Cerezyme® **Rx Only**
(imiglucerase for injection)

DESCRIPTION

Cerezyme® (imiglucerase for injection) is an analogue of the human enzyme β-glucocerebrosidase, produced by recombinant DNA technology. β-Glucocerebrosidase (β-D-glucosyl-N-acylsphingosine glucohydrolase, E.C. 3.2.1.45) is a lysosomal glycoprotein enzyme which catalyzes the hydrolysis of the glycolipid glucocerebroside to glucose and ceramide.

Cerezyme is produced by recombinant DNA technology using mammalian cell culture (Chinese hamster ovary). Purified imiglucerase is a monomeric glycoprotein of 497 amino acids, containing 4 N-linked glycosylation sites (Mr = 60,430). Imiglucerase differs from placental glucocerebrosidase by one amino acid at position 495, where histidine is substituted for arginine. The oligosaccharide chains at the glycosylation sites have been modified to terminate in mannose sugars. The modified carbohydrate structures on imiglucerase are somewhat different from those on placental glucocerebrosidase. These mannose-terminated oligosaccharide chains of imiglucerase are specifically recognized by endocytic carbohydrate receptors on macrophages, the cells that accumulate lipid in Gaucher disease.

Cerezyme is supplied as a sterile, non-pyrogenic, white to off-white lyophilized product. The quantitative composition of the lyophilized drug is provided in the following table:

Ingredient	400 Unit Vial
Imiglucerase (total amount)	424 units
Mannitol	340 mg
Sodium Citrates (Trisodium Citrate) (Disodium Hydrogen Citrate)	140 mg (104 mg) (36 mg)
Polysorbate 80, NF	1.06 mg
Citric Acid and/or Sodium Hydroxide may have been added at the time of manufacture to adjust pH.	

An enzyme unit (U) is defined as the amount of enzyme that catalyzes the hydrolysis of 1 micromole of the synthetic substrate para-nitrophenyl-β-D-glucopyranoside (pNP-Glc) per minute at 37°C. The product is stored at 2-8°C (36-46°F). After reconstitution with Sterile Water for Injection, USP, the imiglucerase concentration is 40 U/mL (see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION** for final concentrations and volumes). Reconstituted solutions have a pH of approximately 6.1.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Mechanism of Action/Pharmacodynamics

Gaucher disease is characterized by a deficiency of β-glucocerebrosidase activity, resulting in accumulation of glucocerebroside in tissue macrophages which become engorged and are typically found in the liver, spleen, and bone marrow and occasionally in lung, kidney, and intestine. Secondary hematologic sequelae include severe anemia and thrombocytopenia in addition to the characteristic progressive hepatosplenomegaly, skeletal complications, including osteonecrosis and osteopenia with secondary pathological fractures. **Cerezyme®** (imiglucerase for injection) catalyzes the hydrolysis of glucocerebroside to glucose and ceramide. In clinical trials, **Cerezyme** improved anemia and thrombocytopenia, reduced spleen and liver size, and decreased cachexia to a degree similar to that observed with Ceredase® (alglucerase injection).

Pharmacokinetics

During one-hour intravenous infusions of four doses (7.5, 15, 30, 60 U/kg) of **Cerezyme®** (imiglucerase for injection), steady-state enzymatic activity was achieved by 30 minutes. Following infusion, plasma enzymatic activity declined rapidly with a half-life ranging from 3.6 to 10.4 minutes. Plasma clearance ranged from 9.8 to 20.3 mL/min/kg (mean ± S.D., 14.5 ± 4.0 mL/min/kg). The volume of distribution corrected for weight ranged from 0.09 to 0.15 L/kg (0.12 ± 0.02 L/kg). These variables do not appear to be influenced by dose or duration of infusion. However, only one or two patients were studied at each dose level and infusion rate. The pharmacokinetics of **Cerezyme** does not appear to be different from placental-derived alglucerase (Ceredase).

In patients who developed IgG antibody to **Cerezyme**, an apparent effect on serum enzyme levels resulted in diminished volume of distribution and clearance and increased elimination half-life compared to patients without antibody (see **WARNINGS**).

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Cerezyme® (imiglucerase for injection) is indicated for long-term enzyme replacement therapy for pediatric and adult patients with a confirmed diagnosis of Type 1 Gaucher disease that results in one or more of the following conditions:

- anemia
- thrombocytopenia
- bone disease
- hepatomegaly or splenomegaly

CONTRAINDICATIONS

There are no known contraindications to the use of **Cerezyme®** (imiglucerase for injection). Treatment with **Cerezyme** should be carefully re-evaluated if there is significant clinical evidence of hypersensitivity to the product.

WARNINGS

Approximately 15% of patients treated and tested to date have developed IgG antibody to **Cerezyme®** (imiglucerase for injection) during the first year of therapy. Patients who developed IgG antibody did so largely within 6 months of treatment and rarely developed antibodies to **Cerezyme** after 12 months of therapy. Approximately 46% of patients with detectable IgG antibodies experienced symptoms of hypersensitivity.

Patients with antibody to **Cerezyme** have a higher risk of hypersensitivity reaction. Conversely, not all patients with symptoms of hypersensitivity have detectable IgG antibody. It is suggested that patients be monitored periodically for IgG antibody formation during the first year of treatment.

Treatment with **Cerezyme** should be approached with caution in patients who have exhibited symptoms of hypersensitivity to the product.

Anaphylactoid reaction has been reported in less than 1% of the patient population. Further treatment with imiglucerase should be conducted with caution. Most patients have successfully continued therapy after a reduction in rate of infusion and pretreatment with antihistamines and/or corticosteroids.

PRECAUTIONS

General

In less than 1% of the patient population, pulmonary hypertension and pneumonia have also been observed during treatment with **Cerezyme®** (imiglucerase for injection). Pulmonary hypertension and pneumonia are known complications of Gaucher disease and have been observed both in patients receiving and not receiving **Cerezyme**. No causal relationship with **Cerezyme** has been established. Patients with respiratory symptoms in the absence of fever should be evaluated for the presence of pulmonary hypertension. Therapy with **Cerezyme** should be directed by physicians knowledgeable in the management of patients with Gaucher disease.

Caution may be advisable in administration of **Cerezyme** to patients previously treated with Ceredase (alglucerase injection) and who have developed antibody to Ceredase or who have exhibited symptoms of hypersensitivity to Ceredase.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Studies have not been conducted in either animals or humans to assess the potential effects of **Cerezyme®** (imiglucerase for injection) on carcinogenesis, mutagenesis, or impairment of fertility.

Teratogenic Effects

Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with **Cerezyme®** (imiglucerase for injection). It is also not known whether **Cerezyme** can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproductive capacity. **Cerezyme** should not be administered during pregnancy except when the indication and need are clear and the potential benefit is judged by the physician to substantially justify the risk.

Nursing Mothers

It is not known whether this drug is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when **Cerezyme®** (imiglucerase for injection) is administered to a nursing woman.

Pediatric Use

The safety and effectiveness of **Cerezyme®** (imiglucerase for injection) have been established in patients between 2 and 16 years of age. Use of **Cerezyme** in this age group is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled studies of **Cerezyme** and Ceredase (alglucerase injection) in adults and pediatric patients, with additional data obtained from the medical literature and from long-term postmarketing experience. **Cerezyme** has been administered to patients younger than 2 years of age, however, the safety and effectiveness in patients younger than 2 have not been established.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Since the approval of **Cerezyme®** (imiglucerase for injection) in May 1994, Genzyme has maintained a worldwide post-marketing database of spontaneously reported adverse events and adverse events discussed in the medical literature. The percentage of events for each reported adverse reaction term has been calculated using the number of patients from these sources as the denominator for total patient exposure to **Cerezyme** since 1994. Actual patient exposure is difficult to obtain due to the voluntary nature of the database and the continuous accrual and loss of patients over that span of time. The actual number of patients exposed to **Cerezyme** since 1994 is likely to be greater than estimated from these voluntary sources and, therefore, the percentages calculated for the frequencies of adverse reactions are most likely greater than the actual incidences.

Experience in patients treated with **Cerezyme** has revealed that approximately 13.8% of patients experienced adverse events which were judged to be related to **Cerezyme** administration and which occurred with an increase in frequency. Some of the adverse events were related to the route of administration. These include discomfort, pruritus, burning, swelling or sterile abscess at the site of venipuncture. Each of these events was found to occur in <1% of the total patient population.

Symptoms suggestive of hypersensitivity have been noted in approximately 6.6% of patients. Onset of such symptoms has occurred during or shortly after infusions; these symptoms include pruritus, flushing, urticaria, angioedema, chest discomfort, dyspnea, coughing, cyanosis, and hypotension. Anaphylactoid reaction has also been reported (see **WARNINGS**). Each of these events was found to occur in <1.5% of the total patient population. Pre-treatment with antihistamines and/or corticosteroids and reduced rate of infusion have allowed continued use of **Cerezyme** in most patients.

Additional adverse reactions that have been reported in approximately 6.5% of patients treated with **Cerezyme** include: nausea, abdominal pain, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, fatigue, headache, fever, dizziness, chills, backache, and tachycardia. Each of these events was found to occur in < 1.5% of the total patient population.

Incidence rates cannot be calculated from the spontaneously reported adverse events in the post-marketing database. From this database, the most commonly reported adverse events in children (defined as ages 2–12 years) included dyspnea, fever, nausea, flushing, vomiting, and coughing, whereas in adolescents (>12–16 years) and in adults (>16 years) the most commonly reported events included headache, pruritus, and rash.

In addition to the adverse reactions that have been observed in patients treated with **Cerezyme**, transient peripheral edema has been reported for this therapeutic class of drug.

OVERDOSE

Experience with doses up to 240 U/kg every 2 weeks have been reported. At that dose there have been no reports of obvious toxicity.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Cerezyme® (imiglucerase for injection) is administered by intravenous infusion over 1-2 hours. Dosage should be individualized to each patient. Initial dosages range from 2.5 U/kg of body weight 3 times a week to 60 U/kg once every 2 weeks. 60 U/kg every 2 weeks is the dosage for which the most data are available. Disease severity may dictate that treatment be initiated at a relatively high dose or relatively frequent administration. Dosage adjustments should be made on an individual basis and may increase or decrease, based on achievement of therapeutic goals as assessed by routine comprehensive evaluations of the patient's clinical manifestations.

Cerezyme should be stored at 2-8°C (36-46°F). After reconstitution, **Cerezyme** should be inspected visually before use. Because this is a protein solution, slight flocculation (described as thin translucent fibers) occurs occasionally after dilution. The diluted solution may be filtered through an in-line low protein-binding 0.2 µm filter during administration. Any vials exhibiting opaque particles or discoloration should not be used. DO NOT USE **Cerezyme** after the expiration date on the vial.
On the day of use, after the correct amount of **Cerezyme** to be administered to the patient has been determined, the appropriate number of vials are each reconstituted with Sterile Water for Injection, USP. The final concentration and administration volumes are provided in the following table:

	400 Unit Vial
Sterile water for reconstitution	10.2 mL
Final volume of reconstituted product	10.6 mL
Concentration after reconstitution	40 U/mL
Withdrawal volume	10.0 mL
Units of enzyme within final volume	400 units

A nominal 10.0 mL is withdrawn from each vial. The appropriate amount of **Cerezyme** for each patient is diluted with 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP, to a final volume of 100–200 mL. **Cerezyme** is administered by intravenous infusion over 1-2 hours. Aseptic techniques should be used when diluting the dose. Since **Cerezyme** does not contain any preservative, after reconstitution, vials should be promptly diluted and not stored for subsequent use. **Cerezyme**, after reconstitution, has been shown to be stable for up to 12 hours when stored at room temperature (25°C) and at 2-8°C. **Cerezyme**, when diluted, has been shown to be stable for up to 24 hours when stored at 2-8°C.
Relatively low toxicity, combined with the extended time course of response, allows small dosage adjustments to be made occasionally to avoid discarding partially used bottles. Thus, the dosage administered in individual infusions may be slightly increased or decreased to utilize fully each vial as long as the monthly administered dosage remains substantially unaltered.

HOW SUPPLIED

Cerezyme® (imiglucerase for injection) is supplied as a sterile, non-pyrogenic, lyophilized product. It is available as:
400 Units per Vial NDC 58468-4663-1
Store at 2-8°C (36-46°F).
Rx only

Genzyme Corporation
Cambridge, MA 02142 USA

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