

ORTHOVISC (1% sodium hyaluronate; HA)

Effective Date: 1/28/14

Date Developed: 1/28/14 by Robert Sterling, MD

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Orthovisc is one of several* hyaluronate derivatives used as viscosupplements. Chemically, it is a long-chain polymer of repeating disaccharide -[glucuronate-acetylglucosamine]- units. It was first isolated from the vitreous humour of the eye and is now extracted from rooster combs.

*(Hyalgan, Synvisc, Gel-One, Euflexxa, Orthovisc, Supartz, etc)

Authorization: Osteoarthritis of the knee in patients who have failed nonpharmacologic treatment and simple analgesics or nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs

Dosing: 30mg (2mL, intra-articular) once weekly for 3-4 weeks

PRECAUTIONS: Inject directly into the knee joint; do not inject extra-articularly or into the synovial capsule or tissues. Do not use disinfectants containing quaternary ammonium salts for skin cleansing prior to injection (may precipitate the HA). Remove synovial fluid or effusion, if present, prior to injection. If used for bilateral treatment, use a separate syringe for each knee. Refer to manufacturer's labeling for additional instructions on injection technique. Avoid if skin or joint infection is suspected. Watch for subsequent signs of infection. Should be administered by a specialist competent in the use of this medicament.

DRUG INTERACTIONS: none reported

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Wobig M, Dickhut A, Maier R, Vetter G. Viscosupplementation with hylan G-F 20: a 26-week controlled trial of efficacy and safety in the osteoarthritic knee. Clin Ther. 1998 May-Jun;20(3):410–423.

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Chen AL, Desai P, Adler EM, & Di Cesare PE (2002). Granulomatous [inflammation](#) after Hylan G-F 20 viscosupplementation of the knee: a report of six cases. J Bone Joint Surg Am 84-A, 1142-1147.

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