

## Package leaflet: Information for the user

**Vildagliptin/Metformin STADA 50 mg/850 mg film-coated tablets**  
**Vildagliptin/Metformin STADA 50 mg/1000 mg film-coated tablets**

vildagliptin/metformin hydrochloride

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking 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 <Product name> is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take <Product name>
3. How to take <Product name>
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store <Product name>
6. Contents of the pack and other information

### **1. What <Product name> is and what it is used for**

The active substances of <Product name>, vildagliptin and metformin, belong to a group of medicines called “oral antidiabetics”.

<Product name> is used to treat adult patients with type 2 diabetes. This type of diabetes is also known as non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus. <Product name> is used when diabetes cannot be controlled by diet and exercise alone and/or with other medicines used to treat diabetes (insulin or sulphonylureas).

Type 2 diabetes develops if the body does not make enough insulin or if the insulin that the body makes does not work as well as it should. It can also develop if the body produces too much glucagon.

Both insulin and glucagon are made in the pancreas. Insulin helps to lower the level of sugar in the blood, especially after meals. Glucagon triggers the liver to make sugar, causing the blood sugar level to rise.

### **How <Product name> works**

Both active substances, vildagliptin and metformin, help to control the level of sugar in the blood.

- vildagliptin works by making the pancreas produce more insulin and less glucagon
- metformin works by helping the body to make better use of insulin. This medicine has been shown to reduce blood sugar, which may help to prevent complications from your diabetes

### **2. What you need to know before you take <Product name>**

**DO NOT take <Product name> if you:**

- are allergic to vildagliptin, metformin or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6). If you think you may be allergic to any of these, talk to your doctor before taking <Product name>
- have uncontrolled diabetes, with, for example, severe hyperglycaemia (high blood glucose), nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, rapid weight loss, lactic acidosis (see “Risk of lactic acidosis” below) or ketoacidosis. Ketoacidosis is a condition in which substances called ketone bodies accumulate in the blood, which can lead to diabetic pre-coma. Symptoms include stomach pain, fast and deep breathing, sleepiness or your breath developing an unusual fruity smell
- have recently had a heart attack or if you have heart failure or serious problems with your blood circulation or difficulties in breathing which could be a sign of heart problems
- have severely reduced kidney function
- have a severe infection or are seriously dehydrated (have lost a lot of water from your body)
- are going to have a contrast x-ray (a specific type of x-ray involving an injectable dye). Please also see information about this in section “Warnings and precautions”
- have liver problems
- drink alcohol excessively (whether every day or only from time to time)
- are breast-feeding (see also “Pregnancy and breast-feeding”)

## Warnings and precautions

### Risk of lactic acidosis

<Product name> may cause a very rare, but very serious side effect called lactic acidosis, particularly if your kidneys are not working properly. The risk of developing lactic acidosis is also increased with uncontrolled diabetes, serious infections, prolonged fasting or alcohol intake, dehydration (see further information below), liver problems and any medical conditions in which a part of the body has a reduced supply of oxygen (such as acute severe heart disease).

If any of the above apply to you, talk to your doctor for further instructions.

**Stop taking <Product name> for a short time if you have a condition that may be associated with dehydration** (significant loss of body fluids) such as severe vomiting, diarrhoea, fever, exposure to heat or if you drink less fluid than normal. Talk to your doctor for further instructions.

**Stop taking <Product name> and contact a doctor or the nearest hospital immediately if you experience some of the symptoms of lactic acidosis**, as this condition may lead to coma.

Symptoms of lactic acidosis include:

- vomiting
- stomach ache (abdominal pain)
- muscle cramps
- a general feeling of not being well, with severe tiredness
- difficulty breathing
- reduced body temperature and heartbeat

Lactic acidosis is a medical emergency and must be treated in a hospital.

<Product name> is not a substitute for insulin. Therefore, you should not receive <Product name> for the treatment of type 1 diabetes.

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before taking <Product name> if you:

- have or have had a disease of the pancreas

- are taking an anti-diabetic medicine known as a sulphonylurea. Your doctor may want to reduce your dose of the sulphonylurea when you take it together with <Product name> in order to avoid low blood glucose (hypoglycaemia)

If you have previously taken vildagliptin but had to stop taking it because of liver disease, you should not take this medicine.

#### Skin complaints

Diabetic skin lesions are a common complication of diabetes. You are advised to follow the recommendations for skin and foot care that you are given by your doctor or nurse. You are also advised to pay particular attention to any new onset of blisters or ulcers while taking <Product name>. Should these occur, you should promptly consult your doctor.

#### Surgery

If you need to have major surgery, you must stop taking <Product name> during and for some time after the procedure. Your doctor will decide when you must stop and when to restart your treatment with <Product name>.

#### Regular tests

A test to determine your liver function will be performed before the start of <Product name> treatment, at three-month intervals for the first year and periodically thereafter. This is so that signs of increased liver enzymes can be detected as early as possible.

During treatment with <Product name>, your doctor will check your kidney function at least once a year or more frequently if you are elderly and/or have worsening kidney function.

Your doctor will test your blood and urine for sugar regularly.

#### **Children and adolescents**

The use of <Product name> in children and adolescents up to 18 years of age is not recommended.

#### **Other medicines and <Product name>**

If you need to have an injection of a contrast medium that contains iodine into your bloodstream, for example for an X-ray or scan, you must stop taking <Product name> before or at the time of the injection. Your doctor will decide when you must stop and when to restart your treatment with <Product name>.

Tell your doctor if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines. You may need more frequent blood glucose and kidney function tests, or your doctor may need to adjust the dosage of <Product name>. It is especially important to mention the following:

- glucocorticoids - generally used to treat inflammation
- beta-2 agonists - generally used to treat respiratory disorders
- other medicines used to treat diabetes
- diuretics - used to increase urine production
- medicines used to treat pain and inflammation (NSAID and COX-2-inhibitors, such as ibuprofen and celecoxib)
- certain medicines for the treatment of high blood pressure (ACE inhibitors and angiotensin II receptor antagonists)
- certain medicines affecting the thyroid
- certain medicines affecting the nervous system
- certain medicines used to treat angina (e.g. ranolazine)
- certain medicines used to treat HIV infection (e.g. dolutegravir)
- certain medicines used to treat a specific type of thyroid cancer (medullary thyroid cancer) (e.g. vandetanib)
- certain medicines used to treat heartburn and peptic ulcers (e.g. cimetidine)

### **<Product name> with alcohol**

Avoid excessive alcohol intake while taking <Product name> since this may increase the risk of lactic acidosis (please see section “Warnings and precautions”).

### **Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

Do not use <Product name> if you are pregnant or breast-feeding (see also “DO NOT take <Product name>”).

If you think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor for advice before taking this medicine. Your doctor will discuss with you the potential risk of taking <Product name> during pregnancy.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking any medicine.

### **Driving and using machines**

If you feel dizzy while taking <Product name>, do not drive or use any tools or machines.

### **<Product name> contains lactose**

If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact your doctor before taking this medicine.

## **3. How to take <Product name>**

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

### Dosage

The recommended dose is one tablet taken twice a day.

The amount of <Product name> that people have to take varies depending on their condition. Your doctor will tell you exactly what dose of <Product name> to take.

### When and how to take <Product name>

- swallow the tablet whole with a glass of water
- take one tablet in the morning and the other in the evening with or just after food
- taking the tablet just after food will lower the risk of an upset stomach

### Kidney problems

If you have reduced kidney function, your doctor may prescribe a lower dose. Also if you are taking an anti-diabetic medicine known as a sulphonylurea your doctor may prescribe a lower dose.

### Additional things to consider

Your doctor may prescribe this medicine alone or with certain other medicines that lower the level of sugar in your blood.

Continue to follow any advice about diet that your doctor has given you. In particular, if you are following a diabetic weight control diet, continue with this while you are taking <Product name>.

### **If you take more <Product name> than you should**

If you take too many <Product name> tablets, or if someone else takes your tablets, **talk to a doctor or pharmacist immediately**. Medical attention may be necessary. If you have to go to a doctor or hospital, take the pack and this leaflet with you.

**If you forget to take <Product name>**

If you forget to take a tablet, take it with your next meal unless you are due to take one then anyway. Do not take a double dose (two tablets at once) to make up for a forgotten tablet.

**If you stop taking <Product name>**

Continue to take this medicine as long as your doctor prescribes it so that it can continue to control your blood sugar. Do not stop taking <Product name> unless your doctor tells you to. If you have any questions about how long to take this medicine, talk to your doctor.

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

**4. Possible side effects**

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

You should **stop taking <Product name> and see your doctor immediately** if you experience the following side effects:

**Very rare** (may affect up to 1 in 10 000 people)

- **lactic acidosis.** <Product name> may cause a very rare, but very serious side effect called lactic acidosis (see section “Warnings and precautions”). If this happens, you must **stop taking <Product name> and contact a doctor or the nearest hospital immediately**, as lactic acidosis may lead to coma

**Rare** (may affect up to 1 in 1 000 people)

- **angioedema.** Symptoms include swollen face, tongue or throat, difficulty swallowing, difficulty breathing, sudden onset of rash or hives

**Uncommon** (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)

- **liver disease (hepatitis).** Symptoms include yellow skin and eyes, nausea, loss of appetite or dark-coloured urine
- **inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis).** Symptoms include severe and persistent pain in the abdomen (stomach area) which might reach through to your back, as well as nausea and vomiting

Other side effects**Some patients have experienced the following side effects while taking vildagliptin/metformin:**

**Common** (may affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- sore throat, runny nose, fever, itchy rash, excessive sweating, joint pain, dizziness, headache, trembling that cannot be controlled, constipation, nausea (feeling sick), vomiting, diarrhoea, flatulence, heartburn, pain in and around the stomach (abdominal pain)

**Uncommon** (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)

- tiredness, weakness, metallic taste, low blood glucose, loss appetite, swollen hands, ankles or feet (oedema), chills, inflammation of the pancreas, muscle pain

**Very rare** (may affect up to 1 in 10 000 people)

- signs of a high level of lactic acid in the blood (known as lactic acidosis) such as drowsiness or dizziness, severe nausea or vomiting, abdominal pain, irregular heartbeat or deep, rapid breathing

- redness of the skin, itching
- decreased vitamin B<sub>12</sub> levels (paleness, fatigue, mental symptoms such as confusion or memory disturbances)

**Since medicines containing vildagliptin/metformin have been marketed, the following side effects have also been reported:**

**Not known** (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data)

- localised peeling of the skin or blisters, blood vessel inflammation (vasculitis) which may result in skin rash or pointed, flat, red, round spots under the skin's surface or bruising

### Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. 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 <Product name>

This medicinal product does not require any special temperature storage conditions. Store in original package in order to protect from humidity and light.

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 blister and carton after "EXP". The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

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

## 6. Contents of the pack and other information

### What <Product name> contains

- The active substances are vildagliptin and metformin hydrochloride.
- Each <Product name> 50 mg/850 mg film-coated tablet contains 50 mg vildagliptin and 850 mg metformin hydrochloride (corresponding to 660 mg of metformin).
- Each <Product name> 50 mg/1000 mg film-coated tablet contains 50 mg vildagliptin and 1000 mg metformin hydrochloride (corresponding to 780 mg of metformin).
- The other ingredients are:  
Tablet core: hydroxypropylcellulose E463, copovidone, lactose monohydrate, magnesium stearate E470b.  
Film-coating: hypromellose (E 464), titanium dioxide (E 171), macrogol (E 1521), talc (E 553b), iron oxide yellow (E 172), iron oxide red (E 172).  
Film-coating: hypromellose (E 464), titanium dioxide (E 171), macrogol (E 1521), talc (E 553b), iron oxide yellow (E 172).

### What <Product name> looks like and contents of the pack

<Product name> 50 mg/850 mg film-coated tablets are yellow, oval, biconvex film-coated tablets with a length of approximately 20 mm and a width of approximately 8 mm.

<Product name> 50 mg/1000 mg film-coated tablets are dark yellow, oval, biconvex film-coated tablets with a length of approximately 21 mm and a width of approximately 8 mm.

Pack sizes:

*[Blister]*

<Product name> is available in packs containing 10, 30, 60, 120 or 180 film-coated tablets.

<Product name> is available in packs containing 10, 30, 60, 120 or 180 film-coated tablets.

*[Unit-dose blister]*

<Product name> is available in packs containing 10, 30, 60, 120 or 180 film-coated tablets.

<Product name> is available in packs containing 10, 30, 60, 120 or 180 film-coated tablets.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

**Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer**

<[To be completed nationally]>

**This leaflet was last revised in 2023-05-25**