

## Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) summary

The [full CMI](#) on the next page has more details. If you are worried about using this medicine, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

### 1. Why am I using Brenzys?

Brenzys contains the active ingredient etanercept. Brenzys is used to treat specific types of joint inflammation and skin conditions, namely rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis (nr-AxSpA), psoriatic arthritis and plaque psoriasis.

For more information, see Section [1. Why am I using Brenzys?](#) in the full CMI.

### 2. What should I know before I use Brenzys?

Do not use if you have ever had an allergic reaction to Brenzys or any of the ingredients listed at the end of the CMI.

**Talk to your doctor if you have any other medical conditions, take any other medicines, or are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding.**

For more information, see Section [2. What should I know before I use Brenzys?](#) in the full CMI.

### 3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with Brenzys and affect how it works.

A list of these medicines is in Section [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#) in the full CMI.

### 4. How do I use Brenzys?

- Brenzys is given in adults once a week as a 50 mg dose. Brenzys is not indicated for use in children less than 18 years of age. Other etanercept products are available for use in children.
- Brenzys is injected under the skin and is for single use in one patient only. Refer to Instructions for Use provided in the pack.

More instructions can be found in Section [4. How do I use Brenzys?](#) in the full CMI.

### 5. What should I know while using Brenzys?

<b>Things you should do</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Remind any doctor or dentist you visit that you are using Brenzys.</li><li>• Tell your doctor if you are at risk of blood poisoning or infections, such as leg ulcers.</li><li>• Contraception is recommended to avoid becoming pregnant during Brenzys therapy and for 3 weeks after discontinuation of Brenzys therapy. Inform your doctor if you are planning pregnancy or are pregnant.</li><li>• Inform your doctor if you are breastfeeding or intend to breastfeed.</li></ul>
<b>Things you should not do</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do not stop using this medicine suddenly, unless advised by your doctor.</li><li>• Do not shake the solution of Brenzys after you have added the sterile water for injection.</li></ul>
<b>Looking after your medicine</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keep Brenzys in the fridge between 2°C and 8°C. Do not freeze.</li><li>• Store Brenzys in the cartons to protect from light.</li></ul>

For more information, see Section [5. What should I know while using Brenzys?](#) in the full CMI.

### 6. Are there any side effects?

Common side effects include a mild reaction in the area of injection, infections and inflammation, allergic reactions, rash, itching, fever, headache and raised liver enzymes.

For more information, including what to do if you have any side effects, see Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#) in the full CMI.

# Brenzys

Active ingredient(s): *etanercept*

## Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

This leaflet provides important information about using Brenzys. **You should also speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like further information or if you have any concerns or questions about using Brenzys.**

Where to find information in this leaflet:

- [1. Why am I using Brenzys?](#)
- [2. What should I know before I use Brenzys?](#)
- [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#)
- [4. How do I use Brenzys?](#)
- [5. What should I know while using Brenzys?](#)
- [6. Are there any side effects?](#)
- [7. Product details](#)

## 1. Why am I using Brenzys?

**Brenzys contains the active ingredient etanercept.**

Etanercept is a biotechnology-derived protein that works by binding to and inactivating Tumour Necrosis Factor (TNF), a naturally occurring chemical in your bloodstream that contributes to pain and swelling in the joints.

Brenzys is used in the treatment of specific inflammatory joint or skin conditions by reducing the pain and swelling of rheumatoid arthritis and psoriasis, helping to treat the skin lesions of psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis, and improving the condition of patients with ankylosing spondylitis and nonradiographic axial spondyloarthritis (nr-AxSpA).

Your doctor may have prescribed Brenzys for another reason. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why Brenzys has been prescribed for you.

## 2. What should I know before I use Brenzys?

### Warnings

**Do not use Brenzys if:**

- you are allergic to etanercept or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.
- Always check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.
- you have, or are at risk of developing, sepsis (blood poisoning), or long-term or localised infection (for example, leg ulcers).

Sepsis is a serious infection causing fever, headache, joint aches and pains, sore or weak muscles, and increased heart rate. Brenzys can affect your body's ability to fight a serious infection.

If you are not sure whether you have a serious infection, check with your doctor.

- you are currently taking anakinra or other similar medicines known as Interleukin-1 antagonists.
- the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering
- the expiry date printed on the pack has passed.

If you use Brenzys after the expiry date has passed, it may have no effect at all, or worse, have an entirely unexpected effect.

**Check with your doctor if you:**

- have any allergies to:
  - any other medicines,
  - any other substances, such as foods, preservatives or dyes.
- have any other medical conditions, especially:
  - serious infection including sepsis, tuberculosis or a history of recurring infections,
  - low resistance to disease,
  - diabetes,

- liver problems or hepatitis B or hepatitis C, viruses that affect the liver,
- heart failure,
- blood disorders,
- cancer,
- are about to have major surgery,
- nerve disorders including multiple sclerosis or optic neuritis (inflammation of the nerves of the eyes),
- seizures,
- chickenpox or have been recently exposed to chickenpox.
- take any medicines for any other condition,
- you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant,
- you are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed.

If you are not sure whether you should start taking this medicine, talk to your doctor.

During treatment, you may be at risk of developing certain side effects. It is important you understand these risks and how to monitor for them. See additional information under Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#)

## **Pregnancy and breastfeeding**

Check with your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.

The effects of Brenzys in pregnant women are not well understood, therefore Brenzys should only be used during pregnancy if clearly needed. Contraception is recommended to avoid becoming pregnant during Brenzys therapy and for 3 weeks after discontinuation of Brenzys therapy. Inform your doctor if you are planning pregnancy or are pregnant. If you become pregnant while using Brenzys, contact your doctor. Your doctor will help you to decide whether the benefits of treatment outweigh the potential risk to your baby.

Talk to your doctor if you are breastfeeding or intend to breastfeed.

Small amount of Brenzys can pass through breast milk. If you are breastfeeding, you should discuss the use of Brenzys and the options available with your doctor.

It is important that you discuss with your doctor the use of Brenzys during pregnancy or breastfeeding before the baby receives any vaccine.

This medicine is available only with a doctor's prescription. Brenzys is not addictive.

## **3. What if I am taking other medicines?**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any medicines, vitamins or supplements that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

**Some medicines may interfere with Brenzys and affect how it works.**

**Medicines that increase risk of side effects when used with Brenzys:**

- abatacept and Interleukin-1 antagonists such as anakinra. These medicines should not be used with Brenzys.
- cyclophosphamide, a medicine used to treat cancer or prevent transplant rejection. Use with Brenzys is not recommended.
- sulfasalazine.

**Medicines that Brenzys may interfere with:**

- some vaccines
- warfarin, a medicine used to thin the blood and prevent blood clots
- digoxin, a medicine used to improve the strength and efficiency of the heart, or to control the rate and rhythm of the heartbeat
- medicines used to treat diabetes

**Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about what medicines, vitamins or supplements you are taking and if these affect Brenzys.**

## **4. How do I use Brenzys?**

Your doctor will tell you how to inject Brenzys. A different site should be used for each new injection. Each new injection should be given at least 3 cm from an old site.

## How much to use

### Adults

- The recommended dose for adults is 50 mg per week, injected under the skin. Your doctor may determine a different frequency at which to inject Brenzys.
- If you are being treated for psoriasis, your doctor may prescribe a higher dose of Brenzys when you first begin your treatment.
- If you are being treated for nr-AxSpA and Brenzys has no effect on your condition within 12 weeks, your doctor may tell you to stop using this medicine.
- Follow the instructions provided and use Brenzys until your doctor tells you to stop.

### Children

Brenzys is not indicated for use in children less than 18 years of age. Other etanercept products are available for use in children.

### When to use Brenzys

- Brenzys should be used at the same time each week as directed by your doctor.

### How to use Brenzys

Your doctor will supervise and advise you on how to use Brenzys when you first start. If your doctor thinks it is appropriate, they can train you on how to self-inject Brenzys.

Brenzys should be administered according to the instructions provided in the Instructions for Use leaflet included at the end of this document.

### Solution for injection only:

- After allowing the Brenzys solution to reach room temperature (approximately 15 to 30 minutes), immediate use is recommended.
- Each syringe or Auto-injector of Brenzys is for single use only, in one patient only. Discard any residue.

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or pharmacist carefully.

They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you are injecting Brenzys yourself, you must follow the detailed instructions provided in this leaflet.

Brenzys is injected under the skin. When using the syringes or Auto-injector, it is important that you do not pull back on the plunger. Brenzys can be injected by your doctor, nurse, carer or by yourself.

When you have finished injecting Brenzys, discard the syringe or Auto-injector into a sharps container.

If you do not understand the instructions for injecting Brenzys found in the carton, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

To help you remember, use a diary to write in the days of the week you should have a Brenzys injection.

You should continue to inject Brenzys for as long as your doctor recommends.

Never inject more than the dose recommended by your doctor.

If you feel that the effect of Brenzys is too strong or too weak, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

### If you forget to use Brenzys

Brenzys should be used regularly at the same time each week as agreed with your doctor.

If you miss your dose at the usual time, you should inject the next dose as soon as you remember, unless your next dose is scheduled for the next day. In such case, skip the missed dose and continue your normal schedule. If you notice you skipped a dose on the day of your next dose, **do NOT take a double dose.**

### If you use too much Brenzys

If you think that you have used too much Brenzys, you may need urgent medical attention.

#### You should immediately:

- phone the Poisons Information Centre  
(by calling **13 11 26**), or
- contact your doctor, or
- go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital.

**You should do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.**

Always take the labelled medicine carton with you, even if it is empty.

You may need urgent medical attention. There is very limited data on overdose with Brenzys. Ask your doctor if you have any concerns.

## 5. What should I know while using Brenzys?

### Things you should do

Tell any other doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are using Brenzys.

Tell your doctor if Brenzys is not making your condition better.

Keep a record of the Lot number of each Brenzys pack that you use.

### Call your doctor straight away if you:

- Have or develop any serious infection while using Brenzys. Do not inject any more Brenzys and contact your doctor immediately.
- Have any symptoms such as persistent fever, sore throat, bruising, bleeding or paleness.

These symptoms may point to the existence of a potentially life-threatening blood disorder, which may require you to stop taking Brenzys.

Remind any doctor or dentist you visit that you are using Brenzys.

### Things you should not do

- Do not stop using this medicine suddenly or lower the dosage without checking with your doctor.
- Do not shake the Brenzys syringe or Auto-injector.
- Do not stop using Brenzys because you are feeling better, unless your doctor advises you to. Your condition may flare up if you reduce the dose or stop using Brenzys.
- Do not give Brenzys to anyone else even if they have the same condition as you.
- Do not use Brenzys to treat any other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.
- Do not stop using Brenzys, or lower the dosage, without checking with your doctor.

### Driving or using machines

It is not known whether Brenzys causes dizziness or drowsiness.

### Drinking alcohol

No information is available.

### Looking after your medicine

Follow the instructions in the carton on how to take care of your medicine properly.

Keep Brenzys in a refrigerator where the temperature stays between 2°C and 8°C.

Keep it away from moisture, heat or sunlight; for example, do not store it:

- in the bathroom or near a sink, or

in the car or on window sills.

Store Brenzys pre-filled syringes and auto-injectors in their cartons to protect them from light.

Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

If it is not possible to store Brenzys in the refrigerator, it may be stored out of the refrigerator (below 25°C) for up to 4 weeks (e.g. when travelling).

If you have stored Brenzys at room temperature for any period of time (even if returned to the refrigerator) you must use it within 4 weeks from the time you first took it out of the refrigerator, or else you must discard it.

Do not use Brenzys if it has been exposed to high temperatures or has been out of the refrigerator for more than 4 weeks. For additional advice on storing Brenzys, contact Organon Medical Information on 0800 111 700.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date.

Keep it where young children cannot reach it.

### Getting rid of any unwanted medicine

If you no longer need to use this medicine or it is out of date, take it to any pharmacy for safe disposal.

## 6. Are there any side effects?

All medicines can have side effects. If you do experience any side effects, most of them are minor and temporary. However, some side effects may need medical attention.

See the information below and, if you need to, ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have any further questions about side effects.

### Common side effects

Common side effects	What to do
<p><b>Injection site reactions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Itching</li> <li>• Bruising</li> <li>• Redness</li> <li>• Bleeding, swelling, pain or hardness around the injection site.</li> </ul> <p><b>Infections:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cold</li> <li>• Sinus infections</li> </ul> <p><b>Allergic reactions:</b></p> <p>Symptoms of an allergic reaction may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• wheezing, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or a tight feeling in your chest,</li> <li>• swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body,</li> <li>• rash, itching, hives or flushed red skin,</li> <li>• dizziness or light-headedness.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Headaches</li> <li>• Fever</li> </ul>	<p><b>Speak to your doctor if you have any of these common side effects and they worry you.</b></p>

### Serious side effects

Serious side effects	What to do
<p><b>Infections:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuberculosis</li> <li>• Blood poisoning (sepsis)</li> <li>• Signs of an infection such as fever, chills, mouth ulcers or sore throat</li> </ul> <p><b>Lung disease:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breathlessness during exercise or a dry cough</li> </ul> <p><b>Soft tissue infections:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bumps or sores that do not heal, are swollen, red or have pus</li> </ul> <p><b>Nervous system disorders:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seizures, numbness or tingling throughout your body, weakness</li> </ul>	<p><b>Call your doctor straight away, or go straight to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of these serious side effects.</b></p>

<p>in your arms and/or legs and dizziness, or problems with your eyesight.</p> <p><b>Inflammation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spinal cord</li> <li>• Inner eye</li> <li>• Blood vessels in the skin or lymph glands</li> <li>• Skin reaction (itchy small red or purple bumps or blisters, white scales or flakes)</li> <li>• Signs of inflammatory bowel disease such as diarrhoea or mucus or blood in your stools, stomach cramps, fever or weight loss.</li> <li>• Signs your kidneys may not be functioning properly, including urinating less often, pink/dark brown, foamy/bubbly urine, swelling of the face, hands, feet and abdomen, and high blood pressure.</li> </ul> <p><b>Allergic reaction:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swelling of the face, lips or tongue which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing, or hives.</li> </ul> <p><b>Lupus or lupus-like syndrome:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weight changes, persistent rash, fever, joint or muscle pain or fatigue</li> </ul> <p><b>Immune system disorders:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skin rash, blisters and ulcers on the skin, in the mouth or airways</li> </ul> <p><b>Blood disorders:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tiredness, headaches, shortness of breath when exercising, dizziness, paleness, nose bleeds, unusual bleeding or bruising or more frequent infections.</li> </ul> <p><b>Heart failure:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• shortness of breath, persistent cough, difficulty exercising, fast or irregular heartbeat, swelling in the legs or feet, tiredness and weakness.</li> </ul>	
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There have been reports of some types of cancer developing in patients using Brenzys and other TNF blocking medicines. These include skin cancers, cancers that affect the lymph system called lymphoma and Kaposi's sarcoma (which also affects the organs, skin, mouth, nose or throat), or affect the blood system called leukaemia. The role of Brenzys in the development of cancer is not known.

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that may be making you feel unwell.**

Other side effects not listed here may occur in some people.

## Reporting side effects

After you have received medical advice for any side effects you experience, you can report side effects to the Therapeutic Goods Administration online at <https://pophealth.my.site.com/carmreportnz/s/>. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

**Always make sure you speak to your doctor or pharmacist before you decide to stop taking any of your medicines.**

## 7. Product details

This medicine is only available with a doctor's prescription.

### Solution for injection

Prefilled syringe and Auto-injector

<b>Active ingredient (main ingredient)</b>	Etanercept
<b>Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)</b>	Sucrose Sodium chloride Sodium phosphate monobasic monohydrate Sodium phosphate dibasic (heptahydrate) Water

**Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to any of these ingredients.**

### What Brenzys looks like

#### Pre-filled Syringe (Solution for injection):

Brenzys Pre-filled Syringe is supplied in a kit containing:

- Four single-dose pre-filled glass syringes containing Brenzys solution.

Each syringe contains 50 mg of etanercept in 1 mL of Brenzys solution.

#### Auto-injector (Solution for injection)

Brenzys Auto-injector is supplied in a kit containing:

- Either one or four single-dose pre-filled glass syringes, each housed in a plastic Auto-injector.

Each syringe contains 50 mg of etanercept in 1 mL of Brenzys solution.

- Two or four alcohol swabs are also provided in the kit.

### Who distributes Brenzys

Brenzys is supplied by:

#### Sponsor:

In Australia:

SAMSUNG BIOEPIS AU PTY LTD

Suite 1, Level 11, 66 Goulburn Street,

Sydney NSW 2000, Australia

In New Zealand:

SAMSUNG BIOEPIS NZ LIMITED

TMF Group, Level 11, 41 Shortland Street, Auckland 1010

New Zealand

**Distributor:**

In Australia:

Organon Pharma Pty Limited

Level 5, 66 King St, Sydney NSW 2000 Australia

In New Zealand:

Organon New Zealand Limited

Level 7, 36 Brandon Street Wellington 6011, New Zealand

Telephone: 0800 111 700

**Australian Registration Number:**

50 mg pre-filled syringe solution for injection: AUST R 245252

50 mg Auto-injector solution for injection: AUST R 245253

**Date of preparation**

This leaflet was prepared in July 2025.