



## Direct Healthcare Professional Communication

Dec 2024

### **Hydroxycarbamide-containing medicinal products: Potential interference with continuous glucose monitoring systems**

Dear Healthcare Professional,

The General Administration for Pharmaceutical Vigilance of the Central Administration for Pharmaceutical Care at The Egyptian Drug Authority would like to inform you about **Potential interference with continuous glucose monitoring systems when use Hydroxycarbamide-containing medicinal products**

#### **Summary:**

- Hydroxycarbamide may falsely elevate sensor glucose results from certain continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) systems which may lead to hypoglycaemia if sensor glucose results are relied upon to dose insulin.
- If CGM systems are to be used concurrently with hydroxycarbamide treatment, consult with the CGM prescriber about the need to consider alternative glucose monitoring methods.

#### **Background**

Interference of hydroxycarbamide (also known as hydroxyurea) with certain continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) systems leading to falsely elevated glucose readings has been reported in the scientific literature.

CGM systems are wearable sensors measuring glucose in the interstitial fluid based on selective oxidation at the sensor-electrode. The mechanism by which hydroxyurea could potentially interfere with CGM systems is not proven but it is possibly directly oxidised at the electrode falsely elevating the test results.

Hydroxycarbamide-containing medicinal products are authorised in haematological and oncological indications which indicated in the management of malignant neoplastic disease including chronic myeloid leukaemia (pretreatment phase and palliative care) and is also indicated for treatment of cancer of the cervix and other solid type tumours in conjunction with radiotherapy.

If CGM systems are to be used concurrently with hydroxycarbamide treatment, the CGM prescriber should be consulted about the need to consider alternative glucose monitoring methods.

#### **Reference:**

##### **HPRA:**

<https://www.hpra.ie/docs/default-source/default-document-library/important-safety-information-hydroxycarbamide-containing-medicinal-products.pdf?sfvrsn=0>

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## Call for reporting

Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the Egyptian reporting system:

Name: General Administration for Pharmaceutical Vigilance

Email: [pv.followup@edaegypt.gov.eg](mailto:pv.followup@edaegypt.gov.eg)

Online reporting: <https://vigiflow-eforms.who-umc.org/eg/med>

QR Code:

PO Box: 11451

Hotline: 15301

