

## Summary of Product Characteristics

### 1 NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

MUSE 125 microgram urethral stick.

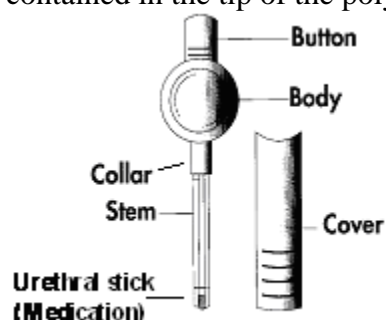
### 2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each urethral stick contains 125 micrograms alprostadil.  
For a full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

### 3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Urethral Stick.

MUSE is a sterile, single-use transurethral system for the delivery of alprostadil to the male urethra. Alprostadil is suspended in polyethylene glycol and is formed into a urethral stick (1.4 mm in diameter by 3 mm in length) which is contained in the tip of the polypropylene applicator.



### 4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

#### 4.1 Therapeutic Indications

Treatment of erectile dysfunction of primarily organic etiology.  
Adjunct to other tests in the diagnosis and management of erectile dysfunction.  
MUSE is indicated in adults aged 18 years and above.

#### 4.2 Posology and method of administration

##### Use in Adults

##### Treatment of erectile dysfunction

*Initiation of therapy:* a medical professional should instruct each patient on the correct use of MUSE. The recommended starting dose is 500 micrograms.

Dosage may be increased in a stepwise manner (to 1000 micrograms), or decreased (to 250 or 125 micrograms) under medical supervision until the patient achieves a satisfactory response. After an assessment of the patient's skill and competence with the procedure, the chosen dose may then be prescribed for home use.

It is important for the patient to urinate before administration since a moist urethra makes administration of MUSE easier and is essential to dissolve the drug. To administer MUSE, remove the protective cover from the MUSE applicator, stretch the penis upward to its full length, and insert the applicator stem into the urethra. Depress the applicator button to release the medication from the applicator and remove the applicator from the urethra, (rocking the applicator gently prior to removal will ensure that the medication is separated from the applicator stem). Roll the penis

between the hands for at least 10 seconds to ensure that the medication is adequately distributed along the wall of the urethra. If the patient feels a burning sensation it may help to roll the penis for an additional 30 to 60 seconds or until the burning subsides. The erection will develop within 5-10 minutes after administration and lasts approximately 30-60 minutes. After administration of MUSE, it is important to sit, or preferably, stand or walk for about 10 minutes while the erection is developing. More detailed information is given in the patient information leaflet. During home use, periodic checks of efficacy and safety are recommended.

Not more than 2 doses are recommended to be used in any 24-hour period, and not more than 7 doses are recommended to be used in a 7-day period. The prescribed dosage should not be exceeded.

*Adjunct to other tests in the diagnosis and management of erectile dysfunction.*

MUSE can be used as an adjunct in evaluating penile vascular function using Doppler duplex ultrasonography. It has been shown that a 500 microgram dose of MUSE has a comparable effect on penile arterial dilatation and peak systolic velocity flow to 10 microgram of alprostadil given by intracavernosal injection. At the time of discharge from the clinic, the erection should have subsided.

### **Use in the elderly**

No adjustment for age is required.

## **4.3 Contraindications**

MUSE is contraindicated in the following patients:

- Patients who have a known hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients.
- Patients with anatomical deformation of the penis, such as stenosis of the distal urethra, severe hypospadias, severe curvature, balanitis, acute or chronic urethritis, angulation, cavernosal fibrosis or Peyronie's disease.
- Patients who have conditions that might predispose them to priapism, such as sickle cell anaemia or trait, thrombocythaemia, polycythaemia, multiple myeloma or leukemia; predisposition to venous thrombosis, or a history of recurrent priapism.
- Patients for whom sexual activity is inadvisable or contraindicated, such as men with unstable cardiovascular or unstable cerebrovascular conditions.

MUSE should not be used if the female partner is or may be pregnant unless the couple uses a condom barrier.

MUSE is contraindicated in women and children.

## **4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use**

Underlying treatable medical causes of erectile dysfunction should be diagnosed and treated prior to initiation of treatment with MUSE.

Painful erection is more likely to occur in patients with anatomical deformations of the penis, such as angulation, phimosis, cavernosal fibrosis, Peyronie's disease or plaques.

Incorrect insertion of MUSE may cause urethral abrasion and minor urethral bleeding. In patients infected with blood born diseases, this could increase the transmission of such diseases to their partner.

Patients on anticoagulants or with bleeding disorders may have an increased risk of urethral bleeding.

Priapism (erection lasting over six hours) may occur following administration of MUSE. Treatment of priapism should not be delayed more than 6 hours (please refer to Section 4.9 Overdose). Instruct patients to immediately report to their prescribing physician, or, if unavailable, seek immediate medical assistance for any erection that persists longer than 4 hours. Treatment of priapism should be according to established medical practice.

In clinical trials of MUSE, priapism (rigid erections lasting  $\geq 6$  hours) and prolonged erection (rigid erection lasting 4 hours and  $< 6$  hours) were reported infrequently ( $< 0.1\%$  and  $0.3\%$  of patients, respectively). To minimize the risk, select

the lowest effective dose.

It may be necessary to reduce the dose or discontinue treatment in any patient who develops priapism.

Penile fibrosis, including angulation, cavernosal fibrosis, fibrotic nodules and Peyronie's disease may occur following the administration of MUSE. The occurrence of fibrosis may increase with increased duration of use. Regular follow-up of patients, with careful examination of the penis, is strongly recommended to detect signs of penile fibrosis or Peyronie's disease. Treatment with MUSE should be discontinued in patients who develop penile angulation, cavernosal fibrosis, or Peyronie's disease.

MUSE should be used with caution in patients who have experienced transient ischaemic attacks or those with unstable cardiovascular disorders.

MUSE is not intended for co-administration with any other agent for the treatment of erectile dysfunction (see also 4.5).

The potential for abuse of MUSE should be considered in patients with a history of psychiatric disorder or addiction.

Sexual stimulation and intercourse can lead to cardiac and pulmonary events in patients with coronary heart disease, congestive heart failure or pulmonary disease. These patients when using MUSE should engage in sexual activity with caution.

Patients and their partners should be advised that MUSE offers no protection from transmission of sexually transmitted diseases. They should be counselled about the protective measures that are necessary to guard against the spread of sexually transmitted agents, including the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). The use of MUSE will not affect the integrity of condoms. Since MUSE may add small amounts of alprostadil to the naturally occurring PGE<sub>1</sub> already present in the semen, it is recommended that adequate contraception is used if the woman is of child-bearing potential.

The use of MUSE in patients with penile implants has been reported in a limited number of cases in the literature. However no conclusions can be drawn regarding the safety or efficacy of this combination.

#### **4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

Systemic interactions are unlikely because of the low levels of alprostadil in the peripheral venous circulation, however the presence of medication affecting erectile function may influence the response to MUSE. Decongestants and appetite suppressants may diminish the effect of MUSE. Patients on anticoagulants or with bleeding disorders may have an increased risk of urethral bleeding.

The effects of combinations of alprostadil with other treatments for erectile dysfunction (e.g. sildenafil) or other drugs inducing erection (e.g. papaverine) have not been formally studied. No conclusions can therefore be drawn regarding the safety or efficacy of this combination.

Sympathomimetics may reduce the effect of alprostadil. Alprostadil may enhance the effects of antihypertensives, anticoagulants and platelet aggregation inhibitors.

Insufficient data exists concerning the concomitant use of MUSE with vasoactive medications. There is the potential that this combination may increase the risk of hypotensive symptoms; this effect may be more common in the elderly.

#### **4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation**

MUSE may add small amounts of alprostadil to the naturally occurring PGE<sub>1</sub> already present in the semen. A condom barrier should therefore be used during sexual intercourse if the female partner is pregnant to avoid irritation of the vagina and guard against any risk to the foetus.

#### **4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

Patients should be cautioned to avoid activities, such as driving or hazardous tasks, where injury could result if hypotension or syncope were to occur after MUSE administration. In patients experiencing hypotension and/or

syncope, these events have usually occurred during initial titration and within one hour of drug administration.

4.8 Undesirable effects

The most frequently reported adverse effect following treatment with MUSE was pain in the penis. In most cases, pain was assessed as mild or moderate.

Penile fibrosis, including angulation, fibrotic nodules, and Peyronie’s disease, was reported in 3% of clinical trial patients overall.

Adverse drug reactions reported during treatment with MUSE are presented in the table below. Frequencies are Very common ( $\geq 1/10$ ); Common ( $\geq 1/100$  to  $<1/10$ ); Uncommon ( $\geq 1/1000$  to  $<1/100$ ); Rare ( $>1/10,000$  to  $<1/1,000$ ); Very rare ( $<1/10,000$ ); not known (cannot be estimated from the available data).

System Organ Class	Frequency	Adverse Reaction
Infections and infestations	Uncommon	Common cold
Nervous system disorders	Common	Headache, dizziness
	Uncommon	Syncope, pre-syncope, hypoaesthesia, hyperaesthesia
Vascular disorders	Common	Symptomatic hypotension, haematoma
	Uncommon	Vein disorder, peripheral vascular disorder, vasodilatation
Gastrointestinal disorders	Uncommon	Nausea
Skin and subcutaneous disorders	Uncommon	Swelling of the leg veins, erythema, hyperhidrosis, rash, pruritus, scrotal erythema
	Very rare	Urticaria
Musculoskeletal, connective tissue and bone disorders	Common	Muscle spasms
	Uncommon	Leg pain
Renal and Urinary disorders	Very common	Urethral burning
	Common	Minor urethral bleeding
	Uncommon	Dysuria, pollakiuria, micturition urgency, urethral haemorrhage
	Rare	Urinary tract infection
Reproductive system	Very common	Penile pain
	Common	Erection increased, Peyronie’s disease, penis disorder, vaginal burning/itching (in partners)
	Uncommon	Perineal pain, erectile dysfunction, ejaculation disorder, balanitis, painful erection, phimosis, priapism, testicular pain, scrotal disorder, scrotal erythema, scrotal pain, spermatocele, scrotal oedema, testicular disorder, testicular swelling, testicular oedema, testicular mass, pelvic pain
	Rare	Penile fibrosis
Investigations	Uncommon	Blood pressure decreased, heart rate increased, blood creatinine increased

Vaginal burning/itching was reported by approximately 6% of partners of patients on active treatment. This may be due to resuming sexual intercourse or due to the use of MUSE.

#### Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via Health Products Regulatory Authority, Earlsfort Centre Earlsfort Terrace, IRL - Dublin 2; Tel: +353 1 6764971; Fax: +353 1 6762517. Website: [www.hpra.ie](http://www.hpra.ie); e-mail: [medsafety@hpra.ie](mailto:medsafety@hpra.ie).

## 4.9 Overdose

Overdosage has not been reported with MUSE.

Symptomatic hypotension, persistent penile pain and in rare instances, priapism may occur with alprostadil overdosage. Patients should be kept under medical supervision until systemic or local symptoms have resolved.

Should a prolonged erection lasting 4 or more hours occur, the patient should be advised to seek medical help. The following actions can be taken:

- The patient should be supine or lying on his side. Apply an ice pack alternately for two minutes to each upper inner thigh (this may cause a reflex opening of the venous valves). If there is no response after 10 minutes, discontinue treatment.
- If this treatment is ineffective and a rigid erection has lasted for more than 6 hours, penile aspiration should be performed. Using aseptic technique, insert a 19-21 gauge butterfly needle into the corpus cavernosum and aspirate 20-50 ml of blood. This may detumescence the penis. If necessary, the procedure may be repeated on the opposite side of the penis.
- If still unsuccessful, intracavernous injection of  $\alpha$ -adrenergic medication is recommended. Although the usual contraindication to intrapenile administration of a vasoconstrictor does not apply in the treatment of priapism, caution is advised when this option is exercised. Blood pressure and pulse should be continuously monitored during the procedure. Extreme caution is required in patients with coronary heart disease, uncontrolled hypertension, cerebral ischaemia, and in subjects taking monoamine oxidase inhibitors. In the latter case, facilities should be available to manage a hypertensive crisis.
- A 200 microgram/ml solution of phenylephrine should be prepared, and 0.5 to 1.0 ml of the solution injected every 5-10 minutes. Alternatively, a 20 microgram/ml solution of adrenaline should be used. If necessary, this may be followed by further aspiration of blood through the same butterfly needle. The maximum dose of phenylephrine should be 1 mg, or adrenaline 100 micrograms (5ml of the solution).
- As an alternative metaraminol may be used, but it should be noted that fatal hypertensive crises have been reported. If this still fails to resolve the priapism, the patient should immediately be referred for surgical management.

## 5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

### 5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

ATC Code: G04B E01 (Drugs used in erectile dysfunction).

Alprostadil is chemically identical to prostaglandin E<sub>1</sub>, the actions of which include vasodilatation of blood vessels in the erectile tissues of the corpora cavernosa and increase in cavernosal artery blood flow, causing penile rigidity.

## 5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Approximately 80% of the alprostadil delivered by MUSE is absorbed through the urethral mucosa within 10 minutes. The half-life is less than 10 minutes and peripheral venous plasma concentrations are low or undetectable. Alprostadil is rapidly metabolised, both locally and in the pulmonary capillary bed; metabolites are excreted in the urine (90% within 24 hours) and the faeces. There is no evidence of tissue retention of alprostadil or its metabolites.

## 5.3 Preclinical safety data

In rats, high doses of prostaglandin E<sub>1</sub> increased foetal resorption, presumably due to maternal stress. High concentrations of alprostadil (400 microgram/ml) had no effect on human sperm motility or viability *in vitro*. In rabbits, there was no foetal damage or effect on reproductive function at the maximum tested intravaginal dose of 4mg.

In the majority of *in vitro* and *in vivo* genotoxicity test systems in which alprostadil has been evaluated it produced negative results. These tests include the bacterial reversion test using *Salmonella typhimurium*, unscheduled DNA synthesis in rat primary hepatocytes, forward mutation assay at the *hprt* locus in cultured ovary cells from Chinese hamsters, alkaline elution test, sister chromatid exchange assay (all *in vitro* tests) and the micronucleus test in both mice and rats (*in vivo* tests). In two other *in vitro* tests, the mouse lymphoma forward mutation assay and the Chinese hamster ovary chromosomal aberration assay, alprostadil produced borderline positive and positive evidence, respectively, for chromosomal damage. In view of the number of negative *in vitro* results and the lack of evidence for genotoxicity in two *in vivo* tests, it is considered that the positive results obtained in these two *in vitro* tests are of doubtful biological significance. Overall the presently available evidence cannot fully exclude the risk of genotoxic activity in humans.

## 6 PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

### 6.1 List of excipients

Polyethylene glycol 1450 (PEG 1450)

### 6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable.

### 6.3 Shelf life

18 months.

From a microbiological point of view, the product should be used immediately after opening the foil pouch.

### 6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store at 2°- 8°C (in a refrigerator). Store in the original package.

Unopened pouches may be kept out of the refrigerator by the patient, at a temperature below 30°C, for up to 14 days prior to use.

### 6.5 Nature and contents of container

MUSE is supplied as cartons of 1, 2, 3, 6 or 10 foil pouches, with each pouch containing one delivery system. Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

The pouches are composed of aluminium foil/laminate. The applicators are made from radiation-resistant medical-grade polypropylene.

## **6.6 Special precautions for disposal of a used medicinal product or waste materials derived from such medicinal product and other handling of the product**

No special requirements.

## **7 MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Meda Health Sales Ireland Limited  
Unit 34/35, Block A  
Dunboyne Business Park  
Dunboyne  
Co. Meath  
Ireland

## **8 MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER**

PA 1332/004/001

## **9 DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION**

First date of authorisation: 05 February 1999

Last date of authorisation: 07 October 2007

## **10 DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT**

October 2016