DRUG NAME: Ropeginterferon alfa-2b

SYNONYM(S): ropeginterferon alfa-2b-njft[1]

COMMON TRADE NAME: BESREMi®

CLASSIFICATION: Refer to peginterferon alfa-2a monograph

MECHANISM OF ACTION:

Refer to peginterferon alfa-2a monograph

PHARMACOKINETICS:

Refer to peginterferon alfa-2a monograph

USES:

Refer to peginterferon alfa-2a monograph (for information about substitution with ropeginterferon during peginterferon alfa-2a drug shortage, see Briefing Note: ROPEGINTERFERON ALFA-2B injection and PEGINTERFERON ALFA-2B injection SHORTAGE (draft) and refer to protocol by which patient is being treated [2-4])

SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS:

Refer to peginterferon alfa-2a monograph

- ropeginterferon alfa-2b is similar but not identical to peginterferon alfa-2a as formulations contain different active ingredients, indications, and dosing instructions [2] (for information about substitution with ropeginterferon during peginterferon alfa-2a drug shortage, refer to Briefing Note ROPEGINTERFERON ALFA-2B injection and PEGINTERFERON ALFA-2B injection SHORTAGE (draft) and protocol by which patient is being treated [2-4])

SIDE EFFECTS:

Refer to peginterferon alfa-2a monograph

INTERACTIONS:

Refer to peginterferon alfa-2a monograph

SUPPLY AND STORAGE:

Injection: PharmaEssentia Corporation supplies ropeginterferon as a 500 mcg single-dose (preservative free) prefilled syringe for subcutaneous injection in a concentration of 500 mcg/mL. Refrigerate. Store in original carton to protect from light. [1]

SOLUTION PREPARATION AND COMPATIBILITY:

Additional information:

- after removing from the fridge, allow the prefilled syringe to reach room temperature for 15-30 min before using[1]
- do not use if solution is cloudy, discoloured, contains particulate matter, or if the syringe shows any damage[1]
- depending on the prescribed dose, the amount of volume in the syringe may need to be adjusted prior to injection (e.g., line up volume with number markings on the prefilled syringe); discard extra solution[1]

Developed: 1 April 2025
Revised: 1 May 2025

PARENTERAL ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to peginterferon alfa-2a monograph

BC Cancer administration guideline noted in ***bold***, ***italics***

Subcutaneous	***into the lower abdomen or top of thigh***

DOSAGE GUIDELINES:

Refer to protocol by which patient is being treated.

***Adults*:**

BC Cancer usual dose noted in ***bold, italics***

	Cycle Length:	
Subcutaneous:	***2 weeks***[1,3]:	***50-100 mcg SC for one dose on day 1***, then increase dose by 50 mcg every 2 weeks until hematologic parameters are stabilized (up to a ***max 500 mcg***) Doses are started low and titrated every 2 weeks. Dosing interval may be expanded to 4 weeks in patients that are on a stable dose and hematologically stable for 1 year.[1]

REFERENCES:

1. PharmaEssentia Corporation. BESREMi® product monograph. Burlington, Massachusetts, USA; April, 2024.
2. Forus Therapeutics Inc. Important Safety Information on the Importation of US-Authorized BESREMi® (Ropeginterferon alfa-2b-njft) Injection due to the Current Shortage of Canadian-Authorized PEGASYS® (Peginterferon alfa-2a) Injection. Health Canada; Accessed March 17, 2025. Available at: https://recalls-rappels.canada.ca/en
3. BC Cancer Leukemia/BMT Tumour Group. (ULKROPEG) BC Cancer Interim Protocol Summary for Ropeginterferon Alfa-2b Therapy of Chronic Myeloid Neoplasms and Hypereosinophilic Syndrome. Vancouver, British Columbia: BC Cancer; March , 2025.
4. Latt R,V. Kletas,R. Gibson, et al. BC Cancer Briefing Note: ROPEGINTERFERON ALFA-2B injection and PEGINTERFERON ALFA-2B injection SHORTAGE (draft). Vancouver, British Columbia; April 1, 2025.

Developed: 1 April 2025
Revised: 1 May 2025