

Pr **ELONOX**<sup>®</sup>

enoxaparin

Patient Brochure



Pr **ELONOX**<sup>®</sup> & **ELONOX**<sup>®</sup> HP

Enoxaparin Sodium Solution for Injection.

Information for patients or caregiver of patients who have been prescribed ELONOX<sup>®</sup> or ELONOX<sup>®</sup> HP.

You should always read the information leaflet contained in the product packaging before using this medicine.

 **FRESENIUS  
KABI**

# Welcome to ELONOX®

Please note that throughout this guide, we refer to ELONOX® and ELONOX® HP as ELONOX®. To get started, review this guide to treatment with ELONOX®. It contains answers to questions that you may have.

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## How does ELONOX<sup>®</sup> work?

ELONOX<sup>®</sup> and ELONOX<sup>®</sup> HP are anti-thrombotic drugs, also known as blood thinners. This means that they help to **prevent blood clots** from forming in patients who have either undergone surgery or are suffering from a medical condition that limits their mobility. It can also **treat existing blood clots** in deep veins or in unstable coronary artery disease (unstable angina or non Q-wave Myocardial Infarction).

## What is ELONOX<sup>®</sup> used for?

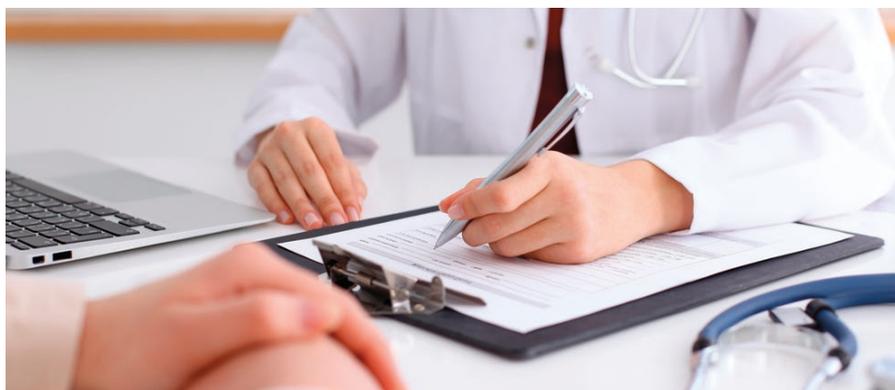
ELONOX<sup>®</sup> and ELONOX<sup>®</sup> HP are medicines that are used to:

- prevent the formation of deep vein thrombosis (blood clots), which can occur as a complication of orthopedic surgery such as hip or knee surgery or of intra-abdominal (inside the body cavity below diaphragm which contains stomach, intestines, liver, and other organs) surgeries
- prevent the formation of deep vein thrombosis in medical patients who are at risk of thromboembolic (blockage of blood vessel by a blood clot) complications due to severely restricted mobility during acute illnesses (cardiac insufficiency [reduced ability of heart to pump blood], respiratory failure or severe chest infections)
- treat the deep vein thrombosis with or without pulmonary embolism (blockage of blood vessel in the lungs)
- treat the unstable angina and non-Q-wave myocardial infarction (death of a part of the heart muscle that does not involve full thickness of the heart wall), concurrently with acetylsalicylic acid (ASA)
- treat the acute ST-segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI), a particular form of heart attack. This indication includes patients to be managed medically or those with subsequent Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI), a procedure that opens up a coronary artery (blood vessel that brings blood and oxygen to the heart muscle) and restores blood flow
- prevent clotting in the extra-corporeal circulation during hemodialysis

## What should I know before starting ELONOX®?

Before using ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP, please carefully read the patient information leaflet including the sections referring to side effects, when not to use ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP, warnings and precautions. Read all of the leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep the package insert. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, please ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others.
- If you experience any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this brochure.



## What if I forget to take ELONOX®?

If you miss a dose by a few hours, take it as soon as you remember. However, if you are close to the time of the next dose, skip the missed dose and proceed with your regular dosing schedule. Do not double doses. If you are unsure about what to do, contact your doctor or pharmacist.



## When should ELONOX<sup>®</sup> not be used?

**If your doctor prescribed you ELONOX<sup>®</sup> or ELONOX<sup>®</sup> HP, make sure you inform them if you have any of the following:**

- a known allergy to ELONOX<sup>®</sup> or ELONOX<sup>®</sup> HP or any of its constituents
- a known allergy to any other low molecular weight heparins and/or heparin
- thrombocytopenia (a severe decrease in the number of platelets in the blood)
- a history (within the past 100 days) of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT) (a blood clotting disorder caused by heparin)
- bacterial endocarditis (bacterial infection inside of the heart)
- active bleeding
- a major clotting disorder
- gastric or duodenal ulcer (defect of the internal walls of the stomach or small intestine)
- cerebrovascular accident (except if there are systemic emboli)
- severe uncontrolled hypertension (high blood pressure)
- eye problems due to diabetes (diabetic retinopathy) or hemorrhage (bleeding)
- a tendency to bleeding regardless of the reason
- injury or surgery on the brain, spinal cord, eyes and ears
- kidney problems
- liver problems
- spinal/epidural anesthesia is contraindicated where repeated treatment doses of ELONOX<sup>®</sup> (1 mg/kg every 12 hours or 1.5 mg/kg once daily) are required, due to an increased risk of bleeding
- other conditions or diseases involving an increased risk of bleeding

## How is ELONOX® taken?

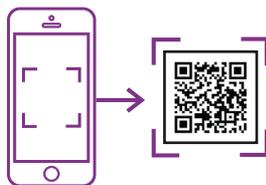
Usually, ELONOX® and ELONOX® HP are administered as a subcutaneous injection (an injection under the surface of the skin). For some conditions, they may be administered as an intravenous (IV) injection. ELONOX® and ELONOX® HP must NOT be administered by intramuscular injection (into the muscle).

**Remember, it is very important to take ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP exactly as your doctor prescribed. Only give yourself the injections prescribed and do so for the entire time period your doctor specifies.**

## How do I self-inject ELONOX®?

Based on why you're receiving ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP, your doctor may want you to continue injections at home. **If so, they or a nurse will show you how to administer your injections. It is essential that you follow these instructions exactly. If you have questions, be sure you ask your doctor or nurse.** Proper subcutaneous injection of ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP is essential to prevent pain and bruising at the injection site. Your doctor will tell you how much ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP to take and how often.

**The next few pages show you how to use the ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP pre-filled syringe.**



Scan to watch a "How-to Self Inject ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP" video



# How to use your ELONOX<sup>®</sup> pre-filled syringe

There is nothing for you to prepare. The syringe is pre-filled with the exact amount of drug required.

*Be sure to not press on the plunger until you're ready to inject.*

## Get familiar with your ELONOX<sup>®</sup> or ELONOX<sup>®</sup> HP pre-filled syringe

Your pre-filled syringe comes with a safety device included, which covers the needle after removing the needle from your skin.

Here's what it looks like when it's not activated:



Here's what it looks like when the safety device is activated after injection:



NOTE: The colour of your syringe plunger rod may vary depending on your dosage.

## 1. Get ready to inject

- **Take a look** at your ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP solution before injecting. Do not use it if the solution shows haziness, particulate matter, discoloration or leakage.
- **Gather supplies:** an alcohol swab and a sharps container to properly dispose of your syringe in when you're done.
- **Now, choose where you will inject.** Choose a spot at least 5 centimeters away from your belly button and out towards your sides.
- **Alternate** between different injection sites of the lower abdomen for each injection.
- **Wash and dry your hands and cleanse** (do not rub) the selected site for injection with an alcohol swab.



## 2. How to inject

- Remove the needle cover by pulling it straight off the syringe. It may require a bit of force to remove. To avoid the loss of drug when using the 30 and 40 mg pre-filled syringes, do not expel the air bubble from the syringe before the injection.



- Sit or lie down in a comfortable position and gather a fold of skin with your thumb and forefinger.



- Now, hold the syringe at a perpendicular angle, like a dart. Hold it to the skin you've folded with your other hand. Insert the needle as far as it will go.



- Push the plunger to inject ELONOX®/ELONOX® HP.

Hold the skin fold while you are injecting. Once the needle has been inserted, the syringe should not be moved or repositioned.



- Be sure the syringe is empty and the plunger is pushed all the way down before removing the syringe. To remove the needle, pull it straight out of the skin at a right angle. You can now release the skin fold, but keep your finger on the plunger rod.



- Apply light pressure at the injection site for several seconds with an alcohol swab. This will help lessen any oozing of medication or bleeding.

Do not rub the injection site.



- Your needle comes with a safety system that will cover the needle. The safety system can only be activated once the syringe has been emptied and must be done only after removing the needle from your skin.

Position the needle away from you and others and activate the safety system by firmly pushing the plunger rod. You may need to push hard. There may be a small splatter of fluid.



- The protective sleeve will automatically cover the needle and you'll hear a "click." This confirms that the shield was activated.

There is no need to sterilize the safety system.

Do not replace the needle cover after injection.



- Next, safely dispose of the syringe and needle with its protective sleeve into a sharps container.

Record your injection to help you track your doses. Use the diary on page 14 of this booklet.



# Storing ELONOX<sup>®</sup>

- Store at 15°C to 25°C. Protect from heat.
- Keep out of reach and sight of children.

# Travelling with ELONOX<sup>®</sup>

## **Before you travel:**

- Talk to your doctor about your planned trip and make sure you know much medication you need to take with you to last throughout the trip.
- If you are travelling by airplane, contact the airline company before you fly to let them know you will be carrying your ELONOX<sup>®</sup> or ELONOX<sup>®</sup> HP with you.

## **Going through security checks:**

- Tell the officers at the security check that you are carrying your medication with you.
- You may be asked to show your medication and describe your condition.
- If your doctor gave you any documentation, ensure you bring it with you when you travel.
- When travelling, your ELONOX<sup>®</sup> or ELONOX<sup>®</sup> HP can be stored at room temperature (15°C to 25°C ).



# What to tell your doctor before starting ELONOX®

**To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP. Talk about any health conditions you may have, including if you have:**

- a prosthetic (artificial) heart valve
- a stroke (cerebrovascular accident)
- a known allergy to ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP or any of its constituents, or to other low molecular weight heparins and/or heparin
- thrombocytopenia (a severe decrease in the number of platelets in the blood), a history of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT) (a blood clotting disorder caused by heparin)
- bacterial endocarditis (bacterial infection inside of the heart)
- a major clotting disorder
- gastric or duodenal ulcer (defect of the internal walls of the stomach or small intestine)
- hypertension (high blood pressure)
- a tendency to bleeding regardless of the reason
- an injury or surgery (spinal surgery with spinal/epidural anesthesia) involving the central nervous system, eyes or ears
- a spinal defect (or deformity)
- kidney problems
- liver problems
- eye problems due to diabetes or hemorrhage (bleeding)

It is important that you provide your doctor with an accurate history of any serious illnesses you may have had in the past or any current medical conditions, as these may influence the action of ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP.

You should also inform your doctor at once if you are pregnant or if you are breastfeeding, so they can evaluate the possible risks to you and the infant.

# Important safety information

## Possible side effects

These are not all the possible side effects that you may have when taking ELONOX<sup>®</sup> or ELONOX<sup>®</sup> HP. If you experience any side effects not listed here, tell your healthcare professional.

Administration of ELONOX<sup>®</sup> or ELONOX<sup>®</sup> HP may result in bleeding which can have serious or life-threatening consequences. Hemorrhagic strokes (bleeding inside of the brain) and serious intra-abdominal bleeding (bleeding into the body cavity below diaphragm which contains stomach, intestines, liver, and other organs) have been reported. ELONOX<sup>®</sup> and ELONOX<sup>®</sup> HP are generally well tolerated when used as directed.

During your hospital stay or when using ELONOX<sup>®</sup> or ELONOX<sup>®</sup> HP at home, **notify your doctor immediately** if you notice any of the following symptoms which may be a sign of an underlying complication:

- bleeding or oozing from the surgical wound
- any other bleeding episodes, for example, at the site of the injection, nosebleeds, blood in the urine or if you cough or throw up blood, or have bloody stools
- bleeding gums while brushing teeth
- spontaneous bruising (a bruise not caused by a blow or any apparent reason)
- purplish or reddish discolouration or pain around the injection site
- skin discolouration as caused by ruptured blood vessels
- pain or swelling in any part of your leg, foot or hip
- dizziness
- headache
- rapid or unusual heart beat
- chest pain or shortness of breath
- vomiting
- confusion
- abdominal pain

**Talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you experience other side effects such as:**

- Changes in the results of blood tests done to check how your liver is working during treatment with ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP.
- Signs of liver problems such as loss of appetite, dark urine, light-colored stools, yellowing of the skin or eyes (jaundice).
- If you have an allergic reaction. The signs may include: skin rash, angioedema (swelling of lips, face, throat and tongue, breathing difficulties) and anaphylactic/anaphylactoid reactions including shock.
- Long term use of ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP (greater than 3 months) may increase your risk of bone thinning (osteoporosis).
- Some patients may experience hair loss. The hair usually grows back once the treatment is discontinued.
- If you have had a spinal puncture or a spinal anesthetic and notice tingling, numbness and muscular weakness, particularly in the lower part of your body, or if you have problems controlling your bowels and/or bladder.

## Warnings and precautions

- Certain medications may intensify the anticoagulant effect (increase the anti-clotting effect) of ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP. Tell your doctor about all drugs that you are currently taking.
- Follow the instructions of your doctor or nurse carefully and use ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP for the entire time period specified by your doctor.
- Do not take any drugs other than those prescribed by your doctor while you are taking ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP.
- If you are seeing another doctor or your dentist, be absolutely sure to tell them that you are being treated with ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP.

## Drug interactions

**The following may interact with ELONOX® or ELONOX® HP**

- **Drugs that affect blood clotting. These agents include medication such as:**
  - acetylsalicylic acid (ASA), salicylates, and non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (e.g. diclofenac, ibuprofen, ketorolac)
  - prednisolone
  - dextran, vitamin K antagonists, clopidogrel, ticlopidine and dipyridamole

Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take, including any drugs, vitamins, minerals, natural supplements or alternative medicines.





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**Reference:**

ELONOX<sup>®</sup> and ELONOX<sup>®</sup> HP Product Monograph. Fresenius Kabi Canada Ltd. Oct 26, 2022.

