



## Fuzeon® [few'-zee-on] (enfuvirtide)



There are five classes of HIV medications (meds). They will not prevent or cure HIV. They limit how the virus makes copies of itself in your body. Fuzeon is in the class of meds called HIV *fusion inhibitors*.

### Who Should Take Fuzeon?

- People over the age of 6 years

Before you start Fuzeon, tell your doctor if you:

- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant
- you breastfeed your baby

Fuzeon is often used when other anti-HIV meds no longer work.

- Fuzeon works best when a patient has:
  - CD4 count higher than 100
  - Viral load of less than 100,000
  - Used less than 10 anti-HIV meds

### How is Fuzeon Taken?

- You take this drug two times a day.
- Fuzeon is a powder that you mix with water and inject under your skin. Wait 45 minutes for the powder to dissolve before you give

Take your HIV treatment just how your doctor tells you. Do not miss any doses, even if you feel well. When the meds are in your body, it will help stop the HIV.

the shot.

- Fuzeon can be kept in cold storage for up to 24 hours after it is mixed. Let it get to room temperature before the shot is given. Write the date and time on the vial before you put it in the fridge.
- Wash your hands with soap and warm water before you give the shot. Only touch the drug, supplies and skin where the shot will be given.
- The shot should be given in the thigh, stomach or upper arm. It should not be given under a belt.
- Give the shot in a new place each time. This causes less soreness. You should never inject into a scar, bruise, mole or area where a shot caused a problem before
- Do not inject a double dose to make up for a missed shot

Note: Do not put used needles, syringes or vials of Fuzeon in the trash. Ask your doctor the best way to get rid of your needles and vials. Never reuse needles.

### Side Effects

It is common to have side effects when you start HIV treatment. Make sure your doctor knows about any allergies and side effects you have had to other meds. Your doctor may change the type and/or amount of your meds.

### What are the side effects of Fuzeon?

Where you put the needle may:

- Itch
- Swell

Bring all of your meds and any supplements to your doctor visits. A "Brown Bag Check-up" can also help your doctor keep your records up to date and help you get better quality care.

- Have pain
- Have redness and/or bumps

Side effects usually last 1-2 days. You can prevent them if you inject the drug close to the skin's surface.

People who take Fuzeon with other anti-HIV meds may get pneumonia more often. See a doctor right away if you have any of these symptoms:

- Shortness of breath
- Fever
- Sick to your stomach
- Skin rash
- Blood in your pee
- Swollen feet

Always talk to your doctor before you stop any treatment they prescribe for you.

### **How Does Fuzeon Mix with Other Meds?**

You and your doctor should know all the kinds of meds that you take. When you take two or more meds it can cause a bad *interaction*. This means that the meds do not mix well. This can lead to harmful side effects and hurt your treatment.



Fuzeon mixes well with all known meds at this time. You should tell your doctor about every drug, herb, or vitamin that you take.

#### **For more information:**

Contact your Registered Nurse Care Manager, or call PHP Nurse Advice Line at: (800) 797-1717.

Visit the Medication Guide on the FDA website at: <http://www.fda.gov>

