

Acthar[®]GEL
(repository corticotropin injection) 80 U/mL

Patient Support

Your Step-by-Step Injection Guide

Subcutaneous (under the skin) and
intramuscular (into a muscle) injection instructions



Brandi, taking Acthar Gel.
Individual results may vary.

Please see Important Safety Information on pages 29-31,
and the full [Prescribing Information](#).

What is Acthar Gel?

Acthar® Gel is a prescription medicine used for:

- Reduction of proteinuria in people with nephrotic syndrome of the idiopathic type (unknown origin) without uremia (accumulation of urea in the blood due to malfunctioning kidneys) or that due to lupus erythematosus (lupus)
- Treatment for adults with acute relapses or flares of multiple sclerosis (MS). Studies have shown Acthar to be effective in speeding recovery from an MS relapse. However, there is no evidence that it affects the ultimate outcome or natural history of the disease
- Treatment of severe acute and chronic allergic and inflammatory conditions affecting different parts of the eye. This can include the front part of the eye such as the cornea and iris, or the back part of the eye such as the optic nerve and retina
- Treatment for people with symptoms of sarcoidosis
- Treatment for flares or on a regular basis (maintenance) in people with systemic lupus erythematosus (lupus)
- Treatment for flares or on a regular basis (maintenance) in people with dermatomyositis or polymyositis (DM-PM)
- Add-on therapy for short-term administration (to tide patients over an acute episode or exacerbation) in: psoriatic arthritis (PsA); rheumatoid arthritis (RA), including juvenile rheumatoid arthritis (selected cases may require low-dose maintenance therapy); ankylosing spondylitis

Acthar is injected beneath the skin or into the muscle.

SELECT IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

DO NOT take Acthar until you have talked to your doctor if you have any of the following conditions:

- Have been given or are about to receive a live or live attenuated vaccine
- A skin condition called scleroderma
- Bone density loss or osteoporosis
- Any infections, including fungal, bacterial, or viral

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Mallinckrodt intends this document to be informative, but you should remember the contents are general in nature and not meant to substitute for specific advice from professionals, which may be necessary based on your individual questions and needs. We have made reasonable efforts to provide helpful and accurate information; however, we make no guarantees and you should not solely rely on the information included in this document. This guide should not be used for patients with Infantile Spasms. For caregivers of IS patients, please see Acthar.com.

Please see additional Important Safety Information on pages 29-31, and the full [Prescribing Information](#).

Your support starts here

With Acthar Patient Support, you have a dedicated Nurse Navigator who will:

- ✔ Coordinate free, one-on-one injection training to help you take Acthar® Gel (repository corticotropin injection)
- ✔ Share useful resources to help you understand your condition
- ✔ Answer questions about your treatment with Acthar Gel

Nurse Navigators do not give medical advice and will direct you to your doctor for answers to medical questions.

Free, one-on-one injection training is offered in your home, online, or by phone.

Your Nurse Navigator will contact you to discuss your injection training needs and coordinate your training sessions with a licensed nurse educator in your area who will:

- Review the materials needed—needles, syringes, alcohol swabs, etc
- Show you or your care partner how and where to inject Acthar Gel
- Explain how to store Acthar Gel and dispose of used needles and syringes
- Answer any questions about how to inject Acthar Gel
- Come to visit you up to 3 times, or arrange online or phone training, so that you have full confidence in taking Acthar Gel

To schedule free, one-on-one injection training,
call Acthar Patient Support at **1-888-435-2284**

Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 9 PM ET
Saturday, 9 AM to 2 PM ET

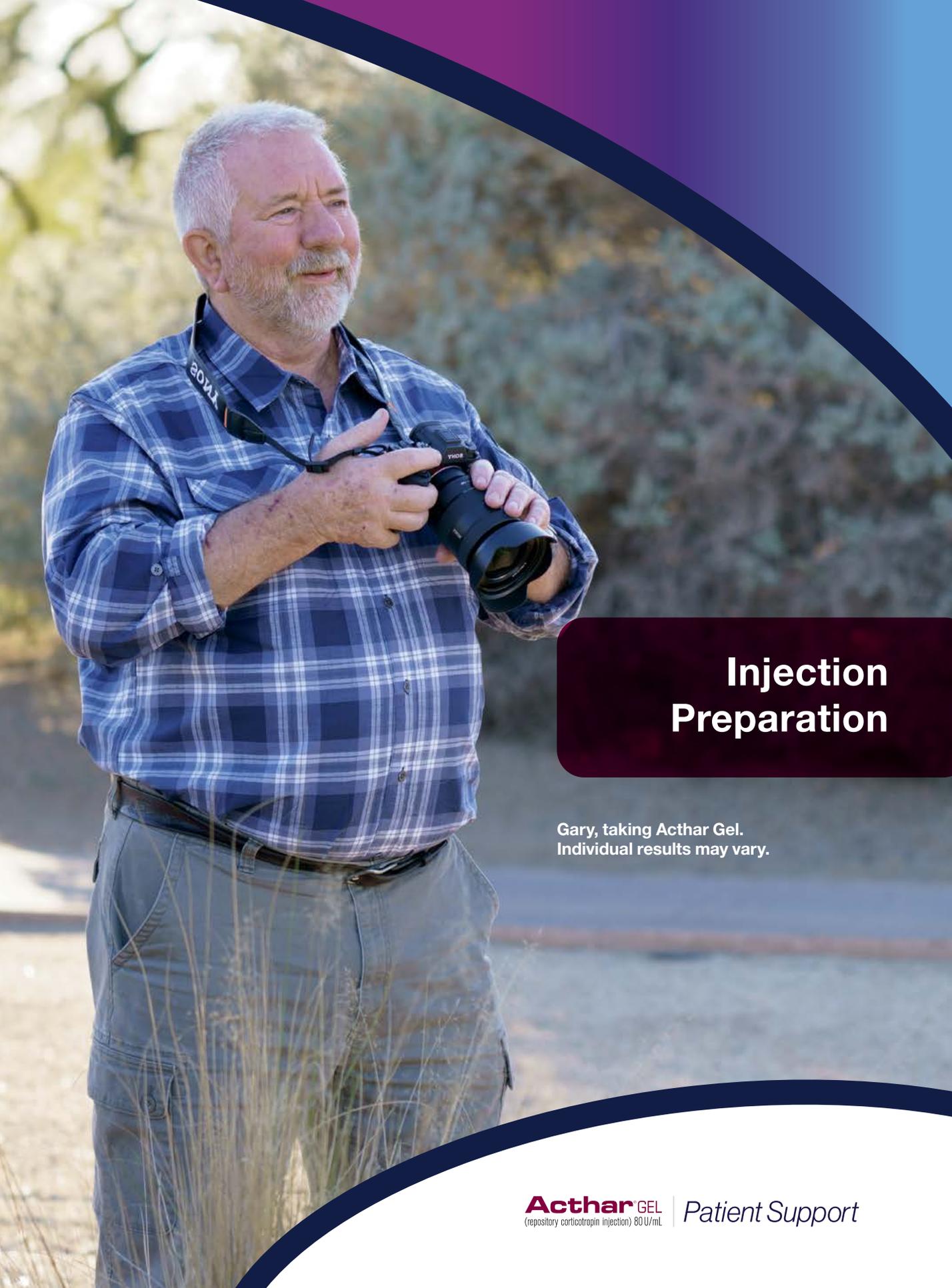
When to call your doctor

You should **call your doctor right away** if you have any of the following:

- Problems that keep you from giving yourself the injection
- Needle that breaks off in the injection site
- Medication injected into the wrong area
- Bleeding at the injection site that doesn't stop
- Rash, redness, or swelling at the injection site
- A lot of pain
- Shortness of breath
- Fever or chills
- Allergic reaction
- Any other severe side effect or concern

To access injection videos and guides, visit [Acthar.com](https://www.acthar.com)





Injection Preparation

Gary, taking Acthar Gel.
Individual results may vary.

Getting started

The steps included in this guide are intended only to supplement the detailed instructions and training provided to you in person by your doctor or nurse.

Acthar® Gel (repository corticotropin injection) is given by a subcutaneous (under the skin) or intramuscular (into a muscle) injection. Acthar Gel should never be given intravenously (into a vein) or by mouth.

Once you receive Acthar Gel:

- 1** Check the vial to make sure that the label states it is Acthar Gel (see picture for reference).
- 2** Check the expiration date on the Acthar Gel vial to make sure you are using it before the date listed.
- 3** Refrigerate Acthar Gel as soon as you receive it and check that your refrigerator temperature is currently 36°F–46°F or 2°C–8°C.



Unopened vials that are refrigerated (36°F–46°F or 2°C–8°C) are good until the last day of the month listed for expiration on the vial. For example, if your vial’s expiration date is 10-2022, it should be discarded on October 31, 2022.

Getting started (cont'd)

A few things to remember before injecting

- Ask your doctor or nurse which injection areas may be best for you. Common areas include the upper arm and thigh
 - If a caregiver is performing the injection, the upper arm may be best
- You may inject into the same area (for example, upper-right thigh) more than once a week, but you need to rotate (change) the injection sites in that area each time, keeping 1 inch of distance between sites

- 4 Prior to each use, check for any signs of contamination (eg, cloudiness, small flakes, etc).

DO NOT USE IF:

- ⊗ The vial is expired
- ⊗ Any signs of contamination are seen

Read this entire instruction guide before you begin your first injection and as needed prior to any injection.

- 5 After a vial has been opened (the top seal has been punctured by a needle), it should be discarded after 28 days. For example, if the date you punctured your vial was 10/1/2022, you would need to dispose of that vial on 10/29/2022.

Getting started (cont'd)

Do not inject into:

- A vein
- The same site (small area of the muscle) more than once a week.
You must keep at least 1 inch of distance between sites when injecting into an area more than once a week
- An area that has skin irritation, including red, swollen, or painful areas
- An area that has hardened or is sensitive to touch
- Tattoos, warts, scars, or birthmarks
- The belly button
- A knee or the groin area

Refer to
page 5 for when
you should call
your doctor
right away.



Contact your doctor if you notice any injection site reactions, including redness, pain, or swelling.

To schedule free, one-on-one injection training,
call Acthar Patient Support at **1-888-435-2284**

Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 9 PM ET
Saturday, 9 AM to 2 PM ET

Organizing your supplies

Items you will need when preparing your injection:



- ✓ **Vial of Acthar® Gel (repository corticotropin injection)**
as prescribed by your doctor



- ✓ **Syringe**
for dosing your medication



- ✓ **20G needle**
for drawing up Acthar Gel into the syringe (or the size prescribed by your doctor)



- ✓ **23G needle**
for injecting Acthar Gel (or the size prescribed by your doctor)



- ✓ **Alcohol swabs**
to sterilize your vial of Acthar Gel and your chosen injection site



- ✓ **Gauze pad**
to stop bleeding if necessary



- ✓ **Adhesive bandage**
to be used as needed



- ✓ **Sharps container**
for safe disposal of syringe and needles after use

Preparing to inject

- 1 Gather all your supplies in one place so they will be easy to access when injecting.



Your supplies:

- Drawing and Injecting Needles
- Acthar Gel Vial
- Alcohol Swabs
- Syringe
- Adhesive Bandage
- Gauze Pad
- Sharps Container

Quick Reference Guide for Taking Acthar® Gel

Take this guide with you to help you gather your supplies and prepare your injection whenever you need to take Acthar Gel.

Mallinckrodt intends this document to be informative, helpful, and accurate; however, you should not solely rely on the information included in this document. The content is general in nature, not guaranteed, and not meant to substitute guidance provided by your doctor.

- 1 Prepare the Acthar Gel vial**
 - Remove the cap from the vial using the cap remover or your thumb. Do not touch the vial stopper.
 - Check for expiration or combination. Do not use if expired or if you see cloudiness or small flecks.
 - Put the seal between your thumb and index finger and pull it a few inches to turn the gel to light.
- 2 Prepare the syringe**
 - Wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
 - Take the cap off the seal and inject the gel into the syringe with an alcohol swab. Do not throw away the cap, as you will need it later.
 - Attach the 20G needle to the syringe as directed by your doctor for drawing up Acthar Gel into the syringe.
 - Before attaching the needle cap, draw up into the syringe by pulling the plunger to the level of your prescribed Acthar Gel dose.
- 3 Load the syringe with Acthar Gel**
 - Place the vial on a flat surface and remove the needle cap. Insert the needle through the rubber stopper and push the plunger with your thumb resistance.
 - Turn the vial and syringe upside down.
 - Hold the vial in the crook of your arm, and slowly pull the plunger to the level of your prescribed Acthar Gel dose.
 - Make sure there are no bubbles present in the syringe, and remove the drawing needle from the vial.
 - Draw back the plunger to remove residual medicine left in the drawing needle.
 - Remember: After a vial has been opened, the top seal has been broken, if it should be discarded after 28 days.
- 4 Inject your prescribed dose of Acthar Gel**
 - Put the cap back on the drawing needle using the cap remover. Then remove the needle and properly dispose of it.
 - Attach the 20G needle to the syringe as directed by your doctor for injecting Acthar Gel.
 - Place the vial upright so the gel is gently coating on the plunger until you see a drop of medicine at the tip. Make sure the dose amount is still accurate.
 - Perform this injection at the site recommended by your doctor.
 - Remember: rotate the location of the injection site.
 - Apply gauze and/or an adhesive bandage as needed.
- 5 Properly dispose of the used syringe, needle, and needle cap in a sharps container**
 - Do not replace the cap on the drawing needle prior to disposal.
 - Use a heavy plastic or metal container that is puncture resistant, leak-proof, and a tight fitting lid. Reinforce the lid with heavy-duty tape.
 - Mark "Yes For Recycling" on the container.
 - Visit www.mallinckrodt.com/recycling to learn where you can dispose of the container.

Acthar Gel Dose Conversion Chart

This chart can help you determine how much medication to draw up into the syringe.

Prescribed dose	Injection amount (mL)
80 units	1 mL
40 units	0.5 mL
40 units	0.5 mL
20 units	0.25 mL

It is important to take Acthar Gel exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not stop taking Acthar Gel without first talking with your doctor. Your doctor may change your dose or tell you to stop taking Acthar Gel completely. If you miss a dose of Acthar Gel, call your doctor.

See your doctor or call the Healthcare Support at Acthar Gel (800) 435-2284 for more information on your medication and its use.

For helpful reminders and the full injection Guide, visit Acthar.com/taking-acthar-gel.

Please see Important Safety Information on back side, and the accompanying full Prescribing Information.

Acthar GEL
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Patient Support

Use the Quick Reference Guide to help you get started.

- 2 Recheck the expiration date to make sure the vial has not expired.



Preparing to inject (cont'd)

- 3 Take out the vial of Acthar® Gel (repository corticotropin injection) from the refrigerator 15-30 minutes before injecting to let the medicine get to room temperature.

Acthar Gel needs to change from a solid gel to a liquid gel before injecting.

If you need to warm Acthar Gel more quickly, you can roll it between the palms of your hands or hold it under your arm for a few minutes.

Do not microwave or heat on the stove, and make sure to refrigerate the vial after the injection is completed.



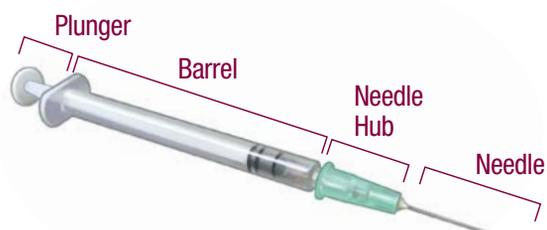
- 4 Wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds, making sure to dry them off with a clean towel or cloth.
- 5 Remove the cap from the vial and use an alcohol swab to wipe the rubber stopper on top of the vial.

To access injection videos and guides, visit [Acthar.com](https://www.acthar.com)

Preparing to inject (cont'd)

- 6 Attach the wider (20G) needle (or the size prescribed by your doctor for drawing up Acthar Gel into the syringe) to the syringe.

Before removing the cap of the needle, draw air into the syringe by pulling the syringe plunger to the exact amount your doctor has prescribed.



Acthar Gel Dose Conversion Chart*

This chart can help you remember how much medicine to draw up into the syringe.

Prescribed Units	Injection Amount (mL)
80 units	1 mL
60 units	0.75 mL
40 units	0.5 mL
20 units	0.25 mL

*Values shown are not all of the possible dosages of Acthar Gel. Dosage and frequency may vary. Your doctor has determined the best dose for you based on your medical history and condition.

Loading the syringe

- 1** Remove the needle cap. (Save the cap—you will need to recap the needle later.) Make sure the vial is on a flat surface. Holding the vial between the thumb and index figure, slowly insert the needle through the rubber stopper at a slight angle with the bevel facing up.

Once the bevel has passed through the top of the stopper, straighten the needle and push through the stopper. Inject air into the upright vial by pushing down on the plunger until it cannot be pushed farther.



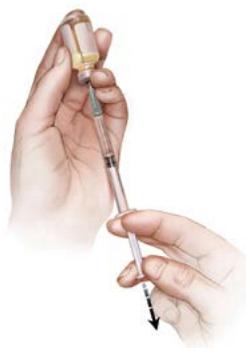
- 2** While the needle is still in the vial, pick up the vial and turn it upside down.



Loading the syringe (cont'd)

- 3 While keeping the needle tip in the gel (medicine), slowly pull back the plunger to the exact amount your doctor prescribed.

Keep needle tip in gel (medicine) at all times.



- 4 Keeping the vial upright with the needle and syringe in one hand, gently tap the syringe with a finger from your other hand until any air bubbles rise to the top.

If bubbles are present in the syringe, slowly press the plunger until only the bubbles are pressed out of the syringe. Check that you still have the amount your doctor prescribed in the syringe. If not, repeat step 4 until you have your prescribed dose of medicine for injection.

- 5 Return the vial to an upright position and place on a flat surface. Remove needle from the vial.



To schedule free, one-on-one injection training, call Acthar Patient Support at **1-888-435-2284**

Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 9 PM ET
Saturday, 9 AM to 2 PM ET

Loading the syringe (cont'd)

6 If you used the wider (20G) needle to draw Acthar Gel into the syringe

- a. Draw back the plunger to remove any medicine located in the 20G needle (or the size prescribed by your doctor for drawing up Acthar Gel into the syringe)
- b. Using the scooping method to recap the needle, hold the syringe with the needle attached in one hand and bring the needle to the opening of the needle cap. Slip the needle into the cap without using the other hand and gently lift up
- c. When the cap is completely covering the needle, use the other hand to secure the cap to the needle
- d. Remove capped 20G needle (or the size prescribed by your doctor for drawing up Acthar Gel into the syringe) from the syringe and place in the sharps container
- e. Keeping the syringe in your hand, open the 23G needle (or the size prescribed by your doctor for injecting Acthar Gel) and attach to the syringe. Do not remove the needle cap

Continue to the following sections to find an injection site and learn how to inject Acthar Gel. Remember: The 20G needle (or the size prescribed by your doctor for drawing up Acthar Gel into the syringe) is not for injecting.

Before injecting, ensure that the needle for injecting remains sterile (for example, do not place on an unclean surface).

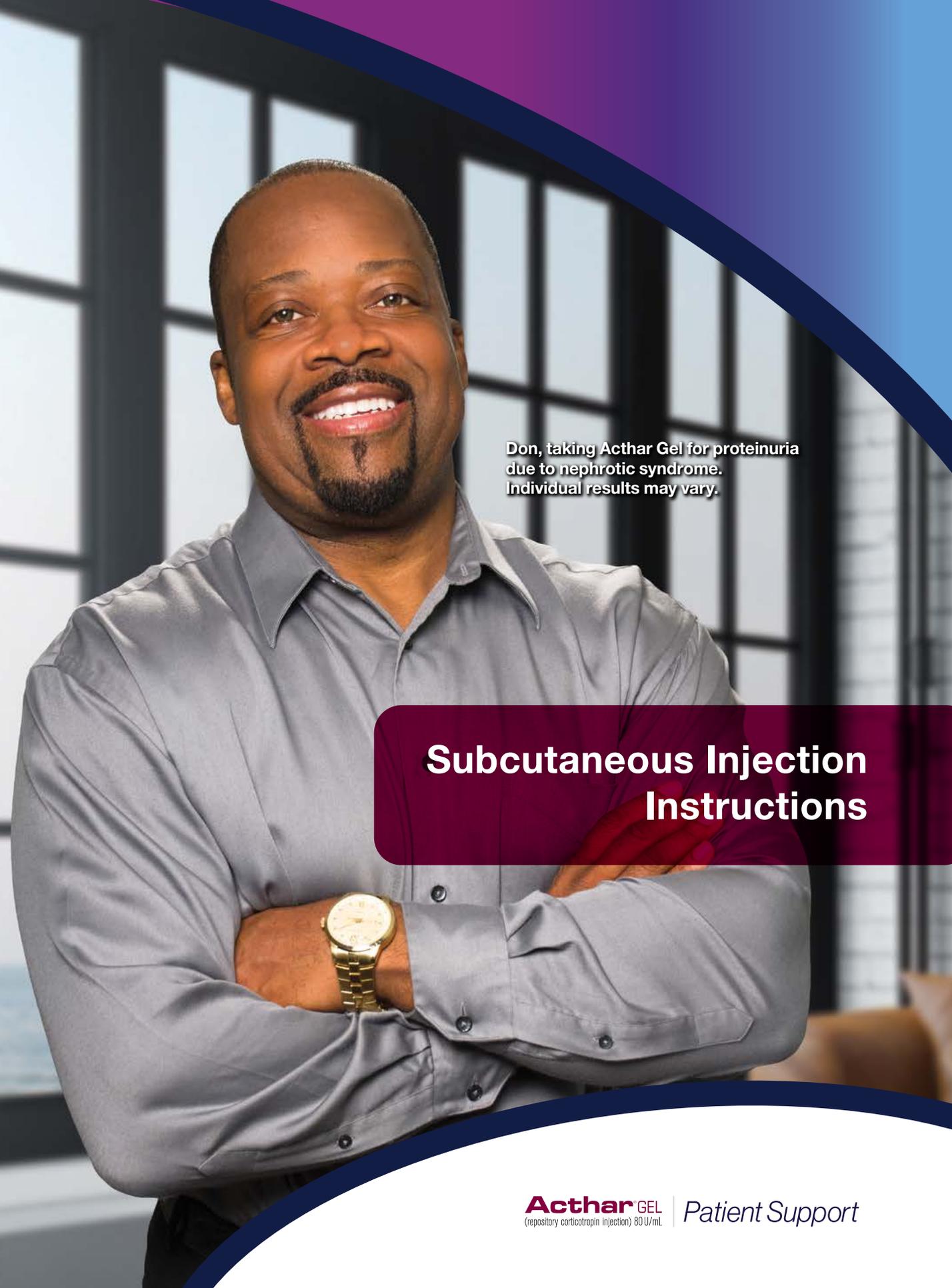
If you used the thinner (23G) needle (or the size prescribed by your doctor for drawing up Acthar Gel into the syringe), continue to the following sections to find an injection site and learn how to inject Acthar Gel.

Before injecting, ensure that the needle for injecting remains sterile (for example, do not place on an unclean surface).

Here is some Important Safety Information you should know about Acthar Gel:

- Patients should not receive certain vaccines during Acthar Gel treatment. Talk to your doctor about which vaccines are safe
- Tell your doctor if you have an infection, diabetes, heart problems, kidney problems, stomach or intestinal problems, thyroid problems, liver problems, neuromuscular problems, convulsions or seizures, had exposure to someone with tuberculosis (TB), a previous allergic reaction such as hives, itching or trouble breathing, to Acthar Gel or pork products, had recent surgery, had a recent vaccination or are scheduled to receive a vaccination, or have a family member who is receiving vaccinations

Visit [Acthar.com](https://www.acthar.com) to see injection videos and guides.



Don, taking Acthar Gel for proteinuria
due to nephrotic syndrome.
Individual results may vary.

Subcutaneous Injection Instructions

Subcutaneous injection instructions

Instructions for subcutaneous (under the skin) injections only.
If you are injecting Acthar® Gel (repository corticotropin injection)
intramuscularly (into a muscle), please turn to page 36.

This section includes instructions for the upper thigh, abdomen, and side or back of the upper arm. Ask your doctor or nurse which injection areas may be best for you.

Injecting the upper thigh

THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS ARE FOR SELF-INJECTIONS.



You may inject into the same area more than once in a week, but rotate the injection sites in that area each time, keeping 1 inch between sites.

Subcutaneous injection instructions (cont'd)

- 1 Sit comfortably in a firm chair to keep the thigh area relaxed.

- 2 To locate the correct area, place one hand on your knee and one hand on your upper thigh near your hip.

Draw an imaginary line down the center front of your thigh from hip to knee. The area between your hands and from the center of your thigh to the outer side of the leg is the area that should be injected.



- 3 See “How to inject: subcutaneous (under the skin)” on page 23 for additional instructions.

Injecting the abdomen

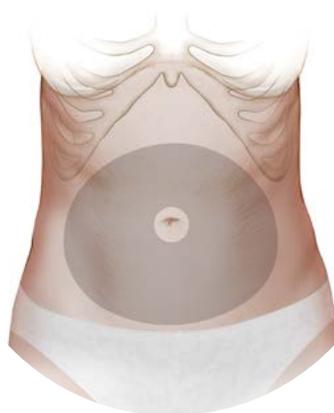
THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS ARE FOR SELF-INJECTIONS.

- 1 Sit comfortably in a firm chair.

- 2 To locate the area, place your hands on your lower ribs. Injections should be done below where your hands are in any area that has enough tissue to pinch.

However, it is important to not inject the belly button or the 1-inch area around it.

- 3 See “How to inject: subcutaneous (under the skin)” on page 23 for additional instructions.



Subcutaneous injection instructions (cont'd)

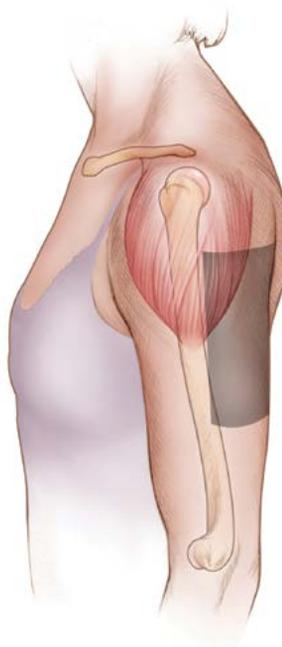
Injecting the upper arm

The upper arm is a common area used when injecting another person. Injections can be given on either the side or the back of the upper arm. The person receiving the injection can either sit or lie down, whichever is more comfortable, with their arm relaxed.

THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS ARE FOR THE PERSON GIVING THE INJECTION.

Side of the upper arm

- 1** Run your fingers along the collarbone until you reach the shoulder bone at the outermost tip of the shoulder.
- 2** Place 4 fingers of your hand just below the shoulder bone.
- 3** Now place 4 fingers of your other hand on the elbow. Draw an imaginary line down the center front and down the outer side of the upper arm from shoulder to elbow.



Injections can be given between these imaginary lines and your hands if there is enough tissue to pinch.

- 4** See “How to inject: subcutaneous (under the skin)” on page 23 for additional instructions.

Subcutaneous injection instructions (cont'd)

Back of the upper arm

- 1 Run your fingers along the collarbone until you reach the shoulder bone.
- 2 Place 4 fingers of your hand behind the arm, just below the shoulder bone.
- 3 Now place 4 fingers of your other hand on the back side of the elbow. Draw an imaginary line down the center back and down the outer side of the back upper arm from shoulder to elbow.



Injections can be given between these imaginary lines and your hands if there is enough tissue to pinch.



- 4 See “How to inject: subcutaneous (under the skin)” on page 23 for additional instructions.

How to inject: subcutaneous (under the skin)

THE STEPS ARE THE SAME WHETHER YOU ARE INJECTING YOURSELF OR SOMEONE ELSE.

The steps below should be done after:

- An injection site has been found (see pages 19-22 for appropriate injection sites)
- The person receiving the injection has removed clothing around the area to be injected
- The person receiving the injection is ready for the injection (see previous instructions for more information)

1 Prepare the injection site for injection. Using an alcohol swab, clean the selected site starting from the center, working outward in a circular motion, without going over the same area twice. Then allow it to dry completely before injecting.

2 If you changed your needle from the wider (20G) needle (or size prescribed by your doctor for drawing up Acthar® Gel (repository corticotropin injection) into the syringe), to the thinner (23G) needle (or size prescribed by your doctor for injecting), you will need to prime the needle for injecting by pressing down the plunger slowly until a small droplet of medicine forms at the tip.



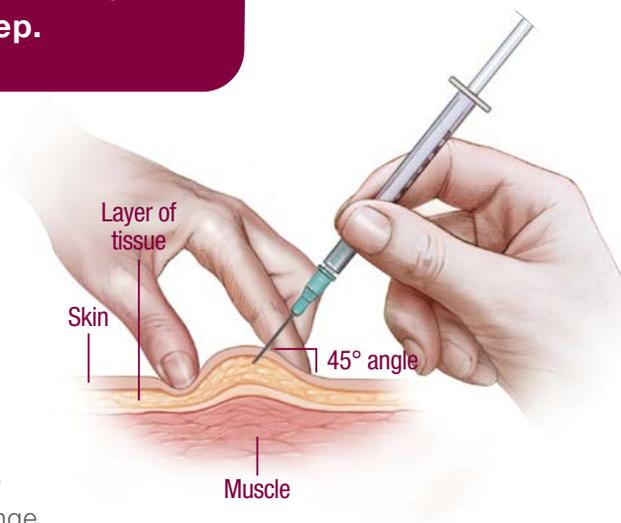
How to inject: subcutaneous (under the skin) (cont'd)

- 3** Using your free hand, pinch the skin around the injection site between the thumb and fingers of the hand that is not holding the syringe. Make sure not to touch the site where you plan to inject the medicine.



**To keep your needle sterile,
do not lay down your syringe
during this step.**

- 4** Hold the syringe like a pencil or dart with your right hand if you are right-handed, or your left if you are left-handed. While pinching the skin, use a quick motion to insert the needle at a 45° angle through the skin.



Once the needle is inserted, release the skin. Using your free hand, hold the barrel of the syringe in place and push down the plunger until the syringe is empty.

Need some help?

Call Acthar Patient Support at **1-888-435-2284**

Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 9 PM ET

Saturday, 9 AM to 2 PM ET

How to inject: subcutaneous (under the skin) (cont'd)

5 Once the syringe is empty, pull the needle back out, being careful not to bend or twist the needle. You may find it helps to gently hold a gauze pad over the injection site once the needle has been removed.

6 If there is any blood, wipe it off and, if necessary, apply an adhesive bandage.

7 Dispose of the used syringe, needle for injecting, and needle cap in a puncture-resistant sharps container.

Do not replace the needle cap prior to disposal.

(See the next section for more information about proper disposal of syringes, needles, and vials.)

8 Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water.



With **free, one-on-one injection training**, a licensed nurse will come visit you up to 3 times, or arrange online or phone training, so that you're ready to take or give Acthar Gel.



Please see additional Important Safety Information on pages 29-31, and the full [Prescribing Information](#).

Acthar[®]GEL
(repository corticotropin injection) 80 U/mL

Patient Support



Post-injection Instructions

How to dispose of used syringes, needles, and vials

It is important to follow state and local laws regarding proper disposal of used syringes, needles, and vials. Your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist can provide you with instructions.

You should:

- ✓ Place used supplies in a heavy plastic or metal container that is puncture-resistant, leakproof, and has a tight-fitting lid. You can ask your pharmacist for a “sharps container” or you can use a laundry detergent bottle
- ✓ Mark “Not For Recycling” on the container
- ✓ Store the container in a secure place out of the reach of children and pets
- ✓ Visit safeneedledisposal.org/state-search/ to find out where you can dispose of the container
- ✓ Reinforce the lid with heavy-duty tape before disposing

You should not:

- ✗ Reuse or recycle syringes, needles, and vials once empty
- ✗ Throw the syringes, needles, and vials in household trash
- ✗ Use a clear plastic or glass container

Visit
safeneedledisposal.org
or call **1-800-643-1643**
to find information about
safely disposing used
sharps in your state.

How long can I use a vial of Acthar Gel?

After a vial has been opened (the top seal has been punctured by a needle), it should be discarded after 28 days. For example, if the date you punctured your vial was 10/1/2022, you would need to dispose of that vial on 10/29/2022.



Bianca, taking Acthar Gel.
Individual results may vary.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Acthar[®]GEL | *Patient Support*
(repository corticotropin injection) 80 U/mL

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

DO NOT take Acthar until you have talked to your doctor if you have any of the following conditions:

- Have been given or are about to receive a live or live attenuated vaccine
- A skin condition called scleroderma
- Bone density loss or osteoporosis
- Any infections, including fungal, bacterial, or viral
- Eye infections, such as ocular herpes simplex
- Had recent surgery
- Stomach ulcers or a history of stomach ulcers
- Heart failure
- Uncontrolled high blood pressure
- Addison's disease or Cushing's syndrome
- Allergies to pig-derived proteins
- Suspected infections at birth (in infants under 2 years of age)

Tell your doctor about any other health problems that you have. Give your doctor a complete list of medicines you are taking, including all prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

What is the most important information I should know about Acthar?

- Never inject Acthar directly into a vein
- Always inject Acthar beneath the skin or into the muscle
- Follow your doctor's instructions for injecting Acthar
- Never stop treatment suddenly unless your doctor tells you to do so
- Try not to miss any scheduled doctor's appointments. It is important for the doctor to monitor you while taking Acthar
- You may be more likely to get new infections. Also, old infections may become active. Tell your doctor if you see any signs of an infection. Contact your doctor at the first sign of an infection or fever. Signs of infection are fever, cough, vomiting, or diarrhea. Other signs may be flu or any open cuts or sores
- When taking Acthar long-term, your adrenal gland may produce too much of a hormone called cortisol. This can result in symptoms of Cushing's syndrome. This may cause increased upper body fat, a rounded "moon" face, bruising easily, or muscle weakness

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION (cont'd)

What is the most important information I should know about Acthar? (cont'd)

- Sometimes when you stop taking Acthar long-term, your body may not produce enough natural cortisol. This is called “adrenal insufficiency.” Your doctor may prescribe a steroid medicine to protect you until the adrenal gland recovers
- You might develop high blood pressure, retain too much salt and water, or have low blood potassium levels. As a result of this, your doctor may recommend some changes to your diet, such as eating less salt or taking certain supplements
- Vaccines may not work well when you are on Acthar. Talk to your doctor about which vaccines are safe to use when you are taking Acthar
- Acthar may hide symptoms of other diseases. This can make it more difficult for your doctor to make a diagnosis if something else is going on
- Stomach or intestinal problems. Acthar may increase the risk of bleeding and stomach ulcers. Tell your doctor if you have stomach pains, bloody vomit, bloody or black stools, excessive tiredness, increased thirst, difficulty breathing, or increased heart rate
- Taking Acthar can make you feel irritable or depressed. You may also have mood swings or trouble sleeping. These effects are reversible once Acthar therapy is stopped
- If you have other conditions, such as diabetes or muscle weakness, you may find they get worse
- You might develop certain eye conditions, such as cataracts, glaucoma, or optic nerve damage
- Your body may develop allergies to Acthar; these allergies may be severe. Signs of allergic reaction include:
 - Skin rash and itching
 - Swelling of the face, tongue, lips, or throat
 - Trouble breathing
- The effects of Acthar may be intensified if you have an underactive thyroid or cirrhosis of the liver
- Long-term Acthar use can affect growth and physical development in children. This can be reversed when Acthar is no longer needed
- Acthar may cause osteoporosis (weak bones)
- Acthar might harm an unborn baby. Therefore, tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION (cont'd)

What are the most common side effects of Acthar?

Commonly reported side effects of Acthar include:

- Injection site reaction
- Fatigue, physical weakness, and lack of energy
- Fluid retention
- Insomnia (difficulty sleeping)
- Headache
- High blood sugar

The most common side effects for the treatment of infantile spasms (IS) are:

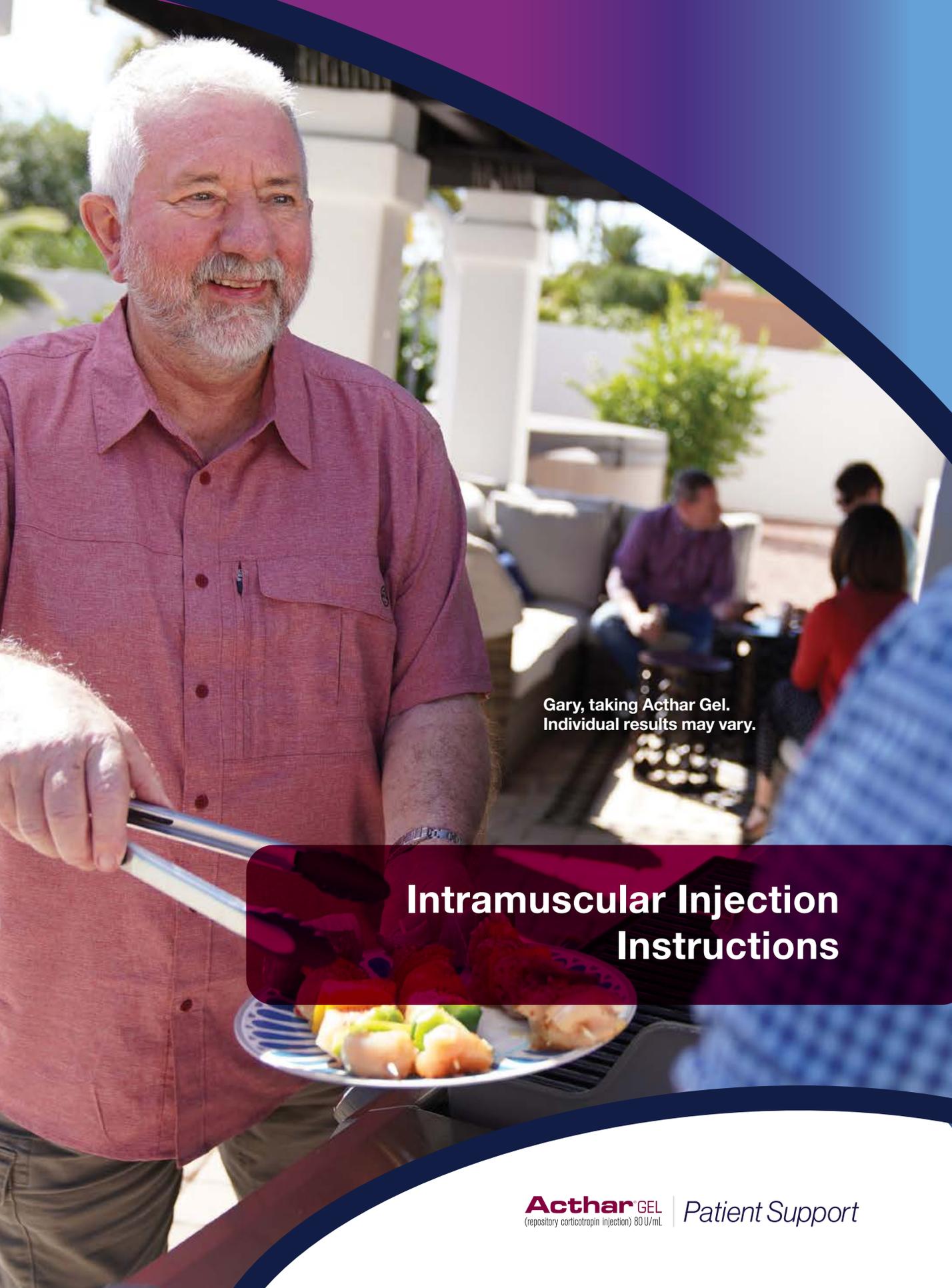
- Increased risk of infections
- Convulsions
- High blood pressure
- Irritability
- Fever

The above side effects may also be seen in adults and children over 2 years of age. Some children with IS progress to other forms of seizures; IS sometimes masks these seizures, which may become visible after treatment for IS has been completed.

These are not all of the possible side effects of Acthar.

Tell your doctor about any side effect that bothers you, or that does not go away. Call your doctor or pharmacist for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to the FDA. Call 1-800-FDA-1088 or visit www.fda.gov/medwatch. You may also report side effects by calling 1-800-844-2830.

Please see full [Prescribing Information](#) for additional Important Safety Information.



Gary, taking Acthar Gel.
Individual results may vary.

Intramuscular Injection Instructions

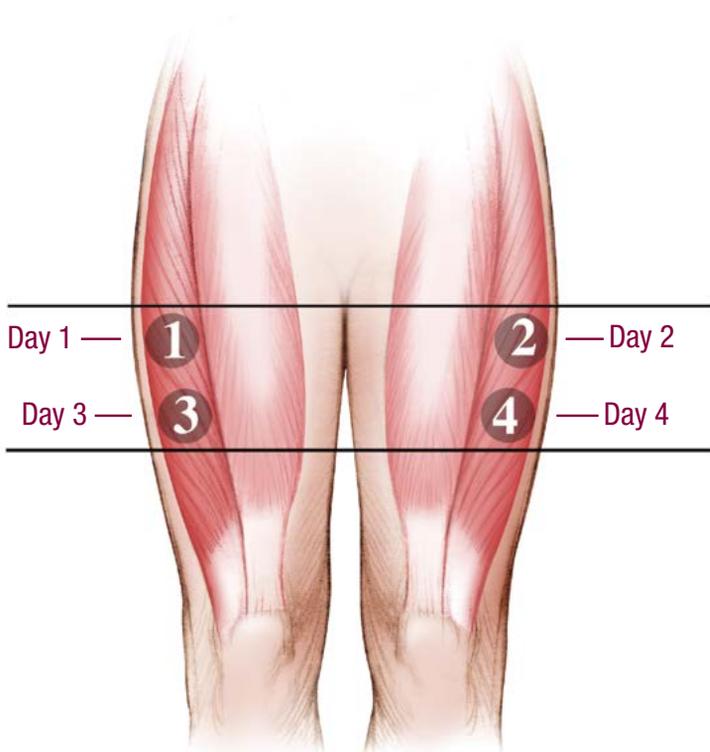
Intramuscular injection instructions

**Instructions for intramuscular (into a muscle) injections only.
If you are injecting Acthar® Gel (repository corticotropin injection)
subcutaneously (under the skin), please turn to page 19.**

This section includes instructions for the upper-outer thigh muscle and the upper-arm muscle. Ask your doctor or nurse which injection areas may be best for you.

Injecting the upper-outer thigh muscle

THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS ARE FOR SELF-INJECTIONS.



You may inject into the same area more than once in a week, but rotate the injection sites in that area each time, keeping 1 inch between sites.

Intramuscular injection instructions (cont'd)

1 Sit comfortably in a firm chair to keep the thigh area relaxed.

2 To locate the correct muscle, place your fingertips on the middle of the thigh and gently press down to locate the thigh bone. The muscle that runs along the upper-outer edge of the thigh bone is the muscle that should be injected.



3 It is best to inject into the middle third of that muscle. To find the middle third:

- Place the fingertips of one hand on your knee and rest the palm of that hand on your thigh
- Place the fingertips of your other hand behind the first hand
- The outer area under your second hand is the area to inject



4 See “How to inject: intramuscular (into a muscle)” on page 36 for additional instructions.

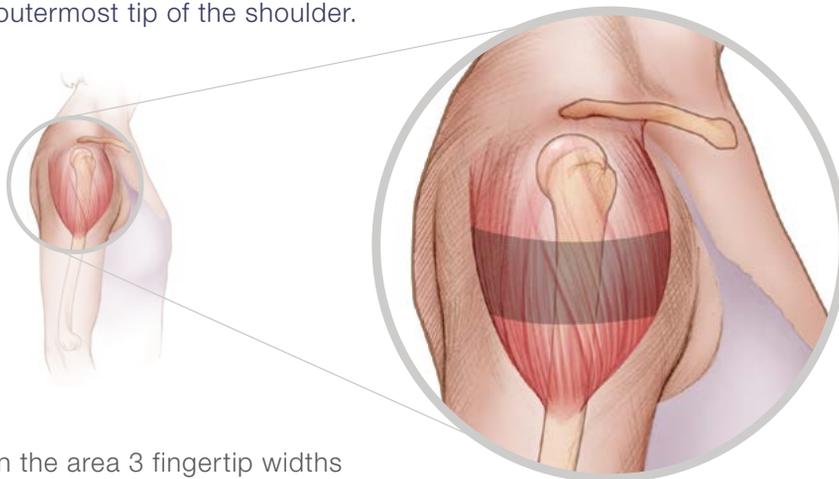
Intramuscular injection instructions (cont'd)

Injecting the upper-arm muscle

NOTE: In some patients, the muscle may not be well developed and would not be a suitable area for injections. Consult your doctor or nurse for further guidance. The person receiving the injection can either sit or lie down, whichever is more comfortable, with their arm relaxed.

THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS ARE FOR THE PERSON GIVING THE INJECTION.

- 1** Run your fingers along the collarbone until you reach the shoulder bone at the outermost tip of the shoulder.



- 2** Inject in the area 3 fingertip widths directly below the shoulder bone.
- 3** See “How to inject: intramuscular (into a muscle)” on page 36 for additional instructions.

How to inject: intramuscular (into a muscle)

THE STEPS ARE THE SAME WHETHER YOU ARE INJECTING YOURSELF OR SOMEONE ELSE.

The steps below should be done after:

- An injection site has been found
- The person receiving the injection has removed clothing around the area to be injected
- The person receiving the injection is ready for the injection (see previous instructions for more information)

1 Prepare the injection site for injection. Using an alcohol swab, clean the selected site starting from the center, working outward in a circular motion, without going over the same area twice. Then allow it to dry completely before injecting.

2 If you changed your needle from the wider (20G) needle (or size prescribed by your doctor for drawing up Acthar® Gel (repository corticotropin injection) into the syringe, to the thinner (23G) needle (or size prescribed by your doctor for injecting), you will need to prime the needle for injecting by pressing down the plunger slowly until a small droplet of medicine forms at the tip.



How to inject: intramuscular (into a muscle) (cont'd)

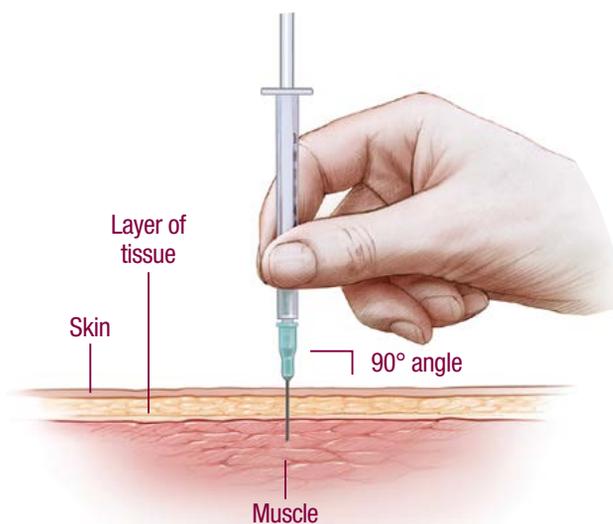
- 3** Stretch and hold the skin around the injection site between the thumb and fingers of the hand that is not holding the syringe. Steady the muscle by grasping it on each side.



To keep your needle sterile, do not lay down your syringe during this step.

- 4** Hold the syringe like a pencil or dart with your right hand if you are right-handed, or your left if you are left-handed. While pinching the skin, use a quick motion to insert the needle at a 90° angle through the skin.

Once the needle is inserted, release the skin. Using your free hand, hold the barrel of the syringe in place and push down the plunger until the syringe is empty.



Need injection training?
Call Acthar Patient Support at **1-888-435-2284**

Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 9 PM ET
Saturday, 9 AM to 2 PM ET

How to inject: intramuscular (into a muscle) (cont'd)

- 5 Once the syringe is empty, pull the needle straight out. It may be helpful to hold a gauze pad over the injection site and use it to apply pressure once the needle has been removed.
- 6 If there is any blood, wipe it off and, if necessary, apply an adhesive bandage.
- 7 Dispose of the used syringe, needle for injecting, and needle cap in a puncture-resistant sharps container. Do not replace the needle cap prior to disposal.
- 8 Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water.



With **free, one-on-one injection training**, a licensed nurse will come visit you up to 3 times, or arrange online or phone training, so that you're ready to take or give Acthar Gel.



Please see additional Important Safety Information on pages 29-31, and the full [Prescribing Information](#).

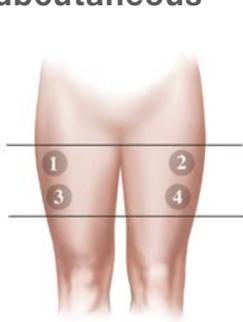
Acthar[®]GEL
(repository corticotropin injection) 80 U/mL

Patient Support

Injection tracker

Keep track of the date, area, and site of each Acthar® Gel (repository corticotropin injection) injection.

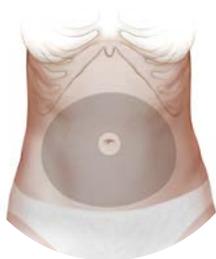
Subcutaneous



A Upper thigh



C Upper arm



B Abdomen



D Back of arm

Intramuscular



E Upper-outer thigh



F Upper arm



Visit [Acthar.com](https://www.acthar.com) to download and print calendars for tracking at home.

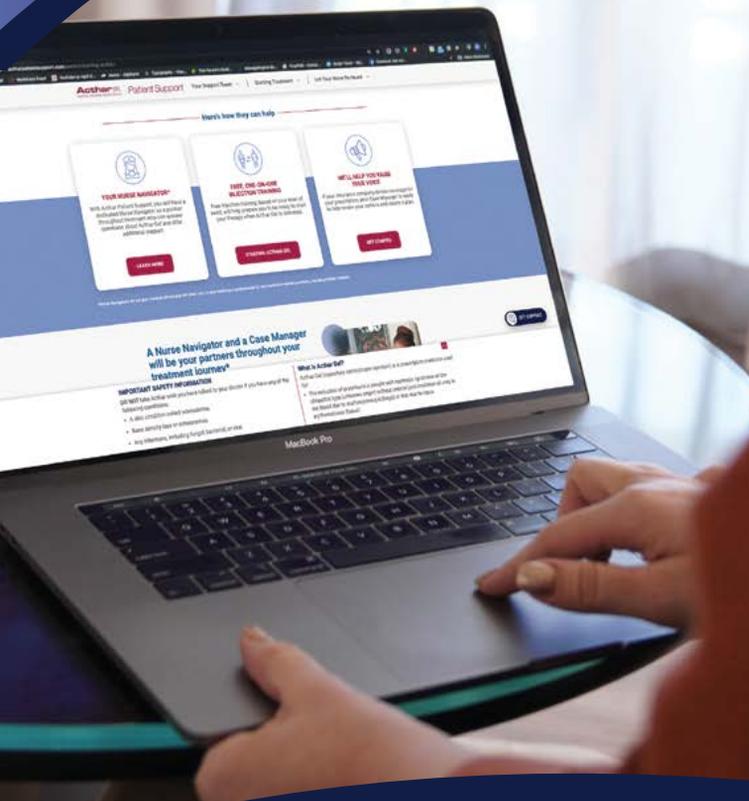
Injection tracker (cont'd)

Dose: _____ Frequency: _____

Injection Area Tracking

Circle the injection area and record the time of day that you injected Acthar Gel

DAY 1 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 2 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 3 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 4 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 5 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM
DAY 6 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 7 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 8 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 9 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 10 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM
DAY 11 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 12 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 13 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 14 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 15 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM
DAY 16 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 17 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 18 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 19 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 20 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM
DAY 21 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 22 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 23 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 24 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 25 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM
DAY 26 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 27 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 28 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 29 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM	DAY 30 Injection area A B C D E F 1 2 3 4 Time ____ AM PM



A dedicated team is ready to provide support as you start and continue your treatment plan.



Need support?

Call **1-888-435-2284**

Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 9 PM ET

Saturday, 9 AM to 2 PM ET

Acthar.com



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Acthar[®]GEL
(repository corticotropin injection) 80 U/mL

Patient Support