BRING THIS TO YOUR DOCTOR · GREY PEPTIDES

Enlicitide

Also called: Lipfendra; Enlicitide decanoate; MK-0616

What it is

An oral macrocyclic peptide (enlicitide decanoate) that binds PCSK9 and blocks its binding to hepatic LDL receptors, raising receptor numbers and lowering LDL cholesterol; FDA-approved July 15, 2026 as Lipfendra (Merck, NDA 220848) for adults with hypercholesterolemia, including heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia.

Approval status

FDA Approved. FDA: LIPFENDRA (enlicitide decanoate) tablets, NDA 220848 (Merck Sharp & Dohme), approved July 15, 2026 as an adjunct to diet and exercise to reduce LDL-C in adults with hypercholesterolemia, including heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (Drugs@FDA; FDA Novel Drug Approvals for 2026). Not in EMA's register (read September 30, 2026).

Dosing, as printed in the page's Recommended Dosing box

Manufacturer's recommended dosing (FDA label)

From the prescribing information. Other doses studied, if any, are in the full dosing data below.

Protocol and source	Dose	Frequency	Duration	Route
Label: adults with hypercholesterolaemia, including heterozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia **[Approved label]** LIPFENDRA (enlicitide) tablets Prescribing Information, sections 1, 2, 6, 12 and 14 (DailyMed version 2, effective July 15, 2026)	20 mg	Once daily, in the morning on an empty stomach	Ongoing; LDL can be checked from 4 weeks	Oral

Educational information, not medical advice. Each dose above is tagged with its source: an approved label, a published human study, animal data, or amounts reported by users. None is a recommendation for you. An unapproved compound has no established safe or effective human dose, and products sold for "research use only" are not made or tested for people. Talk to a doctor before acting on anything on this site, including before you start, stop or change any medicine or dose.

Key human evidence

The first 3 of the 4 human studies carded on the page (9 study cards in all):

• **CORALreef Lipids: 2,909 adults on statins** (Human, 2026). LDL cholesterol changed by -57.1% at week 24 on enlicitide against +3.0% on placebo, a between-group difference of -55.8 percentage points; mean baseline LDL was 96.1 mg/dL. **PMID 41879224**

• **Heterozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia: 303 adults** (Human, 2026). On background statins (and ezetimibe in 64.4%), LDL fell 58.2% at week 24 against a 2.6% rise on placebo (difference -59.4%), and 55.3% against an 8.7% rise at week 52. **PMID 41206969**

• **Against oral non-statin add-ons** (Human, 2026). In 301 statin-treated adults, LDL fell 64.6% in 56 days on enlicitide against 6.3% on bempedoic acid, 27.8% on ezetimibe and 36.5% on both; adverse events were similar. **PMID 42017875**

Interactions

A PubMed search for interaction studies of this compound with any drug (September 30, 2026, 0 records) found none in people. That is not evidence that it is safe to combine with anything.

Side effects and cautions

Reported side effects	Contraindications and cautions
• Adverse reactions similar in frequency to placebo in the hypercholesterolaemia trials • Diarrhoea and dizziness, the most common in the familial hypercholesterolaemia trial • No contraindications listed on the label	• Taking it with food or other drinks — absorption requires an empty stomach and a 30-minute wait • Splitting, crushing or chewing the tablet — it must be swallowed whole • Expecting proven heart protection — outcome benefit is shown for statins and antibody PCSK9 inhibitors; its own outcomes trial is not in the label

Five questions to ask

1. Is Enlicitide right for me, and is the labelled dose on this sheet right for my weight, age, kidney and liver function?
2. Here are the medicines and supplements I take. Do any of them interact with Enlicitide? This sheet records none published, which does not mean none exist.
3. Which side effects should make me stop and call you, for example adverse reactions similar in frequency to placebo in the hypercholesterolaemia trials?
4. Do any of the cautions on this sheet apply to me, such as: Taking it with food or other drinks — absorption requires an empty stomach and a 30-minute wait?
5. What should we check before I start and while I am on it (blood tests, blood pressure, weight), and how often?

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