



# Administering ORENCIA® SC (abatacept): Your Step-by-Step Guide


How to prepare, use and dispose of the ORENCIA prefilled  
ULTRASAFE PASSIVE™ syringe in 5 main steps



# Administering ORENCIA: Your Step-by-Step Guide

ORENCIA is supplied in a prefilled syringe with ULTRASAFE PASSIVE™ Needle Guard with Flange Extenders. This syringe is designed for easy use by you or your caregiver. If your doctor has decided that you will inject ORENCIA at home, you will receive training on the correct way to prepare and administer the ORENCIA subcutaneous injections. This booklet provides guidance to remind you of the 5 main steps. You may also find it useful to watch the DVD provided as part of the Patient Starter Kit you received and to use the Injection Procedure Quick Guide which you will also find in the kit.

If you have any questions or concerns about your medicine, or how to take it, you should discuss these with your doctor or nurse.



## ORENCIA® SC (abatacept) Injection Procedure Quick Guide

**1 Step 1: Get your syringe ready**

- Check the expiration date.
- Allow the syringe to rest at room temperature for at least 30 to 60 minutes prior to injection.
- Look at the liquid – it should be clear to pale yellow. Do not inject if the liquid is cloudy, discolored, or has large particles.
- Gather your additional supplies and keep them within easy reach.
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water.

**2 Step 2: Choose and prepare a section on your body for the injection (injection site)**

- Choose your injection site: the front of your thigh is a recommended injection area.
- Do not inject into areas where your skin is tender, bruised, red, scaly, or hard. Avoid any areas with scars or stretch marks.
- Wipe your chosen injection site with an alcohol swab in a circular motion.

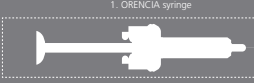
**3 Step 3: Inject ORENCIA**

- Remove the needle cover.
- Hold the housing of your prefilled syringe in one hand between the thumb and index finger.
- Use your other hand and gently pinch the area of skin you cleansed and hold it firmly.
- Use a quick, dart like motion to insert the needle into the pinched skin at a 45° angle.
- Inject all of the medicine. Push the plunger until the plunger head is completely between the needle guard sides.
- Remove the needle from your skin and let go of the surrounding skin.
- Press a cotton ball over the injection site and hold for 10 seconds.
- If needed, you may apply a small adhesive bandage to the injection site.


**4 Step 4: Disposal and record keeping**

- Dispose of your used syringe in a Sharps container.
- Always keep your Sharps container out of reach of children and animals.
- Record your injection by writing down the date, time and specific part of the body where you injected yourself.

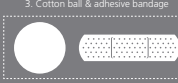
**1. ORENCIA syringe**



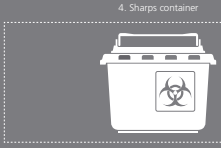
**2. Alcohol swab**




**3. Cotton ball & adhesive bandage**




**4. Sharps container**



Please refer to the **Administering ORENCIA SC (abatacept): Your Step-by-Step guide** booklet in your Welcome Kit for complete administration instructions.

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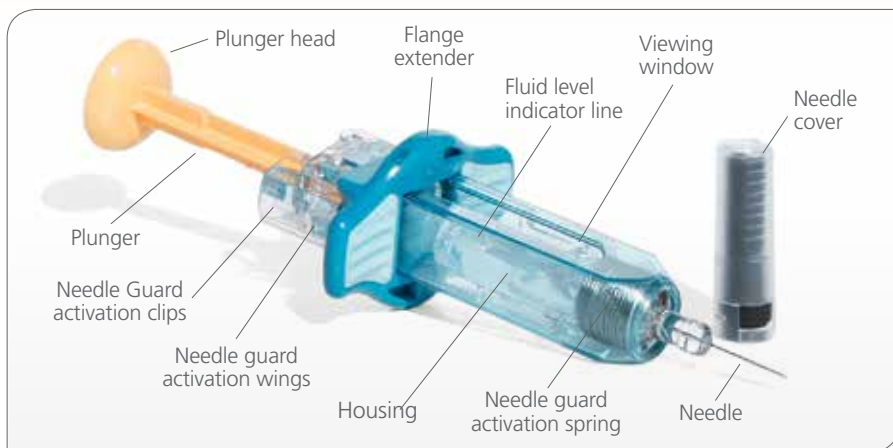


Please see the ORENCIA SC Patient Booklet for complete information on side effects, dosing and administration.

# The ORENCIA prefilled syringe with **ULTRASAFE PASSIVE™** Needle Guard with Flange Extenders

## The ORENCIA prefilled syringe with **ULTRASAFE PASSIVE™** Needle Guard with Flange Extenders

The ORENCIA prefilled **ULTRASAFE PASSIVE™** syringe is designed for easy use by you or your caregiver.



### Needle guard activation spring

As soon as you have used the syringe, the needle will retract until it is completely covered by the needle guard.

### Viewing window

This enables you to view the contents of the syringe. It is important to check that the liquid inside the syringe is clear and colourless to pale yellow and is not cloudy, discoloured or has any large particles before you use the syringe.

### Needle cover

The needle cover should be left in place until immediately before the injection is given.



# Administering ORENCIA

Before you use the ORENCIA prefilled ULTRASAFE PASSIVE™ syringe, follow these do's and don'ts:

## Do

- Always hold the syringe by the body of the syringe.
- Remove the syringe from the refrigerator 30 to 60 minutes prior to injecting.
- Check the expiration date on the carton and syringe. Do not use if expired.
- Store unused syringes in the refrigerator in the original carton.
- Have your additional injection supplies ready prior to injection, including your supply checklist: alcohol swab, cotton ball or gauze, adhesive bandage and Sharps container.



Alcohol swab



Adhesive bandage



Cotton ball or gauze



Sharps container



ORENCIA prefilled syringe with ULTRASAFE PASSIVE™ Needle Guard

## Don't

- Do not remove the needle cover until you are ready to inject.
- Do not pull back on the plunger at any time.
- Do not shake the ORENCIA syringe, as this may damage the medicine.
- DO NOT FREEZE. If product has been frozen, do not use.

# Administering ORENCIA

## STEP 1: Get your syringe ready

### **Check the expiration date**

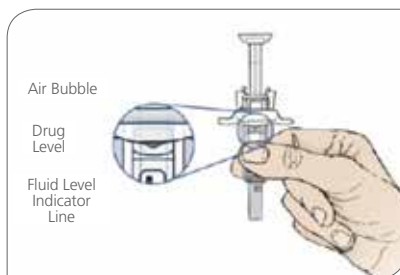
- The expiration date can be found on the ORENCIA carton and on each syringe.
- If the expiration date has passed, do not use the prefilled syringe. Please contact your doctor or pharmacist for assistance.

### **Let it warm up for 30 to 60 minutes**

- Find a comfortable space with a clean, flat, working surface.
- Remove the syringe from the refrigerator. Keep remaining unused syringes in their original carton and keep in refrigerator. **DO NOT FREEZE.**
- Inspect the syringe for obvious flaws, **but do not remove needle cover.**
- Allow the syringe to rest at room temperature for at least 30 to 60 minutes prior to injection. This may allow for a more comfortable injection experience. **Do not** speed the warming process in any way, such as using the microwave or placing the syringe in warm water.

### **Check the liquid in the prefilled syringe**

- Hold your ORENCIA prefilled syringe by the housing with the covered needle pointing down, as shown in the picture on the right.
- Look at the liquid through the viewing window of your prefilled syringe. The liquid in your syringe should be clear to pale yellow. Do not inject if the liquid is cloudy, discoloured, or has large particles.



- Confirm that the drug level is above the fluid indicator level (as shown in the picture above). Do not inject if the drug level is outside of the fluid level indicator lines. It is normal to see an air bubble and there is no reason to remove it.

**Gather your additional supplies and keep them within easy reach.**

**Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water.**



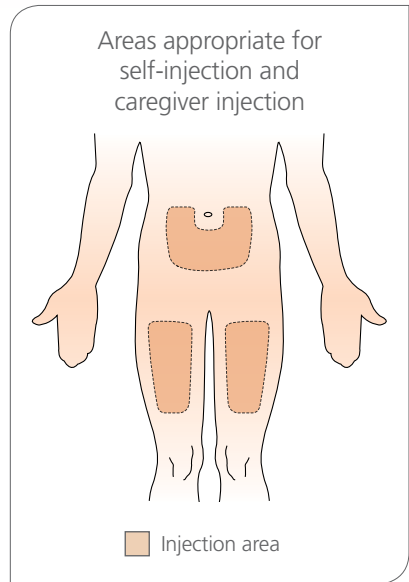
# Administering ORENCIA

## **STEP 2:** Choose and prepare a section on your body for the injection (injection site)

Have your ORENCIA prefilled syringe ready for use immediately after preparing the injection site.

### ***Choose your injection site***

- The front of your thigh is a recommended injection area. You may use your abdomen except for the 2-inch area around the navel. The recommended injection sites are shown in the picture.
- Choose a different injection site for each new injection. You may use the same thigh for weekly injections, as long as each injection is approximately 1 inch apart from the last time you injected yourself in that area.
- Do not inject into areas where your skin is tender, bruised, red, scaly, or hard. Avoid any areas with scars or stretch marks.



### ***Prepare your injection site***

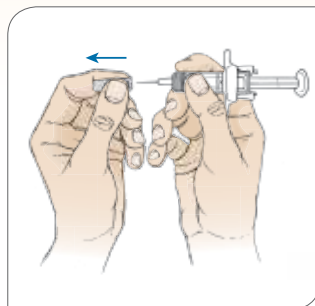
- Wipe the injection site with an alcohol swab in a circular motion.
- Let your skin dry before injecting. Do not touch the injection site again before giving the injection.
- Do not fan or blow on the clean area.

# Administering ORENCIA

## STEP 3: Inject ORENCIA

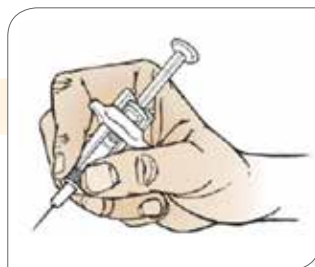
### **Remove the needle cover**

- Do not touch the plunger while you remove the needle cover.
- Hold the housing of the ORENCIA prefilled syringe with one hand and pull the needle cover straight off with your other hand. **Do not** touch the plunger while you remove the needle cover.
- **Do not remove the needle cover until you are ready to inject ORENCIA. Inject ORENCIA as soon as possible after removing the needle cover.**
- Discard the needle cover in your household trash.
- There may be a small air bubble in the syringe tube containing the medication. There is no need to remove the air bubble.
- You may notice a drop of fluid leaving the needle. This is normal and will not affect your dose.
- Do not touch the needle or let it touch any surfaces.
- Do not use the prefilled syringe if it is dropped without the needle cover in place.



### **Position the prefilled syringe and inject ORENCIA**

- Hold the housing of your prefilled syringe in one hand between the thumb and index finger.
- Do not apply pressure to the plunger head until you are ready to begin your injection.
- Do not pull back on the plunger of the syringe at any time.

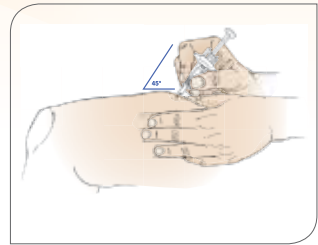




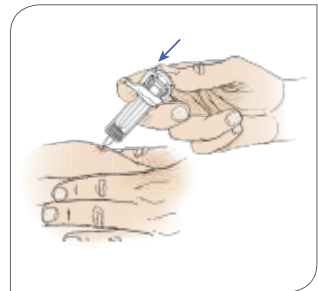
# Administering ORENCIA

## STEP 3: Inject ORENCIA (cont'd)

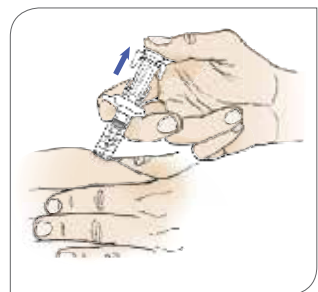
- Use your other hand and gently pinch the area of skin you cleansed. Hold firmly.
- Use a quick, dart-like motion to insert the needle into the pinched skin at a 45° angle.



- To inject all of the medicine, use your thumb to push the plunger until the plunger head is completely between the needle guard sides.
- When the plunger is pushed in as far as it will go, continue to apply pressure to the plunger head. Remove the needle from your skin and let go of the surrounding skin.



- Slowly remove your thumb from the plunger head. This allows the empty syringe to move up until the entire needle is covered by the needle guard.
- Press a cotton ball over the injection site and hold for 10 seconds. Do not rub the injection site. Slight bleeding is normal.
- If needed, you may apply a small adhesive bandage to the injection site.





# Administering ORENCIA

## STEP 4: Disposal and record keeping

- **Dispose of your used syringe in a Sharps container.**
- Sharps containers are special puncture-resistant disposal bins that can be purchased at many pharmacies. **A Sharps container is included in your Patient Starter Kit.**
- If you do not have a Sharps container, you may dispose of your used syringe in a puncture-resistant hard plastic or metal container that can be closed with a lid or cap, such as a laundry detergent bottle or coffee can. Do not use glass or clear plastic containers.
- Always keep your Sharps container out of reach of children and animals.
- Ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist about provincial and local laws regarding the proper disposal of medical products that contain needles.
- Do not throw away your used prefilled syringes in your household trash or recycling bins.

Sharps container

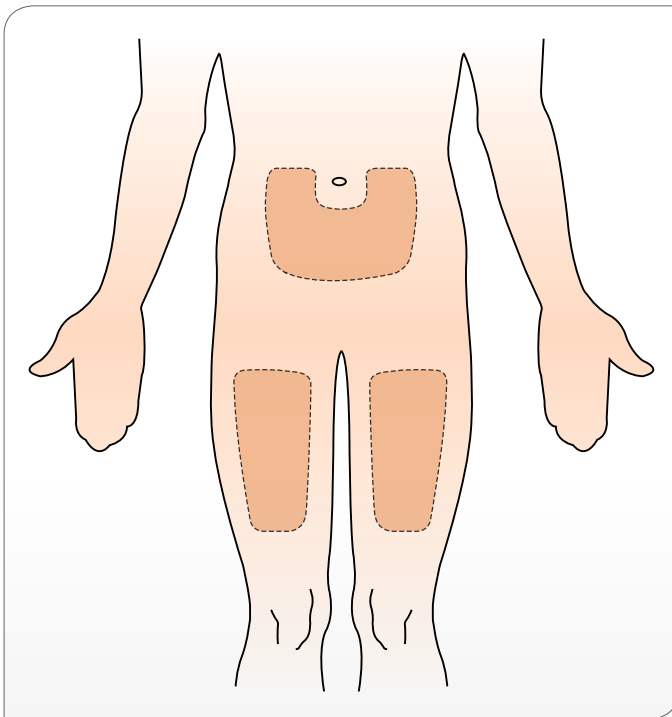




# Administering ORENCIA

## STEP 5: Administration Record

- **Record your injection.**
- Write down the date, time, and specific part of the body where you injected yourself. You can use the Administration Record on the next page of this booklet to keep a record of each injection site. Use the reminder stickers provided in the Welcome Kit to mark the dates of your injections on your calendar or in your diary.
- It may also be helpful to write down any questions or concerns about the injection so you can ask your healthcare provider.



# Administering ORENCIA

## Administration Record

**Example:** Sunday, July 12; lower left thigh

1.	27.
2.	28.
3.	29.
4.	30.
5.	31.
6.	32.
7.	33.
8.	34.
9.	35.
10.	36.
11.	37.
12.	38.
13.	39.
14.	40.
15.	41.
16.	42.
17.	43.
18.	44.
19.	45.
20.	46.
21.	47.
22.	48.
23.	49.
24.	50.
25.	51.
26.	52.



ORENCIA  
(abatacept)



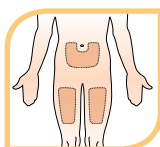


# Administering ORENCIA: Your Step-by-Step Guide

## **5 main steps** *for administering ORENCIA*



1. Prepare and check the syringe, gather your supplies and wash your hands



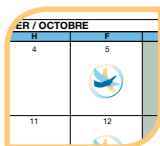
2. Choose and prepare an injection site



3. Administer the injection



4. Dispose of the used syringe



5. Keep a record

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