

# ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>

## (pegademase bovine) Injection

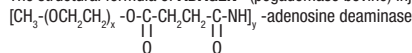
### DESCRIPTION

**ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection is a modified enzyme used for enzyme replacement therapy for the treatment of severe combined immunodeficiency disease (SCID) associated with a deficiency of adenosine deaminase.

**ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection is supplied in an isotonic, pyrogen free, sterile solution, pH 7.2-7.4, for intramuscular injection only. The solution is clear and colorless. It is supplied in 1.5 mL single-dose vials.

The chemical name for **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection is (monomethoxypropylene glycol succinimidyl) 11-17-adenosine deaminase. It is a conjugate of numerous strands of monomethoxypropylene glycol (PEG), molecular weight 5,000, covalently attached to the enzyme adenosine deaminase (ADA). ADA (adenosine deaminase EC 3.5.4.4) used in the manufacture of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection is derived from bovine intestine.

The structural formula of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection is:



x = 114 oxyethylene groups per PEG strand.

y = 11-17 primary amino groups of lysine onto which succinyl PEG is attached.

Each milliliter of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection contains:

Pegademase bovine.....	250 units*
Monobasic sodium phosphate, USP .....	1.20 mg
Dibasic sodium phosphate, USP .....	5.58 mg
Sodium Chloride, USP .....	8.50 mg
Water for injection, USP .....	q.s. to 1.0 mL

\*One unit of activity is defined as the amount of ADA that converts 1 $\mu$ M of adenosine to inosine per minute at 25°C and pH 7.3.

### CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

#### Severe Combined Immunodeficiency Disease Associated with ADA Deficiency

Severe combined immunodeficiency disease (SCID) associated with a deficiency of ADA is a rare, inherited, and often fatal disease. In the absence of the ADA enzyme, the purine substrates adenosine and 2'-deoxyadenosine accumulate, causing metabolic abnormalities that are directly toxic to lymphocytes.

The immune deficiency can be cured by bone marrow transplantation. When a suitable bone marrow donor is unavailable or when bone marrow transplantation fails, non-selective replacement of the ADA enzyme has been provided by periodic irradiated red blood cell transfusions. However, transmission of viral infections and iron overload are serious risks associated with irradiated red blood cell transfusions, and relatively few ADA deficient patients have benefitted from chronic transfusion therapy.

**ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection provides specific and direct replacement of the deficient enzyme, but will not benefit patients with immunodeficiency due to other causes.

In patients with ADA deficiency, rigorous adherence to a schedule of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection administration can eliminate the toxic metabolites of ADA deficiency and result in improved immune function. It is imperative that treatment with **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection be carefully monitored by measurement of the level of ADA activity in plasma. Monitoring of the level of deoxyadenosine triphosphate (dATP) in erythrocytes is also helpful in determining that the dose of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection is adequate.

#### Actions

**ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection provides specific replacement of the deficient enzyme. In the absence of the enzyme ADA, the purine substrates adenosine, 2'-deoxyadenosine and their metabolites are toxic to lymphocytes. The direct action of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection is the correction of these metabolic abnormalities. Improvement in immune function and diminished frequency of opportunistic infections compared with the natural history of combined immunodeficiency due to ADA deficiency only occurs after metabolic abnormalities are corrected. There is a lag between the correction of the metabolic abnormalities and improved immune function. This period of time is variable, and has been reported to be from a few weeks to as long as 6 months. In contrast to the natural history of combined immunodeficiency disease due to ADA deficiency, a trend toward diminished frequency of opportunistic infections and fewer complications of infections has occurred in patients receiving **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection.

#### Pharmacokinetics

The pharmacokinetics and biochemical effects of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection have been studied in six children ranging in age from 6 weeks to 12 years with SCID associated with ADA deficiency. After the intramuscular injection of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection, peak plasma levels of ADA activity were reached 2 to 3 days following administration. The plasma elimination half-life of ADA following the administration of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection was variable, even for the same child. The range was 3 to > 6 days. Following weekly injections of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection at 15 U/kg, the average trough level of ADA activity in plasma was between 20 and 25  $\mu$ mol/hr/mL.

#### Biochemical Effects

The changes in red blood cell deoxyadenosine nucleotide (dATP) and S-adenosylhomocysteine hydrolase (SAHase) have been evaluated. In patients with ADA deficiency, inadequate elimination of 2'-deoxyadenosine caused a marked elevation in dATP and a decrease in SAHase level in red blood cells.

Prior to treatment with **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection, the levels of dATP in the red blood cells ranged from 0.056 to 0.899  $\mu$ mol/mL of erythrocytes. After 2 months of maintenance treatment with **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection, the levels decreased to 0.007 to 0.015  $\mu$ mol/mL. The normal value of dATP is below 0.001  $\mu$ mol/mL. In the same period of time, the levels of SAHase increased from the pretreatment range of 0.09 to 0.22 nmol/hr/mg protein to a range of 2.37 to 5.16 nmol/hr/mg protein. The normal value for SAHase is 4.18  $\pm$  1.9 nmol/hr/mg protein.

The optimal dosage and schedule of administration of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection should be established for each patient, based on monitoring of plasma ADA activity levels (trough levels before maintenance injection), biochemical markers of ADA deficiency (primarily red cell dATP content), and parameters of immune function. Since improvement in immune function follows correction of metabolic abnormalities, maintenance dosage in individual patients should be aimed at achieving the following biochemical goals: 1) maintain plasma ADA activity (trough levels) in the range of 15-35  $\mu$ mol/hr/mL (assayed at 37°C); and 2) decline in erythrocyte dATP to  $\leq$  0.005-0.015  $\mu$ mol/mL packed erythrocytes, or  $\leq$  1% of the total erythrocyte adenine nucleotide (ATP + dATP) content, with a normal ATP level, as measured in a pre-injection sample.

In vitro immunologic data (lymphocyte response to mitogens and lymphocyte surface antigens) were obtained, but their clinical significance is unknown. Prior to treatment with **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection, immune status was significantly below normal, as indicated by < 10% of normal mitogen responses and circulating mononuclear cells bearing T-cell surface antigens. These parameters improved, though not always to normal, within 2 to 6 months of therapy.

### INDICATIONS AND USAGE

**ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection is indicated for enzyme replacement therapy for adenosine deaminase (ADA) deficiency in patients with severe combined immunodeficiency disease (SCID) who are not suitable candidates for – or who have failed – bone marrow transplantation. **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection is recommended for use in infants from birth or in children of any age at the time of diagnosis. **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection is not intended as a replacement for HLA identical bone marrow transplant therapy. **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection is also not intended to replace continued close medical supervision and the initiation of appropriate diagnostic tests and therapy (e.g., antibiotics, nutrition, oxygen, gammaglobulin) as indicated for intercurrent illnesses.

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

There is no evidence to support the safety and efficacy of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection as preparatory or support therapy for bone marrow transplantation. Since **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection is administered by intramuscular injection, it should be used with caution in patients with thrombocytopenia and should not be used if thrombocytopenia is severe.

### PRECAUTIONS

#### General

Any laboratory or clinical indication of a decrease in potency of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection should be reported immediately by telephone to Sigma-Tau Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Telephone 1-866-792-5172.

There have been no reports of hypersensitivity reactions in patients who have been treated with **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection.

One of 12 patients showed an enhanced rate of clearance of plasma ADA activity after 5 months of therapy at 15 U/kg/week. Enhanced clearance was correlated with the appearance of an antibody that directly inhibited both unmodified ADA and **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection. Subsequently, the patient was treated with twice weekly intramuscular injections at an increased dose of 20 U/kg, or a total weekly dose of 40 U/kg. No adverse effects were observed at the higher dose and effective levels of plasma ADA were restored. After 4 months, the patient returned to a weekly dosage schedule of 20 U/kg and effective plasma levels have been maintained.

Appropriate care to protect immune deficient patients should be maintained until improvement in immune function has been documented. The degree of immune function improvement may vary from patient to patient and, therefore, each patient will require appropriate care consistent with immunologic status.

#### Laboratory Tests

The treatment of SCID associated with ADA deficiency with **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection should be monitored by measuring plasma ADA activity and red blood cell dATP levels.

Plasma ADA activity and red cell dATP should be determined prior to treatment. Once treatment with **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection has been initiated, a desirable range of plasma ADA activity (trough level before maintenance injection) should be 15–35  $\mu$ mol/hr/mL. This minimum trough level will ensure that plasma ADA activity from injection to injection is maintained above the level of total erythrocyte ADA activity in the blood of normal individuals.

Plasma ADA activity (pre-injection) should be determined every 1-2 weeks during the first 8-12 weeks of treatment in order to establish an effective dose of **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection. After 2 months of maintenance treatment with **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection, red cell dATP levels should decrease to a range of  $\leq$  0.005 to 0.015  $\mu$ mol/mL. The normal value of dATP is below 0.001  $\mu$ mol/mL. Once the level of dATP has fallen adequately, it should be measured 2-4 times a year during the remainder of the first year and 2-3 times a year thereafter, assuming no interruption in therapy.

Between 3 and 9 months, plasma ADA should be determined twice a month, then monthly until after 18-24 months of treatment with **ADAGEN<sup>®</sup>** (pegademase bovine) Injection.

Patients who have successfully been maintained on therapy for two years should continue to have plasma ADA measured every 2-4 months and red cell dATP measured twice yearly. More frequent monitoring would be necessary if therapy were interrupted or if an enhanced rate of clearance of plasma ADA activity develops.

Once effective ADA plasma levels have been established, should a patient's plasma ADA activity level fall below 10 µmol/hr/mL (which cannot be attributed to improper dosing, sample handling or antibody development) then the patient receiving this lot of **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection should be requested to have a blood sample for plasma ADA determination taken prior to their next injection of **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection.

Immune function, including the ability to produce antibodies, generally improves after 2-6 months of therapy, and matures over a longer period. Compared with the natural history of combined immunodeficiency disease due to ADA deficiency, a trend toward diminished frequency of opportunistic infections and fewer complications of infections has occurred in patients receiving **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection. However, the lag between the correction of the metabolic abnormalities and improved immune function with a trend toward diminished frequency of infections and complications of infection is variable, and has ranged from a few weeks to approximately 6 months. Improvement in the general clinical status of the patient may be gradual (as evidenced by improvement in various clinical parameters) but should be apparent by the end of the first year of therapy. Antibody to **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection may develop in patients and may result in more rapid clearance of **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection. Antibody to **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection should be suspected if a persistent fall in pre-injection levels of plasma ADA to < 10 µmol/hr/mL occurs. If other causes for a decline in plasma ADA levels can be ruled out [such as improper storage of **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection vials (freezing or prolonged storage at temperatures above 8°C), or improper handling of plasma samples (e.g., repeated freezing and thawing during transport to laboratory)], then a specific assay for antibody to ADA and **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection (ELISA, enzyme inhibition) should be performed.

In patients undergoing treatment with **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection, a decline in immune function, with increased risk of opportunistic infections and complications of infection, will result from failure to maintain adequate levels of plasma ADA activity [whether due to the development of antibody to **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection, to improper calculation of **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection dosage, to interruption of treatment or to improper storage of **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection with subsequent loss of activity]. If a persistent decline in plasma ADA activity occurs, immune function and clinical status should be monitored closely and precautions should be taken to minimize the risk of infection. If antibody to ADA or **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection is found to be the cause of a persistent fall in plasma ADA activity, then adjustment in the dosage of **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection and other measures may be taken to induce tolerance and restore adequate ADA activity.

#### Drug Interactions

There are no known drug interactions with **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection. However, Vidarabine is a substrate for ADA and 2'-deoxycytosine is a potent inhibitor of ADA. Thus, the activities of these drugs and **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection could be substantially altered if they are used in combination with one another.

#### Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Long-term carcinogenic studies in animals have not been performed with **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection nor have studies been performed on impairment of fertility.

**ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection did not exhibit a mutagenic effect when tested against *Salmonella typhimurium* strains in the Ames assay.

#### Pregnancy

Pregnancy Category C. Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection. It is also not known whether **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproduction capacity. **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection should be given to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed.

#### Nursing Mothers

It is not known whether **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection is administered to a nursing woman.

#### ADVERSE REACTIONS

Clinical experience with **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection has been limited. The following adverse reactions were reported during clinical trials: headache in one patient and pain at the injection site in two patients.

The following adverse reactions have been identified during post-approval use of **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a very small population, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

Hematologic events: hemolytic anemia, auto-immune hemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia

Dermatologic events: injection site erythema, urticaria

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Sigma-Tau Pharmaceuticals, Inc. at 1-888-393-4584 or by email at [drugsafety@sigmatau.com](mailto:drugsafety@sigmatau.com) or contact the FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/safety/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/safety/medwatch).

#### OVERDOSAGE

There is no documented experience with **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection overdosage. An intraperitoneal dose of 50,000 U/kg of **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection in mice resulted in weight loss up to 9%.

#### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Before prescribing **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection the physician should be thoroughly familiar with the details of this prescribing information. For further information concerning the essential monitoring of **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection therapy, the prescribing physician should contact Sigma-Tau Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Gaithersburg, MD 20878. Telephone 1-866-792-5172.

**ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection is recommended for use in infants from birth or in children of any age at the time of diagnosis.

Parenteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration, whenever solution and container permits.

**ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection should not be diluted nor mixed with any other drug prior to administration.

**ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection should be administered every 7 days as an intramuscular injection. The dosage of **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection should be individualized. The recommended dosing schedule is 10 U/kg for the first dose, 15 U/kg for the second dose, and 20 U/kg for the third dose. The usual maintenance dose is 20 U/kg per week. Further increases of 5 U/kg/week may be necessary, but a maximum single dose of 30 U/kg should not be exceeded. Plasma levels of ADA more than twice the upper limit of 35 µmol/hr/mL have occurred on occasion in several patients, and have been maintained for several weeks in one patient who received twice weekly injections (20 U/kg per dose) of **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection. No adverse effects have been observed at these higher levels; there is no evidence that maintaining pre-injection plasma ADA above 35 µmol/hr/mL produces any additional clinical benefits.

Dose proportionality has not been established and patients should be closely monitored when the dosage is increased. **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection is not recommended for intravenous administration. The optimal dosage and schedule of administration should be established for each patient based on monitoring of plasma ADA activity levels (trough levels before maintenance injection) and biochemical markers of ADA deficiency (primarily red cell dATP content). Since improvement in immune function follows correction of metabolic abnormalities, maintenance dosage in individual patients should be aimed at achieving the following biochemical goals: 1) maintain plasma ADA activity (trough levels before maintenance injection) in the range of 15-35 µmol/hr/mL (assayed at 37°C); and 2) decline in erythrocyte dATP to ≤ 0.005-0.015 µmol/mL packed erythrocytes, or ≤ 1% of the total erythrocyte adenine nucleotide (ATP + dATP) content, with a normal ATP level, as measured in a pre-injection sample. In addition, continued monitoring of immune function and clinical status is essential in any patient with a primary immunodeficiency disease and should be continued in patients undergoing treatment with **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection.

#### HOW SUPPLIED

**ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection is a clear, colorless, preservative free solution for intramuscular injection. Each vial contains 250 units/mL and is supplied as a 1.5 mL single-use vial, in boxes of 4 vials (NDC-57665-001-01).

Use only one dose per vial; do not re-enter the vial. Discard unused portions. Do not save unused drug for later administration.

Refrigerate. Store between +2°C and +8°C (36°F and 46°F). DO NOT FREEZE. **ADAGEN**<sup>®</sup> (pegademase bovine) Injection should not be stored at room temperature. This product should not be used if there are any indications that it may have been frozen.

Manufactured by Sigma-Tau PharmaSource, Inc., Indianapolis, IN 46268.

Distributed by Sigma-Tau Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

#### REFERENCES

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