IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ

PART III: CONSUMER INFORMATION

NiaStase RT®
(eptacog alfa, activated)
Activated Recombinant Human Blood Coagulation
Factor VII Room Temperature Stable

This leaflet is Part III of a three-part 'Product Monograph' published when **NiaStase RT®** was approved for sale in Canada and designed specifically for Consumers. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about **NiaStase RT®**. Contact your doctor or Hemophilia Care Centre if you have any questions about the drug.

ABOUT THIS MEDICATION

What the medication is used for

NiaStase RT® or eptacog alfa (activated) is more commonly known as activated recombinant human blood coagulation Factor VII (rFVIIa). **NiaStase RT®** is a clotting factor produced using recombinant DNA technology. **NiaStase RT®** or rFVIIa is free of all human plasma components, eliminating any possibility of contamination through the blood.

NiaStase RT® is used:

- In hemophilia A and hemophilia B patients with inhibitors to FVIII or FIX, respectively, for the treatment of bleeding episodes (including treatment and prevention of those occurring during and after surgery).
- To treat bleeding episodes, or prevent bleeds during surgery, in patients with Glanzmann's thrombasthenia (a bleeding disorder) when platelet transfusions are no longer effective or when platelets are not available.
- In adult patients with acquired hemophilia, for the treatment of bleeding episodes, and for the prevention of bleeding in those undergoing surgery or invasive procedures.
- In patients with congenital Factor VII deficiency, for the treatment of bleeding episodes and for the prevention of bleeding in those undergoing surgery or invasive procedures.

What it does

NiaStase RT® is a medicine that works by activating the clotting system in the blood at the site of bleeding to prevent or eliminate the bleeding.

When it should not be used

Pregnancy and breastfeeding
Remember to tell your doctor or nurse if you are pregnant or are breastfeeding. Women of child-bearing potential should avoid becoming pregnant during treatment. Nursing mothers should discontinue nursing during treatment.

DO NOT use **NiaStase RT®** with any other clotting products. However, your doctor may prescribe other therapies to be used at the same time as **NiaStase RT®**.

What the medicinal ingredient is

Eptacog alfa, activated, contains activated recombinant human blood coagulation Factor VII (rFVIIa), which is similar to the natural human clotting Factor VIIa.

What the nonmedicinal ingredients are

NiaStase RT® contains the following nonmedicinal ingredients: calcium chloride dihydrate, glycylglycine, mannitol, methionine, polysorbate 80, sodium chloride and sucrose.

The solvent for reconstitution that comes with **NiaStase RT®** contains histidine in water for injections.

What dosage forms it comes in

NiaStase RT® comes as a freeze-dried powder available in 1.0 mg (50 KIU), 2.0 mg (100 KIU), 5.0 mg (250 KIU), and 8.0 mg (400 KIU) vials. The freeze-dried powder in a vial is reconstituted (dissolved) with the histidine solvent that is supplied with your **NiaStase RT®**.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Serious Warnings and Precautions

- The extent of the risk of developing blood clots after using **NiaStase RT®** is not known but is considered to be low. You may have an increased risk of developing blood clots if you have experienced a crush injury, have infection of the blood, hardening of the arteries or if you are prone to develop blood clots. If so, contact your Hemophilia Care Centre or doctor.
- Patients that lack the blood clotting factor VII (known as factor VII deficiency) can have an allergic response to **NiaStase RT®**.

BEFORE you use **NiaStase RT®** talk to your doctor if:

- you have experienced a crush injury;
- you have infection of the blood;
- you have hardening of the arteries;
- you are prone to develop blood clots.

*This information will help your doctor and you decide whether you should use **NiaStase RT®** and what extra care may need to be taken while you are on the medication.*

INTERACTIONS WITH THIS MEDICATION

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

Do not use **NiaStase RT®** at the same time as prothrombin complex concentrates or recombinant Factor XIII.

You should talk to your doctor before using **NiaStase RT®** if you also use Factor VIII or IX products.

There is limited experience of using **NiaStase RT®** together with medicines called antifibrinolytic drugs (such as tranexamic acid) which are also used to control bleeding. You should talk to your doctor before using **NiaStase RT®** with these medicines.

Interactions with other drugs have not been established.

Before using **NiaStase RT®**, talk to your doctor about any medicine you use.

PROPER USE OF THIS MEDICATION

NiaStase RT® is available in four different strengths. Always check that you have the strength prescribed by your doctor. Always use an aseptic technique when injecting **NiaStase RT®**.

For instructions on how to prepare and administer **NiaStase RT®** please refer to the end of this leaflet.

SIDE EFFECTS AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM

*Unwanted effects are possible with all medicines. Tell your Hemophilia Care Centre or doctor as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are receiving treatment with **NiaStase RT®**.*

You may experience some redness at the injection site. This is normal. However, if you develop more severe symptoms such as: hives, itching, tightness of the chest, wheezing, or any other unusual effects, you should contact your Hemophilia Care Centre or doctor **immediately**.

Isolated cases of hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylactic reactions have been reported. Remind your doctor if you have a history of allergic reactions as you may need to be monitored more carefully.

Seek medical attention without delay, if bleeding does not appear to be adequately responding to treatment.

SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS, HOW OFTEN THEY HAPPEN AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM				
Symptom/effect		**Talk with your doctor or Hemophilia Care Centre**		**Stop taking drug and call your doctor**
		Only if severe	**In all cases**	
Common	Redness at injection site	✓		
Uncommon	Hives		✓	
	Itching		✓	
	Tightness of chest			✓
	Wheezing			✓
	Unusual effects		✓	
	If bleeding does not stop		✓	

*This is not a complete list of side effects. For any unexpected effects while taking **NiaStase RT®**, contact your doctor.*

Reporting Side Effects

You can report any suspected side effects associated with the use of health products to Health Canada by:

- Visiting the Web page on Adverse Reaction Reporting (http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/medeff/report-declaration/index-eng.php) for information on how to report online, by mail or by fax; or
- Calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.

NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.

HOW TO STORE IT

Prior to reconstitution, keep **NiaStase RT®** powder and histidine solvent refrigerated or store between 2° to 25°C. Do not freeze. Protect powder and solvent from light. Do not use past the expiration date on the label.

After reconstitution, **NiaStase RT®** should be used immediately. If you do not use immediately after mixing, **NiaStase RT®** may be stored at room temperature (below 25°C) for no longer than 6 hours or refrigerated at 2°C to 8°C for no longer than 24 hours. Do not freeze or store reconstituted **NiaStase RT®** in syringes.

Keep all medication and supplies out of the reach of children.

MORE INFORMATION

If you still have questions or would like more information, please contact your doctor or Hemophilia Care Centre.

This document plus the full product monograph, prepared for health professionals can be found at:
http://www.novonordisk.ca or by contacting Novo Nordisk Canada Inc., at: 1-800-465-4334

This leaflet was prepared by Novo Nordisk Canada Inc.

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Reconstitution and Administration Instructions using Prefilled Syringe with Solvent (MixPro®)

INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO USE NIASTASE RT®

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE USING NIASTASE RT®.

NiaStase RT® is supplied as a powder. Before injection (administration) it must be reconstituted (mixed) with the solvent supplied in the syringe. The solvent is a histidine solution.

Do not mix NiaStase RT® with any other intravenous infusions or medications.

The reconstituted **NiaStase RT®** must be injected into your vein (intravenous injection). The equipment in this package is designed to reconstitute and inject **NiaStase RT®**.

You will also need an infusion set (tubing and butterfly needle), sterile alcohol swabs, gauze pads and plasters. These devices are not included in the **NiaStase RT®** package.

Do not use the equipment without proper training from your doctor or nurse.

Always wash your hands and ensure that the area around you is clean.

When you prepare and inject medication directly into the vein, it is important to **use a clean and germ free (aseptic) technique.** Improper technique can introduce germs that can infect the blood.

Do not open the equipment until you are ready to use it.

Do not use the equipment if it has been dropped, or if it is damaged. Use a new package instead.

Do not use the equipment if it is expired. Use a new package instead. The expiry date is printed on the outer carton, on the vial, on the vial adapter, and on the prefilled syringe.

Do not use the equipment if you suspect it is contaminated. Use a new package instead.

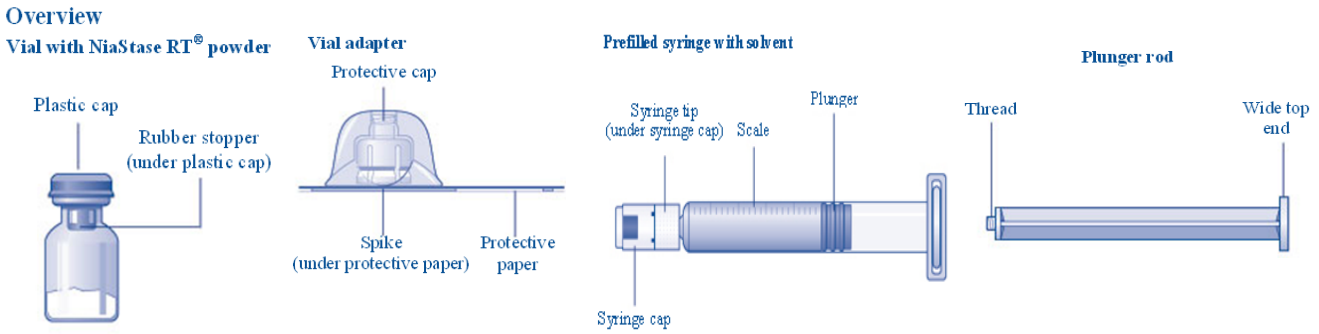
Do not dispose of any of the items until after you have injected the reconstituted solution.

The equipment is for single use only.

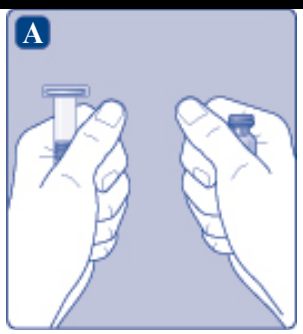
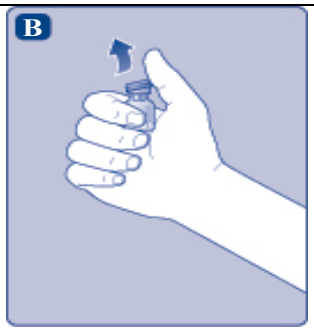
Contents

The package contains:
• 1 vial with **NiaStase RT®** powder
• 1 vial adapter
• 1 prefilled syringe with solvent
• 1 plunger rod (placed under the syringe)

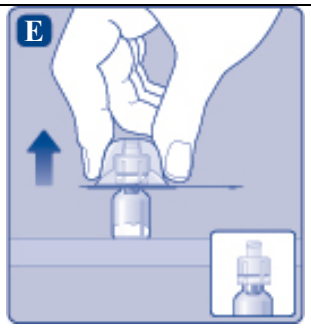
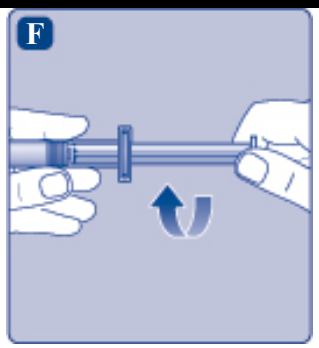
The prefilled solvent syringe with sterile vial adapter, together serve as a needleless reconstitution system named the MixPro®.

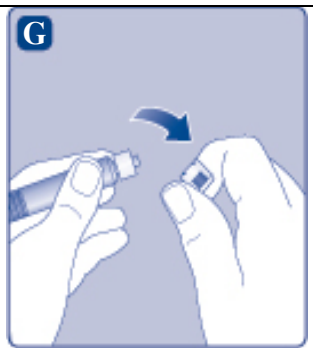
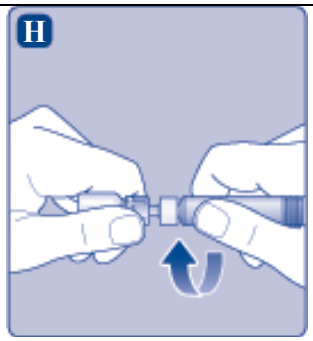
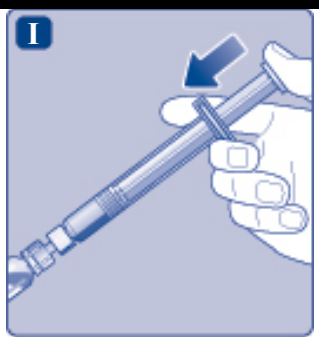
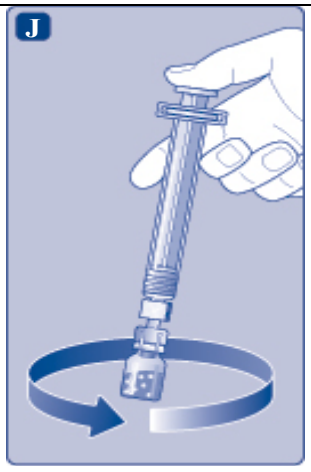


1. Prepare the Vial and Syringe

Step A		**Take out the number of NiaStase RT® packages you need.** **Check the expiry date.** **Check the name, strength and colour** of the package, to make sure it contains the correct product. **Wash your hands** and dry them properly using a clean towel or air dry. Take the vial, the vial adapter and the prefilled syringe out of the carton. **Leave the plunger rod untouched in the carton.** **Bring the vial and the prefilled syringe to room temperature** (not above 37°C). You can do this by holding them in your hands until they feel as warm as your hands. **Do not use any other way to warm** the vial and prefilled syringe.
Step B		**Remove the plastic cap** from the vial. **If the plastic cap is loose or missing, do not use the vial.** **Wipe the rubber stopper** with a sterile alcohol swab and allow it to air dry for a few seconds before use to ensure that it is as germ free as possible. **Do not touch the rubber stopper with your fingers as this can transfer germs.**

2. Attach the Vial Adapter

Step C		**Remove the protective paper** from the vial adapter. **If the protective paper is not fully sealed or if it is broken, do not use the vial adapter.** **Do not take the vial adapter out of the protective cap with your fingers.** If you touch the spike on the vial adapter germs from your fingers can be transferred.
Step D		**Place the vial on a flat and solid surface.** **Turn over the protective cap,** and snap the vial adapter onto the vial. **Once attached, do not remove the vial adapter from the vial.**
Step E		Lightly **squeeze the protective cap** with your thumb and index finger as shown. **Remove the protective cap** from the vial adapter. **Do not lift the vial adapter from the vial** when removing the protective cap.
3. Attach the Plunger Rod and the Syringe		
Step F		Grasp the plunger rod by the wide top-end and take it out of the carton. **Do not touch the sides or the thread of the plunger rod.** If you touch the sides or the thread, germs from your fingers can be transferred**.** **Immediately** connect the plunger rod to the syringe by turning it clockwise into the plunger inside the prefilled syringe until resistance is felt.

Step G		**Remove the syringe cap** from the prefilled syringe by bending it down until the perforation breaks. **Do not touch the syringe tip under the syringe cap.** If you touch the syringe tip, germs from your fingers can be transferred. **If the syringe cap is loose or missing, do not use the prefilled syringe.**
Step H		**Screw the prefilled syringe securely** onto the vial adapter until resistance is felt.
4. Reconstitute the Powder with the Solvent		
Step I		**Hold the prefilled syringe slightly tilted** with the vial pointing downwards. **Push the plunger rod** to inject all the solvent into the vial.
Step J		**Keep the plunger rod pressed down and swirl** the vial gently until all the powder is dissolved. **Do not shake the vial as this will cause foaming.** **Check the reconstituted solution.** It must be colourless. **If you notice visible particles or discoloration, do not use it.** Use a new package instead.
NiaStase RT® is recommended to be used immediately after it has been reconstituted. This is because if left, the		

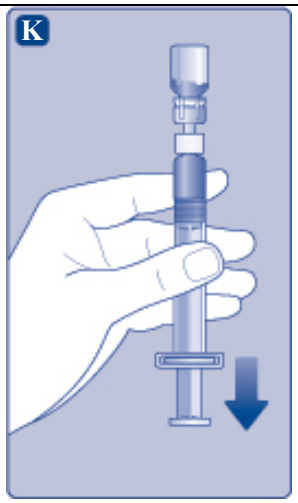
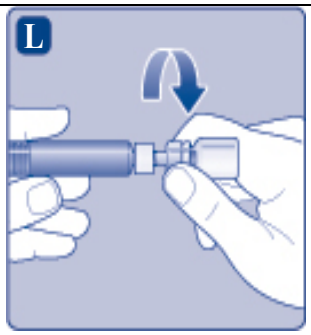
medicine may no longer be sterile and could cause infections.

If you cannot use the reconstituted NiaStase RT® solution immediately, it should be kept in the vial (with the vial adapter and the syringe still attached) and stored at room temperature (below 25°C) for no longer than 6 hours or refrigerated (2°C to 8°C) for no longer than 24 hours.

Do not freeze reconstituted NiaStase RT® solution or store it in syringes.

Keep reconstituted NiaStase RT® solution out of direct light.

(I)
If your dose requires more than one vial, repeat steps A to J with additional vials, vial adapters and prefilled syringes until you have reached your required dose.

Step K		**Keep the plunger rod pushed completely in.** **Turn the syringe** with the vial upside down. **Stop pushing the plunger rod and let it move back** on its own while the reconstituted solution fills the syringe. **Pull the plunger rod slightly downwards** to draw the reconstituted solution into the syringe. In case you only need part of the reconstituted solution, use the scale on the syringe to see how much of the solution you withdraw, as instructed by your doctor or nurse. If, at any point, there is too much air in the syringe, inject the air back into the vial. While holding the vial upside down, **tap the syringe gently** to let any air bubbles rise to the top. **Push the plunger rod** slowly until all air bubbles are gone.
Step L		**Unscrew the vial adapter** with the vial. **Do not touch the syringe tip.** If you touch the syringe tip, germs from your fingers can be transferred.

<u>Injecting NiaStase RT® with prefilled syringe (MixPro®) via needleless connectors for intravenous (IV) catheters</u>

Caution: The MixPro® prefilled solvent syringe is made of glass and is designed to be compatible with standard luer-lock connections. Some needleless connectors with an internal spike are incompatible with the prefilled syringe. This incompatibility may prevent administration of the drug and/or result in damage to the needleless connector.

Follow the instructions for use that come with the needleless connector. Administration through a needleless connector may require withdrawal of the reconstituted solution into a standard 10 mL sterile luer-lock plastic syringe. This should be done right after Step J.

If you have encountered any problems with attaching the prefilled histidine solvent syringe to any luer-lock compatible device, or have any questions please contact Novo Nordisk at 1-800-465-4334.

5. Inject the Reconstituted Solution

NiaStase RT® is now ready to inject into your vein.

Inject the reconstituted solution as instructed by your doctor or nurse.

Inject slowly over 2 to 5 minutes.

Injecting the solution via a central venous access device (CVAD) such as a central venous catheter or a subcutaneous port:

- Use a clean and germ free (aseptic) technique. Follow the instructions for proper use for your connector and CVAD in consultation with your doctor or nurse.
- Injecting into a CVAD may require using a sterile 10 mL plastic syringe for withdrawal of the reconstituted solution.
- If the CVAD line needs to be flushed before or after **NiaStase RT®** injection, use 0.9% Sodium Chloride solution for injection.

6. Disposal

Step M		**After injection, safely dispose** of the syringe with the infusion set, the vial with the vial adapter, any unused **NiaStase RT®** and other waste materials as instructed by your doctor or nurse. Do not throw it out with the ordinary household waste.

Do not disassemble the equipment before disposal.

Do no reuse the equipment.