Bimzelx is indicated for the treatment of moderate to severe plaque psoriasis in adults who are candidates for systemic therapy.1

Please refer to the full prescribing information available on the Electronic Medicines Compendium website: www.medicines.org.uk

This flipbook provides support for patient consultations. It should be used only to educate patients who are being initiated onto Bimzelx.

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This medicine is subject to additional monitoring. This will allow quick identification of new safety information.

You can help by reporting any side effects you may get. If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in the patient information leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme website: https://www.yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk, or via the MHRA Yellow Card App in the Google Play or Apple App Store.

You can also report adverse events to UCB at UCBCares.UK@ucb.com

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Psoriasis is a chronic, long-lasting disease that is caused by an overactive immune system directed against skin cells, leading to inflammation in the body.2,4 Plaque psoriasis, which causes patches of rough, red skin and silvery white scales, occurs in about 80-90% of patients with psoriasis.4

No one knows exactly why a person may develop psoriasis, but it affects over 100 million people around the world.3 No psoriasis experience is the same and the severity of its symptoms vary from person to person.4
WHAT CAUSES PSORIASIS?

Genetic predisposition
Generally speaking, there isn’t a single "psoriasis gene," but there are more than 60 genes associated with its development.³

Internal and external triggers
Stress, hormonal factors, infections, injury to your skin and illnesses are all potential triggers. Excessive intake of alcohol and/or smoking may cause or worsen psoriasis.²

The causes of psoriasis are not yet fully understood and a genetic predisposition does not necessarily mean you will suffer from the disease.² It is more likely caused by a combination of your genetics and both internal and external triggers.²,³

WHAT IS PSORIASIS?
Normally, skin cells grow and shed (fall off) continually. In plaque psoriasis, an overactive immune system directed against skin cells leads to more rapid skin renewal. This causes skin cells to be produced faster than your body can shed them and they accumulate on the surface of your skin. The thick red patches, known as plaques, are the visible result of inflammation and skin cell build-up.
TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR PSORIASIS

Topical treatments, such as ointments and creams, and photo (light) therapy are generally prescribed for mild to moderate psoriasis. For moderate to severe psoriasis, these topical therapies are often combined with systemic non-biologic or biologic treatments.
WHAT IS BIMZELX?

Bimzelx is a biologic therapy* prescribed to treat your moderate to severe plaque psoriasis. This medication helps to reduce the symptoms, including pain, itching, and scaling of the skin.

It specifically targets and blocks two **immune system proteins** (cytokines IL-17A and IL-17F) that drive inflammation in psoriasis.

*Biologic therapies are carefully designed to block specific drivers within the inflammation process.

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STARTING TREATMENT
Bimzelx belongs to a group of medicines called interleukin (IL) inhibitors. It works by reducing the activity of two proteins called IL-17A and IL-17F, which are involved in causing inflammation. There are higher levels of these proteins in inflammatory diseases such as psoriasis.

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
As a starting dose, your medication needs to be injected every 4 weeks for a period of 16 weeks (2 x 160 mg per dose). After 16 weeks, it needs to be injected once every 8 weeks (2 x 160 mg per dose). If you weigh 120 kg or more, your doctor may decide to continue your injections every 4 weeks from Week 16. Consideration should be given to discontinuing treatment if there is no improvement by 16 weeks of treatment.

This treatment can be prescribed either as a pre-filled syringe or as a pre-filled pen which can be self-injected. Together, we will decide whether you should inject this medicine yourself. Do not inject this medicine unless you have been trained by a healthcare professional. A caregiver may also give your injections after they have been trained.

This information does not replace the Patient Information Leaflet (PIL) and Instructions for Use (IFU) contained in your medication pack. Please read the PIL and IFU carefully.
**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**Storage**
2-8°C (do not freeze). It can also be stored at room temperature of up to 25°C or up to 25 days in the original carton and away from direct light. Do not use it after this time period.⁹

**Side effects**
Like all medicines, Birmzex can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.⁹ Very common side effects include upper respiratory infections, common side effects include thrush in the mouth or throat, fungal infection of the skin (e.g. athlete’s foot), ear infections and cold sores.⁹ If you notice signs of serious infections* or allergic reactions,** tell your doctor or get medical help immediately. Your doctor will decide if you can keep using your medicine.⁹

This list of side effects is not exhaustive, please refer to your patient information leaflet for more information.

*Fever, flu-like symptoms, night sweats, feeling tired or short of breath, cough which will not go away, warm, red and painful skin, or a painful skin rash with blisters.

**Difficulty breathing or swallowing, low blood pressure, which can make you dizzy or light-headed, swelling of the face, lips, tongue or throat, severe itching of the skin, with a red rash or raised bumps.

**Vaccines**
Talk to your doctor if you need to have a vaccination while using your medicine as live vaccines cannot be administered while you are receiving this therapy.¹⁰

**Pregnancy**
If you are pregnant, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor for advice before using this medicine.⁹

If at any point you become unsure about your medication, experience any side effects, or would like advice on vaccinations, pregnancy, or reducing the risks of infections such as thrush, please contact a member of this dermatology clinic or your GP. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine. Please consult the Patient Information Leaflet which accompanies your injection for more information.
Discover more useful information about your therapy at www.MyBimzelx-pso.co.uk

UCBCares® is our personalised service that is here to help all patients on a UCB medication.

You will receive a welcome kit with the first delivery of your medication. It contains useful information about your medication, a guide on how to self-inject and a treatment diary.

Contact UCB with any questions you have about your treatment or if you would like to be kept up to date about resources and support available from UCBCares. It's important to note that information from UCBCares should not replace a consultation with a member of this dermatology clinic or your GP.

If you have any concerns about your health, please consult a member of this dermatology clinic or your GP.
This medicine is subject to additional monitoring. This will allow quick identification of new safety information.

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