




# Alfacalcidol

REFUSÉE

Le Comité d'experts, après évaluation, refuse d'inscrire le médicament proposé dans la demande. La Liste Modèle des Médicaments Essentiels fait état des raisons que les membres du Comité ont identifiées pour refuser l'inscription.

Section: 18. Medicines for endocrine disorders

		EMLc	Codes ATC: A11CC03
Indication	Disorders of vitamin D metabolism or transport	Code ICD11: 5C63.2	
INN	Alfacalcidol		
Type de médicament	Chemical agent		
Type de liste	Liste complémentaire (EML) (EMLc)		
Formulations	Oral > Liquid: 2 µg per mL Oral > Solid > capsule: 0.25 µg ; 1 µg		
Historique des statuts LME	Demande refusée en 2023 (TRS 1049)		
Sexe	Tous		
Âge	Aussi recommandé pour les enfants		
Équivalence thérapeutique	La recommandation concerne ce médicament spécifique		
Renseignements sur le brevet	Patents have expired in most jurisdictions Lire la suite <a href="#">sur les brevets</a> . 		
Wikipédia	<a href="#">Alfacalcidol</a> 		
DrugBank	<a href="#">Alfacalcidol</a> 		

## Recommandation du comité d'experts

The Expert Committee noted that the application referred to three guidelines that conditionally recommended vitamin D analogues for the treatment of people with chronic kidney disease, hypophosphataemic rickets and hypoparathyroidism, but did not elaborate on any of the evidence underpinning the guideline recommendations. The Committee noted a recent systematic review identified during the application review process that suggested that calcitriol and alfacalcidol might result in benefits for people with chronic kidney disease in terms of some surrogate outcomes for clinical benefit such as fewer fractures. Overall, the Committee noted that the evidence base was uncertain due to the risk of bias, indirectness when assessing patient-important outcomes, inconsistencies and imprecision. The Committee considered that the limited likelihood of influencing important clinical outcomes was potentially outweighed by the risks associated with the use of alfacalcidol and calcitriol, such as hypercalciuria, decreased renal function and cardiovascular risk. The Expert Committee therefore did not recommend the inclusion of alfacalcidol and calcitriol on the complementary list of the EML and EMLc for the proposed indications of hypoparathyroidism, hypophosphataemic rickets, hypocalcaemic vitamin D dependent/resistant rickets, neonatal hypocalcaemia, chronic kidney disease or other disorders of vitamin D metabolism or transport.

## Contexte

Alfacalcidol and calcitriol have not previously been considered for inclusion in the Model Lists for management of disorders of bone and calcium metabolism, or any other indication. The Model Lists currently include vitamin D as cholecalciferol and ergocalciferol for the management of vitamin D deficiency.

## Pertinence pour la santé publique

Vitamin D analogues are used in situations where endogenous vitamin D cannot be produced, or exogenous 25 hydroxyvitamin D (25(OH)D) cannot be absorbed or converted to active vitamin D in the kidney and liver. These situations include chronic kidney disease, hypophosphataemic rickets (including X-linked) and hypoparathyroidism (1). Data from the Global Burden of Disease study indicate that the global prevalence of chronic kidney disease was estimated to be almost 700 million in 2019 (2). The prevalence varies between countries, with a large burden in low- and middle-income countries. X-linked hypophosphataemia has a reported incidence of 3.9 per 100 000 live births and a prevalence of 4.8 per 100 000 population (all ages) (3). Hypoparathyroidism has a number of potential causes and overall population prevalence data are difficult to obtain. A study in Denmark suggested a population prevalence (all ages) for surgical and non-surgical hypoparathyroidism of 22 per 100 000 and 2.3 per 100 000, respectively (4–6). Incidence rates for some of the conditions that cause hypoparathyroidism in childhood are available. The annual birth incidence of 22q11 deletion syndrome has been reported as 14 per 100 000 in a study in Sweden (7), and 22 per 100 000 in a study in Australia (8).

## Bénéfices

The application stated that treatment for the proposed indications with vitamin D analogues is long-standing and well established. Their use is recommended in guidelines for management of chronic kidney disease (9), hypophosphataemic rickets (10,11) and hypoparathyroidism (12). Most recent clinical trials compare other medications with vitamin D analogues as the gold standard. As such, no recent placebo-controlled clinical trials of these medicines are available. A randomized, open-label trial compared alfacalcidol and calcitriol for the management of patients with hypoparathyroidism. Patients with hypoparathyroidism with optimal calcaemic control on alfacalcidol were randomized to continue alfacalcidol (n = 20) or switch to calcitriol (n = 25) at half the ongoing alfacalcidol dose for 6 months. No significant differences were observed between the alfacalcidol and calcitriol arms from baseline to 6 months for the main outcomes of: mean serum phosphate level (5.0 mg/L versus 4.9 mg/dL, P = 0.75); proportion of patients with hyperphosphataemia (75% versus 80%, P = 0.73); 24-hour urine calcium-to-creatinine ratio (0.23 versus 0.28, P = 0.26); proportion of patients with hypercalciuria (65% versus 68%, P = 0.99); mean 24-hour urinary calcium excretion (198 mg versus 260 mg, P = 0.08); or mean 24-hour urinary sodium excretion (85 mmol versus 95 mmol, P = 0.41) (13).

## Torts

The application reported that, to date, alfacalcidol and calcitriol have large total patient exposure. The risks associated with treatment relate directly to the appropriateness of the dosage. No side-effects linked to intolerance to the medicines themselves are known. The most common risks associated with treatment include renal nephrocalcinosis and hypercalcaemia (in case of excessive dosage) or hypocalcaemia (in case of insufficient dosage), the risk of which varies by indication. Monitoring of serum and urine chemistry is recommended.

## Rapport coût/efficacité

No cost-effectiveness data were presented in the application. Table 23 (refer TRS 1049) shows the prices reported in the application for alfacalcidol and calcitriol.

## Directives de l'OMS

WHO guidelines for the management of disorders of bone and calcium metabolism are not currently available.

## Disponibilité

Alfacalcidol and calcitriol are reported to be available globally, with generic versions available in many countries.

## Autres considérations

A 2021 systematic review and meta-analysis of 22 randomized trials that investigated different forms of vitamin D supplementation in patients with chronic kidney disease was identified during the application review process (14). Calcitriol and vitamin D analogues (alfacalcidol and paricalcitol) were associated with a reduction in parathyroid hormone concentration

compared with vitamin D2 or D3 (mean difference -14.69 pg/mL, 95% confidence interval -36.29 to 6.90 pg/mL; four randomized controlled trials, 274 participants) and increase in fibroblast growth factor 23 (three randomized controlled trials, meta-analysis not performed), both indirect measures of important clinical outcomes, for example, fractures, cardiovascular disease risk and mortality. Inconsistent results for serum calcium and serum phosphate concentrations were noted. However, the evidence was considered uncertain because of the risk of bias, indirectness, inconsistencies and imprecision.

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