

**Eng** Package leaflet: Information for the user

**NexoBrid 2 g powder and gel for gel / NexoBrid 5 g powder and gel for gel Concentrate of proteolytic enzymes enriched in bromelain**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

NexoBrid 2 g powder and gel for gel/ NexoBrid 5 g powder and gel for gel

**2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION**

One vial contains 2 g of concentrate of proteolytic enzymes enriched in bromelain, corresponding to 0.09 g/g concentrate of proteolytic enzymes enriched in bromelain after mixing (or 2 g/22 g gel).

One vial contains 5 g of concentrate of proteolytic enzymes enriched in bromelain, corresponding to 0.09 g/g concentrate of proteolytic enzymes enriched in bromelain after mixing (or 5 g/55 g gel).

The proteolytic enzymes are a mixture of enzymes from the stem of Ananas comosus (pineapple plant).

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

**3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM**

Powder and gel for gel. The powder is off-white to light tan. The gel is clear and colourless.

**4. Clinical particulars**

**4.1 Therapeutic indications**

NexoBrid is indicated for removal of eschar in adults with deep partial- and full-thickness thermal burns.

**4.2 Posology and method of administration**

NexoBrid should only be applied by trained healthcare professionals in specialist burn centres.

**Posology**

2 g NexoBrid powder in 20 g gel is applied to a burn wound area of 1 % Total Body Surface Area (TBSA) of an adult, with a gel layer thickness of 1.5 to 3 mm.

5g NexoBrid powder in 50 g gel is applied to a burn wound area of 2.5 % Total Body Surface Area (TBSA) of an adult, with a gel layer thickness of 1.5 to 3 mm.

NexoBrid should not be applied to more than 15% TBSA (see also section 4.4, Coagulopathy).

NexoBrid should be left in contact with the burn for a duration of 4 hours. There is very limited information on the use of NexoBrid on areas where eschar remained after the first application. A second and subsequent application is not recommended.

**Special populations**

**Renal impairment**

There is no information on the use of NexoBrid in patients with renal impairment. These patients should be carefully monitored.

**Hepatic impairment**

There is no information on the use of NexoBrid in patients with hepatic impairment. These patients should be carefully monitored.

**Elderly patients**

Experience with NexoBrid in elderly patients (>65 years) is limited. Benefit/risk assessment should include consideration of the greater frequency of concomitant disease or other medicinal product therapy in the elderly. No dose adjustment is required.

**Paediatric population**

The safety and efficacy of NexoBrid in children and adolescents younger than 18 years have not yet been established. Currently available data are described in section 4.8 and 5.1 but no

recommendation on a posology can be made.

NexoBrid is not indicated for use in patients younger than 18 years.

**Method of administration**

Cutaneous use.

Before use, the powder must be mixed with the gel producing a uniform gel (see section 6.6).

NexoBrid should be applied to a clean, keratin-free (blisters removed), and moist wound area.

Topically applied medicinal products (such as silver sulfadiazine or povidone-iodine) at the wound site must be removed and the wound must be cleansed prior to NexoBrid application as eschar saturated with medicinal products and their remains reduce the activity of NexoBrid and decrease its efficacy. See section 6.6 for instructions on NexoBrid gel preparation.

**Preparation of patient and wound area**

A total wound area of not more than 15% TBSA can be treated with NexoBrid (see also section 4.4, Coagulopathy).

- Enzymatic debridement is a painful procedure and requires adequate analgesia and/or anaesthesia. Pain management must be used as commonly practiced for an extensive dressing change; it should be initiated at least 15 minutes prior to NexoBrid application.

- The wound must be cleaned thoroughly and the superficial keratin layer or blisters removed from the wound area, as the keratin will isolate the eschar from direct contact with NexoBrid and prevent eschar removal by NexoBrid.

- Dressing soaked with an antibacterial solution must be applied for 2 hours.

- All topically applied antibacterial medicinal products must be removed before applying NexoBrid. Remaining antibacterial medicinal products may reduce the activity of NexoBrid by decreasing its efficacy.

- The area from which you wish to remove the eschar must be surrounded with a sterile paraffin ointment adhesive barrier by applying it a few centimetres outside of the treatment area (using a dispenser). The paraffin layer must not come into contact with the area to be treated to avoid covering the eschar, thus isolating the eschar from direct contact with NexoBrid. To prevent possible irritation of abraded skin by inadvertent contact with NexoBrid and possible bleeding from the wound bed, acute wound areas such as lacerations or escharotomy incisions should be protected by a layer of a sterile fatty ointment or fatty dressing (e.g. petrolatum gauze).

- Sterile isotonic sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution must be sprinkled on the burn wound. The wound must be kept moist during the application procedure.

**NexoBrid application**

- Moisten the area to be treated by sprinkling sterile saline onto the area bordered by the fatty ointment adhesive barrier.

- Within 15 minutes of mixing, NexoBrid must be applied topically to the moistened burn wound, at a thickness of 1.5 to 3 millimetres.

- The wound must then be covered with a sterile occlusive film dressing that adheres to the sterile adhesive barrier material applied as per the instruction above (see Preparation of patient and wound area). The NexoBrid gel must fill the entire occlusive dressing, and special care should be taken not to leave air under this occlusive dressing. Gentle pressing of the occlusive dressing at the area of contact with the adhesive barrier will ensure adherence between the occlusive film and the sterile adhesive barrier and achieve complete containment of NexoBrid on the treatment area.

- The dressed wound must be covered with a loose, thick fluffy dressing, held in place with a bandage.
- The dressing must remain in place for 4 hours

**Removal of NexoBrid**

- Removal of NexoBrid is a painful procedure and requires adequate analgesia and/or anaesthesia. Appropriate preventive analgesia medicinal products must be administered at least 15 minutes prior to NexoBrid application.

- After 4 hours of NexoBrid treatment, the occlusive dressing must be removed using aseptic techniques.
- The adhesive barrier must be removed using a sterile blunt-edged instrument (e.g., tongue depressor).
- The dissolved eschar must be removed from the wound by wiping it away with a sterile blunt-edged instrument.
- The wound must be wiped thoroughly first with a large sterile dry gauze or napkin, followed by a sterile gauze or napkin

that has been soaked with sterile isotonic sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution. The treated area must be rubbed until the appearance of a pinkish surface with bleeding points or a whitish tissue. Rubbing will not remove adhering undissolved eschar in areas where the eschar still remains.

- A dressing soaked with an antibacterial solution must be applied for an additional 2 hours

**Wound care after debridement**

- The debrided area must be covered immediately by temporary or permanent skin substitutes or dressings to prevent desiccation and/or formation of pseudoeschar and/or infection.
- Before a permanent skin cover or temporary skin substitute is applied to a freshly enzymatically debrided area, a soaking wet-to-dry dressing must be applied.
- Before application of the grafts or primary dressing, the debrided bed must be cleaned and refreshed by, e.g., brushing or scraping to allow dressing adherence.
- Wounds with areas of full-thickness and deep burn should be autografted as soon as possible after NexoBrid debridement. Careful consideration should also be given to placing permanent skin covers (e.g. autografts) on deep partial thickness wounds soon after NexoBrid debridement. See section 4.4.

Each NexoBrid vial, gel, or reconstituted gel should be used for a single patient only.

**4.3 Contraindications**

Hypersensitivity to the active substance, to pineapples, or papain (see also section 4.4), or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.

**4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use**

Hypersensitivity reactions, skin exposure

The potential of NexoBrid (a protein product) to cause sensitisation should be taken into account. There have been reports of serious allergic reactions including anaphylaxis (with manifestations such as rash, erythema, hypotension, tachycardia) in patients undergoing debridement with NexoBrid. In these cases, a causal relationship to NexoBrid was considered possible, but possible allergy to concomitant medications such as opioid analgesics should also be considered. Allergic reactions to inhaled bromelain have been reported in the literature (including anaphylactic reactions and other immediate-type reactions with manifestations such as bronchospasm, angioedema, urticaria, and mucosal and gastrointestinal reactions). No occupational hazard was found in a study assessing the amount of airborne particles during NexoBrid Gel preparation. In addition, a delayed-type allergic skin reaction (cheilitis) after longer-term dermal exposure (mouthwash) as well as suspected sensitisation following oral exposure and following repeated occupational allergy exposure have been reported. History of allergy needs to be established prior to the administration (see sections 4.3 and 6.6).

In case of skin exposure, NexoBrid should be rinsed off with water to reduce the likelihood of skin sensitisation (see section 6.6).

**Cross-sensitivity**

Cross-sensitivity between bromelain and papain as well as latex proteins (known as latex-fruit syndrome), bee venom, and olive tree pollen has been reported in the literature. Enzymatic debridement is a painful procedure, and may only be administered after adequate analgesia and/or anesthesia has been established.

**Burn wounds for which NexoBrid is not recommended**

NexoBrid is not recommended for use on:

- penetrating burn wounds where foreign materials (e.g. implants, pacemakers, and shunts) and/or vital structures (e.g. larger vessels, eyes) are or could become exposed during debridement.
- chemical burn wounds.
- wounds contaminated with radioactive and other hazardous substances to avoid unforeseeable reactions with the product and an increased risk of spreading the noxious substance.
- foot burns in diabetic patients and patients with occlusive vascular disease
- in electrical burns.

**Burns for which there is limited or no experience**

There is no experience of the use of NexoBrid on:

- perineal and genital burns.

**Use in patients with cardiopulmonary and pulmonary disease**

NexoBrid should be used with caution in patients with cardiopulmonary and pulmonary disease, including pulmonary burn trauma and suspected pulmonary burn trauma.

General principles of proper burn wound care must be adhered to when using NexoBrid. This includes proper wound cover for the exposed tissue (see section 4.2).

There are literature reports of successful use of NexoBrid on facial burn wounds. Burn surgeons without experience in using NexoBrid should not start using it on facial burn wounds. NexoBrid must be used with caution in such patients.

**Eye protection**

Direct contact with the eyes must be avoided. Eyes must be carefully protected during treatment of facial burns using fatty ophthalmic ointment on the eyes and adhesive barrier petroleum ointment around to insulate and cover the eyes with occlusive film. In case of eye exposure, irrigate exposed eyes with copious amounts of water for at least 15 minutes. An ophthalmological exam is recommended prior to and after debridement.

Concentrate of proteolytic enzymes enriched in bromelain is systemically absorbed from burn wound areas (see section 5.2). There is limited pharmacokinetic data in patients with TBSA of more than 15%. Due to safety considerations (see also section 4.4, Coagulopathy) NexoBrid should not be applied to more than 15% Total Body Surface Area (TBSA).

**Prevention of wound complications**

In NexoBrid studies wounds with visible dermal remnants were allowed to heal by spontaneous epithelialisation. In several cases adequate healing did not occur, and autografting was required at a later date, leading to delays in wound closure which may be associated with increased risk of wound-related complications. Therefore, wounds with areas of full-thickness and deep burn that will not heal spontaneously by epithelialization in timely manner should be autografted as soon as possible after NexoBrid debridement (see section 5.1 for study results). Careful consideration should also be given to placing permanent skin covers (e.g. autografts) on deep partial thickness wounds soon after NexoBrid debridement. See also section 4.2 and 4.8.

As in the case of surgically debrided bed, in order to prevent desiccation and/or formation of pseudoeschar and/or infection, the debrided area should be covered immediately by temporary or permanent skin substitutes or dressings. When applying a permanent skin cover (e.g. autograft) or temporary skin substitute (e.g., allograft) to a freshly enzymatically debrided area, care should be taken to clean and refresh the debrided bed by, e.g., brushing or scraping to allow dressing adherence.

**Coagulopathy**

A reduction of platelet aggregation and plasma fibrinogen levels and a moderate increase in partial thromboplastin and prothrombin times have been reported in the literature as possible effects following oral administration of bromelain. In vitro and animal data suggest that bromelain can also promote fibrinolysis. During the clinical development of NexoBrid, there was no indication of an increased bleeding tendency or bleeding at the site of debridement.

NexoBrid should not be used in patients with uncontrolled disorders of coagulation. NexoBrid should be used with caution in patients under anticoagulant therapy or other drugs affecting coagulation, and in patients with low platelet counts and increased risk of bleeding from other causes e.g. peptic ulcers and sepsis. Patients should be monitored for possible signs of coagulation abnormalities and signs of bleeding.

**Monitoring**

In addition to routine monitoring for burn patients (e.g., vital signs, volume/water/electrolyte status, complete blood count, serum albumin and hepatic enzyme levels), patients treated with NexoBrid should be monitored for:

- Rise in body temperature.
- Signs of local and systemic inflammatory and infectious processes.
- Conditions that could be precipitated or worsened by analgesic premedication (e.g., gastric dilatation, nausea and risk of sudden vomiting, constipation) or antibiotic prophylaxis (e.g., diarrhoea).

- Signs of local or systemic allergic reactions.
- Potential effects on haemostasis (see above).

**Removal of topically applied antibacterial medicinal products before NexoBrid application**

All topically applied antibacterial medicinal products must be removed before applying NexoBrid. Remaining antibacterial medicinal products reduce the activity of NexoBrid by decreasing its efficacy.

**Traceability**

In order to improve the traceability of biological medicinal products, the name and the batch number of the administered product should be clearly recorded.

**4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

No interaction studies with NexoBrid have been performed.

Reduction of platelet aggregation and plasma fibrinogen levels and a moderate increase in partial thromboplastin and prothrombin times have been reported as possible effects following oral administration of bromelain. In vitro and animal data suggest that bromelain can also promote fibrinolysis. Caution and monitoring is therefore needed when prescribing concomitant medicinal products that affect coagulation. (See also section 4.4.)

NexoBrid, when absorbed, is an inhibitor of cytochrome P450 2C8 (CYP2C8) and P450 2C9 (CYP2C9). This should be taken into account if NexoBrid is used in patients receiving CYP2C8 substrates (including amiodarone, amodiaquine, chloroquine, fluvastatin, paclitaxel, pioglitazone, ropinirole, rosiglitazone, sorafenib and torasemide) and CYP2C9 substrates (including ibuprofen, tolbutamide, glipizide, losartan, celecoxib, warfarin, and phenytoin).

Topically applied antibacterial medicinal products (e.g. silver sulfadiazine or povidone iodine) may decrease the efficacy of NexoBrid (see section 4.4).

Bromelain may enhance the actions of fluorouracil and vincristine. Patients should be monitored for increased toxicity.

Bromelain may enhance the hypotensive effect of ACE inhibitors, causing larger decreases in blood pressure than expected. Blood pressure should be monitored in patients receiving ACE inhibitors.

Bromelain may increase drowsiness caused by some medicinal products (e.g., benzodiazepines, barbiturates, narcotics and antidepressants). This should be taken into account when dosing such products.

**4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation**

**Pregnancy**

There are no data from the use of NexoBrid in pregnant women. Animal studies are insufficient to properly assess the potential of NexoBrid to interfere with embryonal/foetal development (see section 5.3).

**Breastfeeding**

It is unknown whether concentrate of proteolytic enzymes enriched in bromelain or its metabolites are excreted in human milk. A risk to new-borns/infants cannot be excluded. Breast-feeding should be discontinued at least 4 days from NexoBrid application initiation.

**Fertility**

No studies were performed to assess the effects of NexoBrid on fertility.

**4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

Not relevant.

**4.8 Undesirable effects**

**Summary of the safety profile**

The most commonly reported adverse reactions of the use of NexoBrid are transient pyrexia/hyperthermia (incidence of 15.2% in 223 patients treated with NexoBrid in pooled studies MW2004-

11-02, MW2005-10-05, MW2008-09-03, and MW2010-03-02) and pain (incidence of 4.0% in 223 patients treated with NexoBrid in pooled studies MW2004-11-02, MW2005-10-05, MW2008-09-03, and MW2010-03-02). The Adverse Reactions are detailed below.

**Tabulated list of adverse reactions**

The following definitions apply to the frequency terminology used hereafter:  
Very common (≥1/10)  
Common (≥1/100 to <1/10)  
Uncommon (≥1/1,000 to <1/100)  
Rare (≥1/10,000 to <1/1,000)  
Very rare (<1/10,000)  
Not known (cannot be estimated from the available data).

The frequencies of the adverse reactions presented below reflect the use of NexoBrid to remove eschar from deep partial- or full-thickness burns in a regimen with local antibacterial prophylaxis, recommended analgesia, as well as coverage of the wound area after application of NexoBrid for 4 hours with an occlusive dressing for containment of NexoBrid on the wound.

An asterisk (\*) indicates that additional information on the respective adverse reaction is provided below the list of adverse reactions.

**Infections and infestations**  
Common: Wound infection\*

**Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders/**  
Common: Wound complication\*

**General disorders and administration site conditions**  
Very common: Pyrexia/hyperthermia\*  
Common: Local pain\*

**Cardiac disorders**  
Common: Tachycardia\*

**Immune system disorders**  
Common: Non serious allergic reactions such as rash\*  
Not known: Serious allergic reactions including anaphylaxis\*  
\* see section 4.4.

**Description of selected adverse reactions**

**Pyrexia/hyperthermia**

In pooled studies MW2004-11-02, MW2005-10-05, MW2008-09-03 and MW2010-03-02 with routine antibacterial soaking of the treatment area before and after NexoBrid application (see section 4.2) pyrexia or hyperthermia was reported in 15.2% of patients treated with NexoBrid and in 11.3% of the control patients treated according standard of care (SOC). In early studies without antibacterial soaking (Studies MW2001-10-03 and MW2002-04-01), pyrexia or hyperthermia was reported in 35.1% of NexoBrid-treated patients compared with 8.6% treated with SOC.

**Pain**

In pooled studies MW2004-11-02, MW2005-10-05, MW2008-09-03 and MW2010-03-02 where the NexoBrid regimen included recommended preventive analgesia as routinely practiced for extensive dressing changes in burn patients (see section 4.2) pain was reported in 4.0% of patients treated with NexoBrid, and in 3.8% of the control patients treated according to SOC. In early studies where analgesia was provided in NexoBrid-treated patients on an on-demand basis, pain was reported in 23.4% of patients treated with NexoBrid and in 5.7% in the SOC group.

**Wound infection**

In pooled studies with routine antibacterial soaking of the treatment area before and after NexoBrid application (studies MW2004-11-02, MW2005-10-05, MW2008-09-03 and MW2010-03-02 studies), the incidence of wound infection was 5.4% in the NexoBrid group and 8.1% in the standard of care group.

**Wound complications**

Wound complications reported include the following: wound deepening, wound desiccation, wound re-opening, graft loss/graft failure, and local intradermal haematoma. In pooled phase 2 and 3 studies (MW2001-10-03, MW2002-

