

Summary Public Assessment Report

Apremilast STADA (apremilast)

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apremilast

Film-coated tablet, 30 mg, 10 mg + 20 mg + 30 mg

This is a summary of the public assessment report (PAR) for Apremilast STADA. It explains how the assessment was made and why the authorisation was recommended as well as the conditions of use. It is not intended to provide practical advice on how to use the product.

For practical information about the use of the product, patients should read the package leaflet or contact their doctor or pharmacist.

What is Apremilast STADA and what is it used for?

The product is a 'generic medicine'. This means that it is similar to a 'reference medicine' already authorised in the European Union (EU) called Otezla.

The product is used in the treatment of:

- **Active psoriatic arthritis** - if you cannot use another type of medicine called 'Disease-Modifying Antirheumatic Drugs' (DMARDs) or when you have tried one of these medicines and it did not work.
- **Moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis** - if you cannot use one of the following treatments or when you have tried one of these treatments and it did not work:
 - phototherapy - a treatment where certain areas of skin are exposed to ultraviolet light
 - systemic therapy - a treatment that affects the entire body rather than just one local area, such as 'ciclosporin', 'methotrexate' or 'psoralen'.
- **Behçet's disease (BD)** - to treat the mouth ulcers which is a common problem for people with this illness.

How does Apremilast STADA work?

Psoriatic arthritis, psoriasis and Behçet's disease are usually lifelong conditions and there is currently no cure. Apremilast works by reducing the activity of an enzyme in the body called 'phosphodiesterase 4', which is involved in the process of inflammation. By reducing the activity of this enzyme, apremilast can help to control the inflammation associated with psoriatic arthritis, psoriasis and Behçet's disease, and thereby reduce the signs and symptoms of these conditions.

How is Apremilast STADA used?

The pharmaceutical form is film-coated tablet for oral use.

Please read section 3 of the package leaflet for detailed information on dosing recommendations, the route of administration, and the duration of treatment.

The medicine can only be obtained with a prescription in Sweden.

What benefits of Apremilast STADA have been shown in studies?

Because the product is a generic medicine, studies in patients have been limited to tests to determine that it is bioequivalent to the reference medicine, Otezla. Two medicines are bioequivalent when they produce the same levels of the active substance in the body.

What are the possible side effects from Apremilast STADA?

Because the product is a generic medicine, its benefits and possible side effects are taken as being the same as the reference medicine.

For the full list of side effects, see section 4 of the package leaflet.

For the full list of restrictions, see the package leaflet.

Why is Apremilast STADA approved?

It was concluded that, in accordance with EU requirements, the product has been shown to have comparable quality and is considered to be bioequivalent to the reference medicine. Therefore, the Swedish Medical Products Agency decided that, as for Otezla, the benefits are greater than its risks and recommended that it can be approved for use.

What measures are being taken to ensure the safe and effective use of Apremilast STADA?

A risk management plan has been developed to ensure that the product is used as safely as possible. Based on this plan, safety information has been included in the summary of product characteristics and the package leaflet, including the appropriate precautions to be followed by healthcare professionals and patients.

Known side effects are continuously monitored. Furthermore, new safety signals reported by patients/healthcare professionals will be monitored/reviewed continuously as well.

Other information about Apremilast STADA

The full PAR for Apremilast STADA can be found on the following website: <http://mri.medagencies.org/Human/>. For more information about treatment with Apremilast STADA please read the package leaflet or contact your doctor or pharmacist.

This summary was last updated in 2025-01.