetin zeta is identical in its amino acid sequence and similar in carbohydrate composition to endogenous human erythropoietin that has been isolated from the urine of anaemic patients.

The biological efficacy of erythropoietin has been demonstrated in various animal models *in vivo* (normal and anaemic rats, polycythaemic mice). After administration of erythropoietin, the number of erythrocytes, the Hb values and reticulocyte counts increase as well as the ^{59}Fe-incorporation rate.

An increased ^{3}H-thymidine incorporation in the erythroid nucleated spleen cells has been found *in vitro* (mouse spleen cell culture) after incubation with erythropoietin. It could be shown with the aid of cell cultures of human bone marrow cells that erythropoietin stimulates erythropoiesis specifically and does not affect leucopoiesis. Cytotoxic actions of erythropoietin on bone marrow cells could not be detected.

As with other haematopoietic growth factors, erythropoietin has shown *in vitro* stimulating properties on human endothelial cells.

Adult patients with renal insufficiency not yet undergoing dialysis

In 2 studies with extended interval dosing of erythropoietin (3 times per week, once weekly, once every 2 weeks and once every 4 weeks) some patients with longer dosing intervals did not maintain adequate haemoglobin levels and reached protocol-defined haemoglobin withdrawal criteria (0% in once weekly, 3.7% in once-every-2-weeks and 3.3% in the once-every-4-weeks groups).

Clinical efficacy and safety

721 cancer patients receiving non-platinum chemotherapy were included in three placebo-controlled studies, 389 patients with haematological malignancies (221 multiple myeloma, 144 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and 24 other haematological malignancies) and 332 with solid tumours (172 breast, 64 gynaecological, 23 lung, 22 prostate, 21 gastrointestinal, and 30 other tumour types). In two large, open-label studies, 2 697 cancer patients receiving non-platinum chemotherapy were included, 1 895 with solid tumours (683 breast, 260 lung, 174 gynaecological, 300 gastrointestinal, and 478 other tumour types) and 802 with haematological malignancies.

In a prospective, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial conducted in 375 anaemic patients with various non-myeloid malignancies receiving non-platinum chemotherapy, there was a significant reduction of anaemia-related sequelae (e.g. fatigue, decreased energy, and activity reduction), as measured by the following instruments and scales: Functional Assessment of Cancer Therapy-Anaemia (FACT-An) general scale, FACT-An fatigue scale, and Cancer Linear Analogue Scale (CLAS). Two other smaller, randomized, placebo-controlled trials failed to show a significant improvement in quality of life parameters on the EORTC-QLQ-C30 scale or CLAS, respectively. Erythropoietin is a growth factor that primarily stimulates red cell production. Erythropoietin receptors may be expressed on the surface of a variety of tumour cells.

Survival and tumour progression have been examined in five large controlled studies involving a total of 2 833 patients, of which four were double-blind placebo-controlled studies and one was an open-label study. The studies either recruited patients who were being treated with chemotherapy (two studies) or used patient populations in which erythropoiesis stimulating agents are not indicated: anaemia in patients with cancer not receiving chemotherapy, and head and neck cancer patients

receiving radiotherapy. The target haemoglobin concentration in two studies was > 13 g/dl; in the remaining three studies it was 12-14 g/dl. In the open-label study there was no difference in overall survival between patients treated with recombinant human erythropoietin and controls. In the four placebo-controlled studies the hazard ratios for overall survival ranged between 1.25 and 2.47 in favour of controls. These studies have shown a consistent unexplained statistically significant excess mortality in patients who have anaemia associated with various common cancers who received recombinant human erythropoietin compared to controls. Overall survival outcome in the trials could not be statisfactorily explained by differences in the incidence of thrombosis and related complications between those given recombinant human erythropoietin and those in the control group.

A systematic review has also been performed involving more than 9 000 cancer patients participating in 57 clinical trials. Meta-analysis of overall survival data produced a hazard ratio point estimate of 1.08 in favour of controls (95% CI: 0.99, 1.18; 42 trials and 8 167 patients). An increased relative risk of thromboembolic events (RR 1.67, 95% CI: 1.35, 2.06, 35 trials and 6 769 patients) was observed in patients treated with recombinant human erythropoietin. There is an increased risk for thromboembolic events in patients with cancer treated with recombinant human erythropoietin and a negative impact on overall survival cannot be excluded. The extent to which these outcomes might apply to the administration of recombinant human erythropoietin to patients with cancer, treated with chemotherapy to achieve haemoglobin concentrations less than 13 g/dl, is unclear because few patients with these characteristics were included in the data reviewed.

A patient-level data analysis has also been performed on more than 13 900 cancer patients (chemo-, radio-, chemoradio-, or no therapy) participating in 53 controlled clinical trials involving several epoetins. Meta-analysis of overall survival data produced a hazard ratio point estimate of 1.06 in favour of controls (95% CI: 1.00, 1.12; 53 trials and 13 933 patients) and for the cancer patients receiving chemotherapy, the overall survival hazard ratio was 1.04 (95% CI: 0.97, 1.11; 38 trials and 10 441 patients). Meta-analyses also indicate consistently a significantly increased relative risk of thromboembolic events in cancer patients receiving recombinant human erythropoietin (see section 4.4).

In a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of 4 038 CRF patients not on dialysis with type 2 diabetes and haemoglobin levels ≤ 11 g/dL, patients received either treatment with darbepoetin alfa to target haemoglobin levels of 13 g/dL or placebo (see section 4.4). The study did not meet either primary objective of demonstrating a reduction in risk for all-cause mortality, cardiovascular morbidity, or end stage renal disease (ESRD). Analysis of the individual components of the composite endpoints showed the following HR (95% CI): death 1.05 (0.92, 1.21), stroke 1.92 (1.38, 2.68), congestive heart failure (CHF) 0.89 (0.74, 1.08), myocardial infarction (MI) 0.96 (0.75, 1.23), hospitalisation for myocardial ischaemia 0.84 (0.55, 1.27), ESRD 1.02 (0.87, 1.18).

Pooled post-hoc analyses of clinical studies of ESAs have been perfomed in CRF patients (on dialysis, not on dialysis, in diabetic and non-diabetic patients). A tendency towards increased risk estimates for all-cause mortality, cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events associated with higher cumulative ESA doses independent of the diabetes or dialysis status was observed (see sections 4.2 and 4.4).

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Intravenous route

Measurement of erythropoietin following multiple dose intravenous administration revealed a half-life of approximately 4 hours in healthy volunteers and a somewhat more prolonged half-life of approximately 5 hours in renal failure patients. A half-life of approximately 6 hours has been reported in children.

Subcutaneous route

Following subcutaneous injection, serum levels of erythropoietin are much lower than the levels achieved following intravenous injection, the levels increase slowly and reach a peak between 12 and

18 hours postdose. The peak is always well below the peak achieved using the intravenous route (approximately 1/20th of the value).

There is no accumulation: the levels remain the same, whether they are determined 24 hours after the first injection or 24 hours after the last injection.

The half-life is difficult to evaluate for the subcutaneous route and is estimated to be about 24 hours. The bioavailability of subcutaneous injectable erythropoietin is much lower than that of the intravenous medicinal product and is approximately 20%.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

In some pre-clinical toxicological studies in dogs and rats, but not in monkeys, erythropoietin therapy was associated with subclinical bone marrow fibrosis (bone marrow fibrosis is a known complication of chronic renal failure in humans and may be related to secondary hyperparathyroidism or unknown factors. The incidence of bone marrow fibrosis was not increased in a study of haemodialysis patients who were treated with erythropoietin for 3 years compared to a matched control group of dialysis patients who had not been treated with erythropoietin).

In animal studies, erythropoietin has been shown to decrease foetal body weight, delay ossification and increase foetal mortality when given in weekly doses of approximately 20 times the recommended human weekly dose. These changes are interpreted as being secondary to decreased maternal body weight gain.

Erythropoietin did not show any changes in bacterial and mammalian cell culture mutagenicity tests and an *in vivo* micronucleus test in mice. Long-term carcinogenicity studies have not been carried out. There are conflicting reports in the literature regarding whether erythropoietin may play a major role as tumour proliferator. These reports are based on *in vitro* findings from human tumour samples, but are of uncertain significance in the clinical situation.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of Excipients

Disodium phosphate dihydrate
Sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate
Sodium chloride
Calcium chloride dihydrate
Polysorbate 20
Glycine
Leucine
Isoleucine
Threonine
Glutamic acid
Phenylalanine
Water for injections
Sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster)
Hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster)

6.2 Incompatibilities

In the absence of compatibility studies, this medicinal product must not be mixed with other medicinal products.

6.3 Shelf life

30 months

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

For the purpose of ambulatory use, the patient may remove the product from the refrigerator and store it at room temperature (not above 25°C) for one single period of up to 3 days.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

Retacrit 1 000 IU/0.3 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Pre-filled syringe Type I glass with a fixed steel injection needle and a plunger stopper with PTFE coating with or without a needle guard or needle-trap device.
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.3 ml solution.
Each pack contains 1 or 6 pre-filled syringes.
Retacrit 2 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Pre-filled syringe Type I glass with a fixed steel injection needle and a plunger stopper with PTFE coating with or without a needle guard or needle-trap device.
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.6 ml solution.
Each pack contains 1 or 6 pre-filled syringes.
Retacrit 3 000 IU/0.9 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Pre-filled syringe Type I glass with a fixed steel injection needle and a plunger stopper with PTFE coating with or without a needle guard or needle-trap device.
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.9 ml solution.
Each pack contains 1 or 6 pre-filled syringes.

Retacrit 4 000 IU/0.4 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Pre-filled syringe Type I glass with a fixed steel injection needle and a plunger stopper with PTFE coating with or without a needle guard or needle-trap device.
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.4 ml solution.
Each pack contains 1 or 6 pre-filled syringes.

Retacrit 5 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Pre-filled syringe Type I glass with a fixed steel injection needle and a plunger stopper with PTFE coating with or without a needle guard or needle-trap device.
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.5 ml solution.
Each pack contains 1 or 6 pre-filled syringes.

Retacrit 6 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Pre-filled syringe Type I glass with a fixed steel injection needle and a plunger stopper with PTFE coating with or without a needle guard or needle-trap device.
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.6 ml solution.
Each pack contains 1 or 6 pre-filled syringes.

Retacrit 8 000 IU/0.8 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Pre-filled syringe Type I glass with a fixed steel injection needle and a plunger stopper with PTFE coating with or without a needle guard or needle-trap device.
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.8 ml solution.
Each pack contains 1 or 6 pre-filled syringes.

Retacrit 10 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Pre-filled syringe Type I glass with a fixed steel injection needle and a plunger stopper with PTFE coating with or without a needle guard or needle-trap device.

Each pre-filled syringe contains 1 ml solution.
Each pack contains 1 or 6 pre-filled syringes.

Retacrit 20 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Pre-filled syringe Type I glass with a fixed steel injection needle and a plunger stopper with PTFE coating with or without a needle guard or needle-trap device.
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.5 ml solution.
Each pack contains 1, 4 or 6 pre-filled syringes.
Multipacks contain 6 (6 x 1) pre-filled syringes.

Retacrit 30 000 IU/0.75 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Pre-filled syringe Type I glass with a fixed steel injection needle and a plunger stopper with PTFE coating with or without a needle guard or needle-trap device.
Each pre-filled syringe contains 0.75 ml solution.
Each pack contains 1, 4 or 6 pre-filled syringes.
Multipacks contain 4 (4 x 1) pre-filled syringes.

Retacrit 40 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Pre-filled syringe Type I glass with a fixed steel injection needle and a plunger stopper with PTFE coating with or without a needle guard or needle-trap device.
Each pre-filled syringe contains 1 ml solution.
Each pack contains 1, 4 or 6 pre-filled syringes.
Multipacks contain 4 (4 x 1) pre-filled syringes.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

Handling instructions for Retacrit:
1. After removing one syringe from the blister pack the solution should be checked to ensure that it is clear, colourless and practically free from visible particles.
2. The protective cap is removed from the injection needle and air is expelled from the syringe and needle by holding the syringe vertically and gently pressing the plunger upwards.
3. The syringe is now ready for use.

Retacrit must not be used if
- The blister sealing is broken or the blister is damaged in any way.
- The liquid is coloured or you can see particles floating in it.
- Any liquid has leaked out of the pre-filled syringe or condensation is visible within the sealed blister.
- It may have been accidentally frozen.

This medicinal product is for single use only.

Do not shake.

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Horizon
Honey Lane
Hurley

Maidenhead
SL6 6RJ
UK

8. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

Retacrit 1 000 IU/0.3 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/001 1 pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/002 6 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/026 1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/027 6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/054 1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/055 6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap

Retacrit 2 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/003 1 pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/004 6 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/028 1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/029 6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/056 1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/057 6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap

Retacrit 3 000 IU/0.9 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/005 1 pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/006 6 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/030 1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/031 6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/058 1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/059 6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap

Retacrit 4 000 IU/0.4 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/007 1 pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/008 6 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/032 1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/033 6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/060 1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/061 6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap

Retacrit 5 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/009 1 pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/010 6 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/034 1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/035 6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/062 1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/063 6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap

Retacrit 6 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/011 1 pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/012 6 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/036 1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/037 6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/064 1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/065 6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap

Retacrit 8 000 IU/0.8 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/013 1 pre-filled syringe

EU/1/07/431/014 6 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/038 1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/039 6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/066 1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/067 6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap

Retacrit 10 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/015 1 pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/016 6 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/040 1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/041 6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/068 1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/069 6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap

Retacrit 20 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/017 1 pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/020 4 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/021 6 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/042 1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/045 4 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/046 6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/051 6 (6 x 1) pre-filled syringes (multipack)
EU/1/07/431/070 1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/071 4 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/072 6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap

Retacrit 30 000 IU/0.75 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/018 1 pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/022 4 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/023 6 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/043 1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/047 4 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/048 6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/052 4 (4 x 1) pre-filled syringes (multipack)
EU/1/07/431/073 1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/074 4 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/075 6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap

Retacrit 40 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/019 1 pre-filled syringe
EU/1/07/431/024 4 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/025 6 pre-filled syringes
EU/1/07/431/044 1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/049 4 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/050 6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard
EU/1/07/431/053 4 (4 x 1) pre-filled syringes (multipack)
EU/1/07/431/076 1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/077 4 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap
EU/1/07/431/078 6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap

9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION / RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

Date of first authorisation: 18 December 2007
Date of latest renewal: 15 November 2012

10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

Detailed information on this medicinal product is available on the website of the European Medicines Agency http://www.ema.europa.eu.

ANNEX II

A. MANUFACTURER OF THE BIOLOGICAL ACTIVE SUBSTANCE AND MANUFACTURER(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR BATCH RELEASE

B. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS REGARDING SUPPLY AND USE

C. OTHER CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION

D. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

A. MANUFACTURER OF THE BIOLOGICAL ACTIVE SUBSTANCE AND MANUFACTURER RESPONSIBLE FOR BATCH RELEASE

Name and address of the manufacturer of the biological active substance

Norbitec GmbH
Pinnauallee 4
D-25436 Uetersen
Germany

Name and address of the manufacturer responsible for batch release

STADA Arzneimittel AG
Stadastrasse 2-18
D-61118 Bad Vilbel
Germany

HOSPIRA Enterprises B.V.
Randstad 22-11
1316 BN Almere
The Netherlands

Hospira Zagreb d.o.o.
Prudnička cesta 60
10291 Prigorje Brdovečko
Croatia

The printed package leaflet of the medicinal product must state the name and address of the manufacturer responsible for the release of the concerned batch.

B. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS REGARDING SUPPLY AND USE

Medicinal product subject to restricted medical prescription (See Annex I: Summary of Product Characteristics, section 4.2)

C. OTHER CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION

- **Periodic Safety Update Reports**

The requirements for submission of periodic safety update reports for this medicinal product are set out in the list of Union reference dates (EURD list) provided for under Article 107c(7) of Directive 2001/83/EC and any subsequent updates published on the European medicines web-portal.

D. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

- **Risk Management Plan (RMP)**

The MAH shall perform the required pharmacovigilance activities and interventions detailed in the agreed RMP presented in Module 1.8.2 of the Marketing Authorisation and any subsequent updates of the RMP.

An updated RMP should be submitted:

- At the request of the European Medicines Agency;
- Whenever the risk management system is modified, especially as the result of new information being received that may lead to a significant change to the benefit/risk profile or

as the result of an important (pharmacovigilance or risk minimisation) milestone being reached.

If the dates for submission of a PSUR and the update of a RMP coincide, they can be submitted at the same time.

ANNEX III

LABELLING AND PACKAGE LEAFLET

A. LABELLING

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER CARTON

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 1 000 IU/0.3 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 1 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 0.3 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 0.3 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard containing 0.3 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 0.3 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap containing 0.3 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 0.3 ml solution for injection

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/001
EU/1/07/431/002
EU/1/07/431/026
EU/1/07/431/027
EU/1/07/431/054
EU/1/07/431/055

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 1 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS

SYRINGE LABELS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

Retacrit 1 000 IU Injection
Epoetin zeta
iv/sc use

2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

3. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

4. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT

1 000 IU/0.3 ml

6. OTHER

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER CARTON

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 2 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 2 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 0.6 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 0.6 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard containing 0.6 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 0.6 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap containing 0.6 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 0.6 ml solution for injection

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/003
EU/1/07/431/004
EU/1/07/431/028
EU/1/07/431/029
EU/1/07/431/056
EU/1/07/431/057

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 2 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS

SYRINGE LABELS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

Retacrit 2 000 IU Injection
Epoetin zeta
iv/sc use

2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

3. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

4. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT

2 000 IU/0.6 ml

6. OTHER

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER CARTON

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 3 000 IU/0.9 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 3 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 0.9 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 0.9 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard containing 0.9 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 0.9 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap containing 0.9 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 0.9 ml solution for injection

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/005
EU/1/07/431/006
EU/1/07/431/030
EU/1/07/431/031
EU/1/07/431/058
EU/1/07/431/059

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 3 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS

SYRINGE LABELS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

Retacrit 3 000 IU Injection
Epoetin zeta
iv/sc use

2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

3. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

4. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT

3 000 IU/0.9 ml

6. OTHER

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER CARTON

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 4 000 IU/0.4 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 4 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 0.4 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 0.4 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard containing 0.4 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 0.4 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap containing 0.4 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 0.4 ml solution for injection

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND SIGHT OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/007
EU/1/07/431/008
EU/1/07/431/032
EU/1/07/431/033
EU/1/07/431/060
EU/1/07/431/061

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 4 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS

SYRINGE LABELS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

Retacrit 4 000 IU Injection
Epoetin zeta
iv/sc use

2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

3. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

4. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT

4 000 IU/0.4 ml

6. OTHER

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER CARTON

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 5 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 5 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 0.5 ml solution for injection

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/009
EU/1/07/431/010
EU/1/07/431/034
EU/1/07/431/035
EU/1/07/431/062
EU/1/07/431/063

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 5 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS

SYRINGE LABELS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

Retacrit 5 000 IU Injection
Epoetin zeta
iv/sc use

2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

3. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

4. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT

5 000 IU/0.5 ml

6. OTHER

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER CARTON

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 6 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 6 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 0.6 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 0.6 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard containing 0.6 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 0.6 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap containing 0.6 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 0.6 ml solution for injection

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/011
EU/1/07/431/012
EU/1/07/431/036
EU/1/07/431/037
EU/1/07/431/064
EU/1/07/431/065

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 6 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS

SYRINGE LABELS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

Retacrit 6 000 IU Injection
Epoetin zeta
iv/sc use

2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

3. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

4. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT

6 000 IU/0.6 ml

6. OTHER

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER CARTON

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 8 000 IU/0.8 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 8 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 0.8 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 0.8 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard containing 0.8 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 0.8 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap containing 0.8 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 0.8 ml solution for injection

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/013
EU/1/07/431/014
EU/1/07/431/038
EU/1/07/431/039
EU/1/07/431/066
EU/1/07/431/067

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 8 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS

SYRINGE LABELS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

Retacrit 8 000 IU Injection
Epoetin zeta
iv/sc use

2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

3. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

4. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT

8 000 IU/0.8 ml

6. OTHER

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER CARTON

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 10 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 10 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 1 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 1 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard containing 1 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 1 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap containing 1 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 1 ml solution for injection

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/015
EU/1/07/431/016
EU/1/07/431/040
EU/1/07/431/041
EU/1/07/431/068
EU/1/07/431/069

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 10 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS

SYRINGE LABELS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

Retacrit 10 000 IU Injection
Epoetin zeta
iv/sc use

2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

3. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

4. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT

10 000 IU/1 ml

6. OTHER

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER CARTON

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 20 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 20 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
4 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
4 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
4 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 0.5 ml solution for injection

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE REACH AND SIGHT OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/017
EU/1/07/431/020
EU/1/07/431/021
EU/1/07/431/042
EU/1/07/431/045
EU/1/07/431/046
EU/1/07/431/070
EU/1/07/431/071
EU/1/07/431/072

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 20 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
INTERMEDIATE CARTON (WITHOUT BLUE BOX) COMPONENT OF MULTIPACK

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 20 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 20 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 0.5 ml solution for injection
Component of a multipack, not to be sold separately.

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE REACH AND SIGHT OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/051

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 20 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER LABEL (WITH BLUE BOX) MULTIPACK

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 20 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 20 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

Multipack: 6 (6 x 1) pre-filled syringes.

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE REACH AND SIGHT OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/051

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 20 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS

SYRINGE LABELS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

Retacrit 20 000 IU Injection
Epoetin zeta
iv/sc use

2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

3. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

4. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT

20 000 IU/0.5 ml

6. OTHER

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER CARTON

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 30 000 IU/0.75ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 30 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 0.75 ml solution for injection
4 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 0.75 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 0.75 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle guard containing 0.75 ml solution for injection
4 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 0.75 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 0.75 ml solution for injection
1 pre-filled syringe with needle-trap containing 0.75 ml solution for injection
4 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 0.75 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 0.75 ml solution for injection

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE REACH AND SIGHT OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/018
EU/1/07/431/022
EU/1/07/431/023
EU/1/07/431/043
EU/1/07/431/047
EU/1/07/431/048
EU/1/07/431/073
EU/1/07/431/074
EU/1/07/431/075

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 30 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
INTERMEDIATE CARTON (WITHOUT BLUE BOX) COMPONENT OF MULTIPACK

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 30 000 IU/0.75ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 30 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 0.75 ml solution for injection
Component of a multipack, not to be sold separately.

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE REACH AND SIGHT OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/052

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 30 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER LABEL (WITH BLUE BOX) MULTIPACK

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 30 000 IU/0.75ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 30 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

Multipack: 4 (4 x 1) pre-filled syringes.

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE REACH AND SIGHT OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/052

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 30 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS

SYRINGE LABELS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

Retacrit 30 000 IU Injection
Epoetin zeta
iv/sc use

2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

3. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

4. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT

30 000 IU/0.75 ml

6. OTHER

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER CARTON

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 40 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 40 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 1 ml solution for injection
4 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 1 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes without needle guard containing 1 ml solution for injection
1 pre filled syringe with needle guard containing 1 ml solution for injection
4 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 1 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle guard containing 1 ml solution for injection
1 pre filled syringe with needle-trap containing 1 ml solution for injection
4 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 1 ml solution for injection
6 pre-filled syringes with needle-trap containing 1 ml solution for injection

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE REACH AND SIGHT OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/019
EU/1/07/431/024
EU/1/07/431/025
EU/1/07/431/044
EU/1/07/431/049
EU/1/07/431/050
EU/1/07/431/076
EU/1/07/431/077
EU/1/07/431/078

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 40 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
INTERMEDIATE CARTON (WITHOUT BLUE BOX) COMPONENT OF MULTIPACK

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 40 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 40 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

1 pre-filled syringe without needle guard containing 1 ml solution for injection
Component of a multipack, not to be sold separately.

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE REACH AND SIGHT OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

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Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/053

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 40 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING
OUTER LABEL (WITH BLUE BOX) MULTIPACK

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Retacrit 40 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Epoetin zeta

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 pre-filled syringe contains 40 000 IU Epoetin zeta

3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

Contains phenylalanine, see leaflet for further information.

4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

Multipack: 4 (4 x 1) pre-filled syringes.

5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous or subcutaneous use.
Read the package leaflet before use.
Do not shake.

6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE REACH AND SIGHT OF CHILDREN

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY

8. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.
Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE

11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Hospira UK Limited
Hurley
SL6 6RJ
UK

12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

EU/1/07/431/053

13. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE

16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE

Retacrit 40 000 IU

17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA

PC:
SN:
NN:

MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS

SYRINGE LABELS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

Retacrit 40 000 IU Injection
Epoetin zeta
iv/sc use

2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

3. EXPIRY DATE

EXP

4. BATCH NUMBER

Lot

5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT

40 000 IU/1 ml

6. OTHER

B. PACKAGE LEAFLET

Package leaflet: Information for the user

Retacrit 1 000 IU/0.3 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 2 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 3 000 IU/0.9 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 4 000 IU/0.4 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 5 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 6 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 8 000 IU/0.8 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 10 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 20 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 30 000 IU/0.75 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe
Retacrit 40 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

Epoetin zeta

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.
- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4

What is in this leaflet:

1. What Retacrit is and what it is used for

Retacrit contains a protein called epoetin zeta that stimulates the bone marrow to produce more red blood cells, which carry haemoglobin (a substance that transports oxygen). Epoetin zeta is a copy of the human protein erythropoietin and acts in the same way.

Retacrit is used

- in adults, children and adolescents on haemodialysis to treat symptomatic anaemia (low red blood cell counts) associated with chronic renal failure (kidney disease).
- in adult patients on peritoneal dialysis to treat symptomatic anaemia associated with chronic renal failure (kidney disease).
- in adult patients with renal insufficiency not yet on dialysis to treat severe anaemia associated with kidney disease accompanied by clinical symptoms.
- in adult patients receiving chemotherapy for solid tumours, malignant lymphoma (cancer of the lymphatic system) or multiple myeloma (bone marrow cancer) to treat anaemia and reduce the need for a blood transfusion, if the doctor decides there may be a high risk of needing a blood transfusion.
- in moderately anaemic patients who are going to donate blood prior to surgery, so that their own blood can be given to them during or after surgery (autologous pre-donation).

– in moderately anaemic adult patients about to undergo major orthopaedic (bone) surgery (for example hip or knee replacement therapy) to reduce the need for blood transfusions.

2. What you need to know before you use Retacrit

Do not use Retacrit

– if you are allergic to erythropoietins or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6)
– if you have developed Pure Red Cell Aplasia (PRCA; reduced or stopped production of red blood cells) following treatment with any erythropoietin
– if you have high blood pressure, which is not properly controlled with blood pressure-lowering medicines
– if you cannot be given medicines to thin blood for the prevention of blood clots
– if you are donating your own blood before surgery, and:
  - you had a heart attack or stroke in the month before your treatment
  - you have unstable angina pectoris (new or increasing chest pain)
  - you are at risk of blood clots in the veins (deep venous thrombosis) – for example, if you have had clots before.
– if you are due to have major orthopaedic surgery, such as hip or knee replacement, and:
  - you have severe heart disease or severe vascular disorder of the veins or arteries
  - you had a heart attack or stroke recently.

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor before using Retacrit if you know you are suffering, or have suffered, from any of the following:
– epileptic seizures
– liver disease
– cancer
– anaemia from other causes
– heart disease (such as angina)
– disorders of blood circulation resulting in pins and needles or cold hands or feet or muscle cramps in the legs
– blood clots/blood clotting disorders
– kidney disease.

<u>Special warnings</u>

During treatment with Retacrit

Your doctor will check that your haemoglobin does not exceed a certain level, as high haemoglobin concentrations could put you at risk of having a problem of the heart or the blood vessels and could increase risk of myocardial infarction, stroke and death.

Your doctor should try to keep your hemoglobin levels between 10 and 12 g/dL.
The haemoglobin values should not exceed a value of 12 g/dl

Your doctor will monitor your blood pressure regularly while you are using Retacrit. If you experience headaches, particularly sudden, stabbing migraine-like headaches or start to feel confused or have fits, tell your doctor or nursing staff immediately. These may be the warning signs of a sudden rise in blood pressure, which requires urgent treatment.

There may be a rise in the level of platelets (cells that help blood clotting) during treatment with this medicine. This should improve during the course of the treatment. It is recommended that the platelet count is regularly checked during the first 8 weeks of therapy.
Remember to tell your doctor that you are receiving Retacrit if you have to visit the hospital or family doctor for any treatment including a blood test, as Retacrit may affect the results.

Serious skin reactions including Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) have been reported in association with epoetin treatment.

SJS/TEN can appear initially as reddish target-like spots or circular patches often with central blisters on the trunk. Also, ulcers of mouth, throat, nose, genitals and eyes (red and swollen eyes) can occur. These serious skin rashes are often preceded by fever and/or flu-like symptoms. The rashes may progress to widespread peeling of the skin and life-threatening complications.

If you develop a serious rash or another of these skin symptoms, stop taking Retacrit and contact your doctor or seek medical attention immediately.

Take special care with other products that stimulate red blood cell production:
Retacrit is one of a group of products that stimulate the production of red blood cells, like the human protein erythropoietin does. Your healthcare professional will always record the exact product you are using.

Kidney disease patients

Pure Red Cell Aplasia (PRCA) has been reported very rarely after months to years of subcutaneous treatment with other products containing erythropoietins and may not be ruled out with Retacrit. PRCA means the inability to produce enough red blood cells in the bone marrow. If this occurs it can result in severe anaemia, the symptoms of which are unusual tiredness, feeling dizzy or breathlessness. PRCA may be caused by the production of antibodies against the erythropoietin product and, consequently, to your own erythropoietin.

You should discuss this information with your doctor. If PRCA, a very rare condition, occurs, the Retacrit therapy will be stopped and your doctor will determine the best course of action to treat the anaemia. Although this complication is very rare, you should be aware that if you develop it, you would need to have regular blood transfusions, possibly lifelong, to treat your anaemia and the Retacrit therapy would have to be discontinued. Tell your doctor immediately if you suddenly feel very tired or dizzy or suffer from shortness of breath. Your doctor can decide whether Retacrit is not working properly for you and will end the treatment, if necessary.

Chronic renal failure patients on erythropoietin should have their haemoglobin (the part of a red blood cell that carries oxygen) levels measured on a regular basis until a stable level is achieved, and periodically thereafter to minimise the risk of an increase in blood pressure.

If you are a patient with chronic renal failure, and particularly if you do not respond properly to Retacrit, your doctor will check your dose of Retacrit because repeatedly increasing your dose of Retacrit if you are not responding to treatment may increase the risk of having a problem of the heart or the blood vessels and could increase risk of myocardial infarction, stroke and death.

Increases in blood potassium have happened in isolated cases. In chronic renal failure patients, correction for anaemia may lead to increased appetite, and potassium and protein intake. If you are receiving dialysis treatment when you begin treatment with Retacrit, your dialysis regimen may need to be adjusted to maintain urea, creatinine and potassium levels in the desired range. Your doctor will decide this.

Serum electrolytes (substances in your blood) should be monitored in chronic renal failure patients. If an elevated (or rising) serum potassium level is detected, your doctor may consider stopping the treatment with Retacrit until the level is back to normal.

An increase in the dose of a particular blood-thinning medicine (heparin) during haemodialysis is often needed during the course of therapy with Retacrit to minimize the risk of blood clotting. Blockage of the dialysis system is possible if heparinisation is not optimum.

Cancer patients

Cancer patients are more likely to suffer from blood clots if receiving erythropoietin medicines, like Retacrit (see section 4). Therefore, you should discuss the benefits of Retacrit with your doctor, particularly if you are obese or have a history of blood clots/blood clotting disorders.

Cancer patients on erythropoietin should have haemoglobin (the part of a red blood cell that carries oxygen) levels measured on a regular basis until a stable level is achieved, and periodically thereafter.

If you are a cancer patient, you should be aware that Retacrit may act as a blood cell growth factor and in some circumstances may have a negative impact on your cancer. Depending on your individual situation a blood transfusion may be preferable. Please discuss this with your doctor.

Other medicines and Retacrit

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

In particular, if you are taking a medicine containing the active substance ciclosporin to suppress your immune system after a kidney transplant, your doctor may order special blood tests to measure ciclosporin levels while you are taking Retacrit.

Iron supplements and other blood stimulants may increase the effectiveness of Retacrit. Your doctor will decide if it is right for you to take them.

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, Retacrit should be used only if the potential benefit outweighs the potential risk to the foetus.

No data on the effects of epoetin zeta on fertility are available.

Ask your doctor for advice before taking any medicine.

Driving and using machines

Retacrit has no or negligible effect on the ability to drive and use machines.

Retacrit contains phenylalanine

This medicine contains phenylalanine and may be harmful for people with phenylketonuria (genetic enzyme deficiency that increases excretion of a chemical (phenylketone) in urine and may cause nervous system disorders).

Retacrit contains sodium

This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, i.e. essentially ‘sodium-free’.

3. How to use Retacrit

Retacrit therapy is usually started under medical supervision. The injections can then be given by a doctor, trained nurse or other health care professional.

In case Retacrit is injected under the skin (subcutaneously) you can also inject the solution yourself once you have been shown how. Always use this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor if you are not sure.

Dose information

The dose you receive is based on your body weight in kilograms.

Your doctor will conduct investigations, for example blood tests, to help decide if it is necessary for you to have Retacrit. He/she will work out the correct dose of Retacrit for you to use, how long the treatment should continue and by what route the medicine will be given. These decisions will be influenced by what is causing your anaemia. Your doctor will use the lowest effective dose to control the symptoms of your anaemia. If you do not respond adequately to Retacrit, your doctor will check your dose and will inform you if you need to change doses of Retacrit.

You may be given iron supplements before and during Retacrit treatment to make it more effective.

Use in kidney disease patients

Retacrit should be administered either under the skin (subcutaneously) or as an injection either into a vein or a tube that goes into a vein.

Use in adult patients receiving haemodialysis

Your doctor will maintain your haemoglobin concentration between 10 and 12 g/dl (6.2 - 7.5 mmol/l).

Retacrit may be given during the dialysis session or after you have received a dialysis session.

The recommended starting dose of Retacrit is 50 IU/kg (International Units per kilogram). This is given 3 times a week. If the solution is given into a vein, it should be injected over 1-5 minutes.

Depending on how your anaemia responds to treatment, the dose may be adjusted approximately every 4 weeks until your condition is controlled.
Your doctor will order regular blood tests to ensure that your medicine is continuing to work properly. When your condition has been brought under control, you will receive regular doses of Retacrit, 2 or 3 times a week. These doses may not be as high as those received initially.

Use in children and adolescents up to 18 years receiving haemodialysis

In children the doctor will maintain the haemoglobin concentration between 9.5 and 11 g/dl

Retacrit should be given after the patient has received a dialysis session.

The dose for children and adolescents is based on body weight in kilograms. The recommended starting dose is 50 IU/kg. This is given three times a week, injected into a vein (over 1-5 minutes).

Depending on how the anaemia responds, the dose may be adjusted approximately every 4 weeks until the condition is controlled. Your doctor will order regular blood tests to see that this is being achieved.

Use in adult patients receiving peritoneal dialysis

Your doctor will maintain your haemoglobin concentration between 10 and 12 g/dl.

The recommended starting dose is 50 IU/kg. This is given twice a week.

Depending on how your anaemia responds, the dose may be adjusted approximately every 4 weeks until your condition is controlled.
Your doctor will order regular blood tests to ensure that your medicine is continuing to work properly.

Use in adult patients with kidney disease but not receiving dialysis

The recommended starting dose is 50 IU/kg. This is given 3 times a week.

The starting dose may be adjusted by your doctor until your condition is controlled. After your condition has been brought under control, you will receive regular doses of Retacrit (3 times a week, or, if you have your injections under the skin, it may also be given once weekly or once every 2 weeks). The maximum dosage should not exceed 150 IU/kg 3 times per week, 240 IU/kg (up to a maximum of 20 000 IU) once weekly or 480 IU/kg (up to a maximum of 40 000 IU) once every 2 weeks.

Your doctor will order regular blood tests to ensure that your medicine is continuing to work properly.

If you are on a more extended dosing interval (greater than once weekly), you may not maintain adequate haemoglobin levels and you may require an increase in Retacrit dose or frequency of administration.

Use in adult patients receiving chemotherapy

Your doctor may initiate treatment with Retacrit if your haemoglobin level is 10 g/dl or less.
After initiation of therapy, your doctor will maintain your haemoglobin level between 10 and 12 g/dl.

The recommended starting dose is 150 IU/kg. This is given 3 times a week by injection under the skin. Alternatively, your doctor may recommend a starting dose of 450 IU/kg once a week. The starting dose may be adjusted by your doctor depending on how your anaemia responds to treatment; you will usually receive Retacrit until 1 month after the end of chemotherapy.

Use in adult patients in an autologous predonation programme

The recommended starting dose is 600 IU/kg. This is given 2 times a week by injection into a vein. You will receive Retacrit during the 3 weeks before your surgery. You will also take iron supplements before and during Retacrit treatment to increase the effectiveness of Retacrit.

Use in adult patients scheduled for major orthopaedic (bone) surgery

A dose of 600 IU/kg is given by injection under the skin once weekly for 3 weeks before surgery and on the day of surgery. In cases where there is a need to shorten the period before the operation is carried out, a dose of 300 IU/kg is given on each of the 10 days before surgery, on the day of surgery and for 4 days immediately afterwards. If blood tests in the period before the operation show your haemoglobin level to be too high, the treatment will be stopped.

It is also important that levels of iron in your blood are normal throughout Retacrit treatment. Where appropriate you will receive oral doses of iron each day, ideally starting before Retacrit treatment.

Information on administration

The pre-filled syringe is ready for use. Each syringe should be used for a single injection only. Retacrit must not be shaken or mixed with any other liquid.

If Retacrit is injected under the skin, the amount injected in any one place should not exceed 1 ml. Good injection sites are the top of the thigh and around the tummy (abdomen) but away from the navel. Vary the site from day to day.

Always follow these instructions when using Retacrit:

1. Take one sealed syringe blister and leave it to stand for a few minutes until it reaches room temperature prior to using it. This usually takes between 15 and 30 minutes.
2. Remove the syringe from the blister and check that the solution is clear, colourless and practically free from visible particles.
3. Remove the protective cap from the injection needle and expel air from the syringe and injection needle by holding the syringe vertically and gently pressing the plunger upwards.
4. Inject the solution as you have been shown by your doctor. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Do not use Retacrit if:

- the blister sealing is broken or the blister is damaged in any way
- the liquid is coloured or you can see particles floating in it
- any liquid has leaked out of the pre-filled syringe or condensation is visible within the sealed blister
- you know or think it may have been accidentally frozen

Changing from injecting into a vein to injecting under the skin (from intravenous into subcutaneous injection)

Once your condition is controlled you will receive regular doses of Retacrit. Your doctor may decide that it is better for you to receive Retacrit by injection under the skin (subcutaneous) rather than into a vein (intravenous).

The dose should remain the same while the change is being made. Afterwards, your doctor may order blood tests to see if any adjustment in dose is required.

Injecting Retacrit under the skin yourself

When treatment starts, Retacrit is usually injected by medical or nursing staff. Later, your doctor may suggest that you or your caregiver learn how to inject it under the skin (*subcutaneously*) yourself.

- Do not attempt to inject yourself unless you have been trained to do so by your doctor or nurse.
- Always use Retacrit exactly as instructed by your doctor or nurse.
- Only use this medicine if it has been stored correctly (see section 5).
- Before use, leave the syringe to stand until it reaches room temperature. This usually takes between 15 and 30 minutes.

Only use one dose of Retacrit from each syringe.

If this medicine is injected under the skin (subcutaneously), the amount injected is not normally more than 1 ml in a single injection.

Retacrit is given alone and not mixed with other liquids for injection.

Do not shake the syringes. Prolonged vigorous shaking may damage the product. If the product has been shaken vigorously, don’t use it.

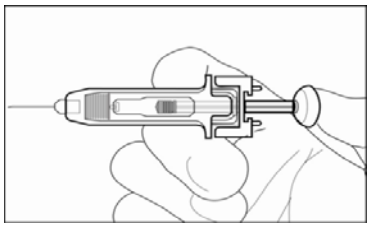
How to inject yourself using a pre-filled syringe

- Take a syringe out of the refrigerator. The liquid needs to come to room temperature. Do not remove the syringe's needle cover while allowing it to reach room temperature.
- Check the syringe, to make sure it is the right dose, has not passed its expiry date, is not damaged, and the liquid is clear and not frozen.
- Choose an injection site. Good sites are the top of the thigh and around the tummy (abdomen) but away from the navel. Vary the site from day to day.
- Wash your hands. Use an antiseptic swab on the injection site, to disinfect it.
- Hold the pre-filled syringe by the body of the syringe with the covered needle pointing upward.
- Do not hold by the plunger head, plunger or needle cover.
- Do not pull back on the plunger at any time.
- Do not remove the needle cover from the pre-filled syringe until you are ready to inject your medicine.
- Take the cover off the syringe by holding the barrel and pulling the cover off carefully without twisting it. Don't push the plunger, touch the needle or shake the syringe.
- Pinch a fold of skin between your thumb and index finger. Don't squeeze it.
- Push the needle in fully. Your doctor or nurse may have shown you how to do this.
- Push the plunger with your thumb as far as it will go to inject the entire amount of liquid. Push it slowly and evenly, keeping the skin fold pinched.
- When the plunger is pushed as far as it will go, take out the needle and let go of the skin.
- When the needle is pulled out of your skin, there may be a little bleeding at the injection site. This is normal. You can press an antiseptic swab over the injection site for a few seconds after the injection.
- Dispose of your used syringe in a sharps container. Do not try to replace the needle cover.
- Never put used syringes into your normal household waste bin.

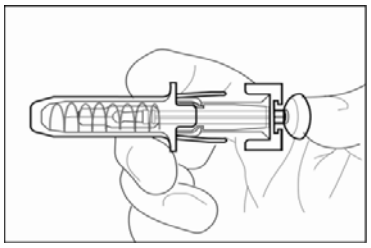
How to inject yourself using a pre-filled syringe

Your pre-filled syringe has a passive needle guard device attached to it in order to protect you from needle stick injury.

- Take a syringe out of the refrigerator. The liquid needs to come to room temperature. Do not remove the syringe's needle cover while allowing it to reach room temperature.
- Check the syringe, to make sure it is the right dose, has not passed its expiry date, is not damaged, and the liquid is clear and not frozen.
- Choose an injection site. Good sites are the top of the thigh and around the tummy (abdomen) but away from the navel. Vary the site from day to day.
- Wash your hands. Use an antiseptic swab on the injection site, to disinfect it.
- Hold the pre-filled syringe by the body of the syringe with the covered needle pointing upward.
- Do not hold by the plunger head, plunger or needle cover.
- Do not pull back on the plunger at any time.
- Do not remove the needle cover from the pre-filled syringe until you are ready to inject your medicine.
- Take the cover off the syringe by holding the barrel and pulling the cover off carefully without twisting it. Don't push the plunger, touch the needle or shake the syringe.
- Pinch a fold of skin between your thumb and index finger. Don't squeeze it.
- Push the needle in fully. Your doctor or nurse may have shown you how to do this.
- Depress the plunger while grasping the finger flange until the entire dose has been given. The needle guard will NOT activate unless the ENTIRE dose has been given.



- When the plunger is pushed as far as it will go, take out the needle and let go of the skin.
- Let go of the plunger and allow the syringe to move up until the entire needle is guarded and locks into place.



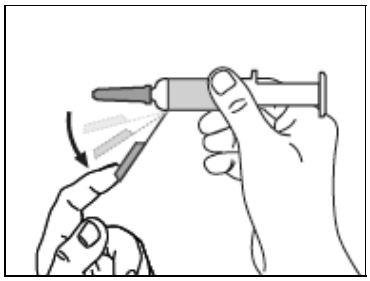
- When the needle is pulled out of your skin, there may be a little bleeding at the injection site. This is normal. You can press an antiseptic swab over the injection site for a few seconds after the injection.
- Dispose of your used syringe in a sharps container. Do not try to replace the needle cover.
- Never put used syringes into your normal household waste bin.

How to inject yourself using a pre-filled syringe

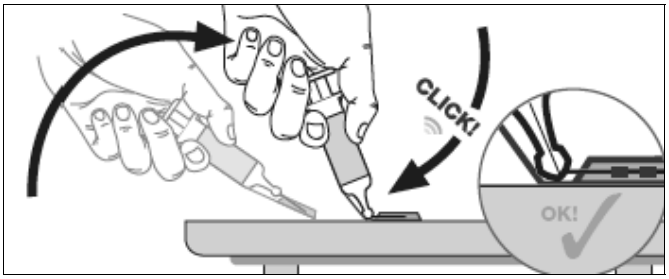
Your syringe has a needle-trap attached to it which is designed to specifically help prevent accidental needle stick injuries following the proper administration of injectable medicines. It consists of a plastic needle "catcher" which is firmly attached to the syringe label. Together, these two components comprise the needle-trap (safety) feature.

The needle-trap requires specific actions by the user to "activate" it, which will render the needle harmless after the injection is administered.

- Take a syringe out of the refrigerator. The liquid needs to come to room temperature. Do not remove the syringe's needle cover while allowing it to reach room temperature.
- Check the syringe, to make sure it is the right dose, has not passed its expiry date, is not damaged, and the liquid is clear and not frozen.
- Choose an injection site. Good sites are the top of the thigh and around the tummy (abdomen) but away from the navel. Vary the site from day to day.
- Wash your hands. Use an antiseptic swab on the injection site, to disinfect it.
- Hold the pre-filled syringe by the body of the syringe with the covered needle pointing upward.
- Do not hold by the plunger head, plunger or needle cover.
- Do not pull back on the plunger at any time.
- Grasp the tip of the plastic needle catcher and bend it away from needle cover.



- Do not remove the needle cover from the pre-filled syringe until you are ready to inject your medicine.
- Take the cover off the syringe by holding the barrel and pulling the cover off carefully without twisting it. Don't push the plunger, touch the needle or shake the syringe.
- Pinch a fold of skin between your thumb and index finger. Don't squeeze it.
- Push the needle in fully. Your doctor or nurse may have shown you how to do this.
- Push the plunger with your thumb as far as it will go to inject the entire amount of liquid. Push it slowly and evenly, keeping the skin fold pinched.
- When the plunger is pushed as far as it will go, take out the needle and let go of the skin.
- Place the plastic catcher of the needle-trap against a hard, stable surface and with one hand pivot the syringe barrel upward against the needle forcing the needle into the catcher where it locks in place (an audible 'click" is heard when the needle is locked in the catcher). Continue bending the needle until the syringe exceeds a 45 degree angle with the flat surface to render it permanently unusable.



- When the needle is pulled out of your skin, there may be a little bleeding at the injection site. This is normal. You can press an antiseptic swab over the injection site for a few seconds after the injection.
- Dispose of your used syringe in a sharps container. Do not try to replace the needle cover.
- Never put used syringes into your normal household waste bin.

If you use more Retacrit than you should

Retacrit has a wide safety margin and side effects due to an overdose of using Retacrit are unlikely. You should inform the doctor or nurse immediately if you think too much Retacrit has been injected.

If you forget to use Retacrit

Do not use a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

If you stop using Retacrit
Do not to stop the treatment without consultation with your doctor.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Serious side effects:

Serious skin rashes including Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis have been reported in association with epoetin treatment. These can appear as reddish target-like macules or circular patches often with central blisters on the trunk, skin peeling, ulcers of mouth, throat, nose, genitals and eyes and can be preceded by fever and flu-like symptoms. Stop using Retacrit if you develop these symptoms and contact your doctor or seek medical attention immediately. See also section 2.

If you experience headaches, particularly sudden, stabbing migraine-like headaches or feel confused or have fits, tell your doctor immediately. These may be the warning signs of a sudden rise in blood pressure which requires urgent treatment.

Tell your doctor or nurse immediately if you notice any of the effects in this list.

Other side effects:

Very common side effects

These may affect more than 1 in 10 people using Retacrit.
- Flu-like symptoms, headache, joint pain, feeling of weakness, tiredness and dizziness.
- Respiratory tract congestion, such as stuffy nose and sore throat, has been reported in patients with kidney disease not yet on dialysis.

Common side effects

These may affect up to 1 in 10 people using Retacrit.
- Increased blood pressure. Raised blood pressure may require treatment with drugs (or adjustment to any medicines you already take for high blood pressure). Your doctor may monitor your blood pressure regularly while you are using Retacrit, particularly at the start of therapy.
- Chest pain, breathlessness, painful swelling in the leg which may be symptoms of blood clots (pulmonary embolism, deep vein thrombosis).
- Stroke (insufficient blood supply to the brain, which may lead to inability to move one or more limbs on one side of the body, inability to understand or formulate speech, or an inability to see one side of the visual field).
- Skin rash and swelling around the eyes (oedema), which may result from an allergic reaction.
- Blood clot in an artificial kidney.

Uncommon side effects

These may affect up to 1 in 100 people using Retacrit.
- Cerebral haemorrhages.

Rare side effects

These may affect up to 1 in 1 000 people using Retacrit.
- Hypersensitivity reactions.

Very rare side effects

These may affect up to 1 in 10 000 people using Retacrit.

- Increased levels of small blood cells (called platelets), which are normally involved in the formation of a blood clot may occur. Your doctor will check on this.

Side effects with unknown frequency

The frequency of these side effects cannot be estimated from the available data.
- Swelling, mainly in the region of the eyelids and the lips (Quincke's oedema) and shock-like allergic reactions with symptoms of tingling, reddening, itching, hot flush and accelerated pulse.
- Vascular and thrombotic events (blood clotting) in blood vessels such as disturbance of blood perfusion in the brain, retinal thrombosis, disturbed blood perfusion of the heart, heart attack, arterial thrombosis, dilatation of the wall of a blood vessel (aneurysm).
- Pure red cell aplasia (PRCA). PRCA has been reported in patients after months to years of subcutaneous (injection under the skin) erythropoietin treatment. PRCA means the inability to produce enough red blood cells in the bone (see section "Warnings and precautions").
- Itching (pruritus).

Other side effects:

Kidney patients
- raised blood pressure which may require treatment with medicinal products or adjustment of the dosage of medicinal products you already take for high blood pressure. Your doctor may monitor your blood pressure regularly while you are using Retacrit, particularly at the start of therapy.
- Occlusion in the connection between artery and vein (shunt thrombosis) may occur especially if you have low blood pressure or if your arteriovenous fistula has complications. Your doctor may check your shunt and prescribe a medicinal product to prevent thrombosis.

Cancer patients
- blood clotting (thrombotic vascular events) (see section "Warnings and precautions").
- increase of blood pressure. Therefore your haemoglobin-levels and your blood pressure should be controlled.

If you get any side effects talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

Reporting of side effects
If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the national reporting system listed in Appendix V*. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Retacrit

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the label and the carton. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C). Do not freeze.

Keep the pre-filled syringe in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

The syringe can be removed from the refrigerator and left at room temperature for a single period of maximum 3 days (but not above 25°C).

Do not throw away any medines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist about how to throw away medicines that you no longer use. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Content of the pack and other information

What Retacrit contains

- The active substance is epoetin zeta (produced by recombinant DNA technology in Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell line).

  Retacrit 1 000 IU/0.3 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

  1 pre-filled syringe with 0.3 ml solution for injection contains 1 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 3 333 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

  Retacrit 2 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

  1 pre-filled syringe with 0.6 ml solution for injection contains 2 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 3 333 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

  Retacrit 3 000 IU/0.9 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

  1 pre-filled syringe with 0.9 ml solution for injection contains 3 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 3 333 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

  Retacrit 4 000 IU/0.4 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

  1 pre-filled syringe with 0.4 ml solution for injection contains 4 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 10 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

  Retacrit 5 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

  1 pre-filled syringe with 0.5 ml solution for injection contains 5 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 10 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

  Retacrit 6 000 IU/0.6 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

  1 pre-filled syringe with 0.6 ml solution for injection contains 6 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 10 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

  Retacrit 8 000 IU/0.8 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

  1 pre-filled syringe with 0.8 ml solution for injection contains 8 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 10 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

  Retacrit 10 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

  1 pre-filled syringe with 1 ml solution for injection contains 10 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 10 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Retacrit 20 000 IU/0.5 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

1 pre-filled syringe with 0.5 ml solution for injection contains 20 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 40 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Retacrit 30 000 IU/0.75 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

1 pre-filled syringe with 0.75 ml solution for injection contains 30 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 40 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

Retacrit 40 000 IU/1 ml solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

1 pre-filled syringe with 1 ml solution for injection contains 40 000 international units (IU) epoetin zeta (recombinant human erythropoietin). The solution contains 40 000 IU Epoetin zeta per ml.

The other ingredients are disodium phosphate dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, polysorbate 20, glycine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, water for injections, sodium hydroxide (pH adjuster), hydrochloric acid (pH adjuster).

What Retacrit looks like and contents of the pack

Retacrit is presented as a clear and colourless solution for injection in a pre-filled syringe with a fixed injection needle.

The prefilled syringes contain between 0.3 and 1 ml solution, depending on the content of epoetin zeta (see “What Retacrit contains”).

One pack contains 1, 4 or 6 pre-filled syringes with or without a needle guard or needle-trap device. Multipacks contain 4 (4 x 1) or 6 (6 x 1) pre-filled syringes.

Marketing Authorisation Holder

Hospira UK Limited
Horizon
Honey Lane
Hurley
Maidenhead
SL6 6RJ
UK

Manufacturer

STADA Arzneimittel AG
Stadastrasse 2-18
D-61118 Bad Vilbel
Germany

HOSPIRA Enterprises B.V.
Randstad 22-11
1316 BN Almere
The Netherlands

Hospira Zagreb d.o.o.
Prudnička cesta 60
10291 Prigorje Brdovečko
Croatia

For any information about this medicine, please contact the local representative of the Marketing Authorisation Holder:

België/Belgique/Belgien
Pfizer SA/NV
Tél/Tel: +32 2 554 62 11

България
Alvogen Pharma Bulgaria Ltd
Тел.: + 359 2 441 7136

Česká republika
Pfizer, spol. s r.o.
Tel: +420-283-004-111

Danmark
Pfizer ApS
Tlf: + 45 44 20 11 00

Deutschland
Pfizer Pharma PFE GmbH
Tel: + 49 (0)800 8535555

Eesti
Pfizer Luxembourg SARL Eesti filiaal
Tel: +372 666 7500

Ελλάδα
Aenorasis S.A.
Τηλ: + 30 210 6136332

España
Pfizer GEP, S.L.
Tel: +34 91 490 99 00

France
Pfizer PFE France
Tél: + 33 (0)1 58 07 34 40

Hrvatska
Alvogen d.o.o.
Tél/Tel: + 385 1 6641 830

Ireland
Hospira Ireland Sales Limited
Tel: 1800 633 363 (toll free)
+44 (0) 1304 616161

Lietuva
Pfizer Luxembourg SARL filialas Lietuvoje
Tel. + 370 52 51 4000

Luxembourg/Luxemburg
Pfizer SA/NV
Tél/Tel: +32 2 554 62 11

Magyarország
Pfizer Kft.
Tel.: + 36 1 488 37 00

Malta
Hospira UK Limited
Tel: + 44 (0) 1628 515500

Nederland
Pfizer bv
Tel: +31 (0)10 406 43 01

Norge
Pfizer AS
Tlf: +47 67 52 61 00

Österreich
Pfizer Corporation Austria Ges.m.b.H.
Tel: +43 (0)1 521 15-0

Polska
Pfizer Polska Sp. z o.o.
Tel.: +48 22 335 61 00

Portugal
Laboratórios Pfizer, Lda.
Tel: +351 21 423 55 00

România
Alvogen Romania SRL
Tel: +(40) 21 351 0286

Slovenija
Pfizer Luxembourg SARL
Pfizer, podružnica za svetovanje s področja farmacevtske dejavnosti, Ljubljana
Tel: +386 (0)1 52 11 400

Ísland
Icepharma hf.
Sími: +354 540 8000

Italia
Pfizer Italia Srl
Tel: +39 06 33 18 21

Κύπρος
Hospira UK Limited
Τηλ: + 44 (0) 1628 515500

Latvija
Pfizer Luxembourg SARL filiāle Latvijā
Tel.: + 371 670 35 775

Slovenská republika
Pfizer Luxembourg SARL, organizačná zložka
Tel: +421–2–3355 5500

Suomi/Finland
Pfizer PFE Finland Oy
Puh/Tel: +358 (0)9 430 040

Sverige
Pfizer AB
Tel: +46 (0)8 550 520 00

United Kingdom
Hospira UK Limited
Tel: + 44 (0) 1628 515500

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Detailed information on this medicine is available on the European Medicines Agency web site: http://www.ema.europa.eu.