

Information for users of biological medicines

Your biological medicine can be substituted for a more affordable interchangeable medicine at the pharmacy.

- The substitution of medicines will gradually be extended to include biological medicines from April 2024.
- Biological medicines for patients under the age of 18 will not be substituted at a pharmacy.
- Prescriptions for biological medicines are only valid for one year at a time.

Biosimilars are biological medicines

- A biosimilar is as safe and as effective as the original biological medicine.
- It contains the same active ingredient as the original biological medicine, but a different version of it.
- The administration devices for the original biological medicine and its biosimilar may differ.

Pharmacies provide guidance on the use of administration devices

- Your pharmacist will always advise you at the time of the substitution to ensure that the substitution is carried out safely.
- Feel free to ask your pharmacist or the professional treating you about how to use the medicine.

Aim to reduce medicine reimbursement costs

- The aim of the substitution is to increase price competition and to control the state's costs for reimbursing medicines.
- In addition, biosimilars introduce more options for treating diseases and can improve the availability of biological medicines.

Read more about the substitution of biological medicines:

fimea.fi/en/current-events/substitution-of-biological-medicines

