

COMPOUND GUIDE

Ipamorelin — Selective GH Secretagogue

GHS-R1a agonist · SubQ injection · Fasted dosing · 8–12 week cycles

Quick Start



WHAT IT IS

Ipamorelin (NNC 26-0161) is a synthetic pentapeptide and selective GHS-R1a (ghrelin receptor) agonist, originally developed by Novo Nordisk. It stimulates pituitary GH secretion without meaningfully raising cortisol, ACTH, or prolactin — a key differentiator from earlier GH secretagogues like GHRP-2 and GHRP-6.



RESEARCH DOSING

100–300 mcg SubQ, 1–3× daily, in a fasted state (1–2 hours after last meal; wait 20–30 minutes before eating after injection). GH peak occurs approximately 30–40 minutes post-injection. Half-life ~2 hours. Most protocols use 200 mcg once or twice daily.



CYCLE STRUCTURE

8–12 weeks on, 4 weeks off. Cycling is important to prevent GH receptor desensitisation. For maximum GH pulse amplitude, morning (fasted) or pre-sleep dosing is preferred. Evening dosing aligns with the natural nocturnal GH surge.



REGULATORY STATUS

Not FDA-approved. FDA removed ipamorelin from Category 2 list in September 2024; PCAC reviewed October 2024 and recommended against inclusion in 503A/503B compounding. WADA banned (S2 — peptide hormones). For research purposes only.



Dosing Protocol

Dosing figures are not provided for compounds we do not stock.



IPAMORELIN + CJC-1295 NO DAC STACK

Ipamorelin (GHS-R1a agonist) is frequently studied alongside CJC-1295 No DAC (GHRH receptor agonist). These act on different receptors — the combination produces a larger, more sustained GH pulse than either alone. Note: CJC-1295 with DAC (different compound, weekly dosing) is used differently. See CJC-1295 DAC guide for details.



Supplies & Reconstitution

Reconstitution & Dosing

LA LAB does not stock this as a standalone product, so vial-specific reconstitution and dosing figures are not provided here. This page is a research reference only. For compounds we carry, see [our guides](#).

Vial Planning Guide

DOSE	FREQUENCY	INJECTIONS PER 10 MG VIAL	VIALS FOR 8 WEEKS	VIALS FOR 12 WEEKS
200 mcg	Once daily	50	1–2 vials	2 vials
200 mcg	Twice daily	25 days' worth	3 vials	4–5 vials
300 mcg	Once daily	33	2 vials	3 vials

Reconstitution Steps

01

Warm the vial

Remove from freezer 10–15 minutes before use. Let reach room temperature without heating.

02

Swab both stoppers

Use separate alcohol swabs on each vial top. Allow to air-dry.

03

Draw BAC water

Draw the required BAC water volume (e.g. 3.0 mL for 10 mg vial).

04

Inject along the wall

Insert needle at an angle and let BAC water run slowly down the inside wall. Do not jet onto the powder cake.

05

Swirl gently

Slow circular motion until fully dissolved. Solution should be clear. Do not shake or vortex.

06

Refrigerate

Store at 2–8°C, upright, up to 30 days. Do not freeze after reconstitution. Protect from light.

Mechanism of Action

Ipamorelin binds and activates the GHS-R1a (ghrelin receptor) on pituitary somatotrophs. This triggers GH secretion without activating other pituitary hormone axes. Key selectivity profile:

GH SECRETION — STIMULATED

Dose-dependent GH release. GH peak occurs ~30–40 min post-injection. Plasma half-life ~2 hours. Downstream: IGF-1 elevation over hours to days with repeated dosing.

CORTISOL / ACTH / PROLACTIN — SPARED

Unlike GHRP-2 and GHRP-6, ipamorelin does not significantly raise cortisol, ACTH, or prolactin at research doses. This selectivity profile is why it is preferred in most GH secretagogue research.

Comparison: GH Secretagogues

Compound	Receptor	GH Effect	Cortisol/ACTH	Prolactin
Ipamorelin	GHS-R1a	Selective, dose-dependent	Not raised	Not raised
GHRP-2	GHS-R1a	Strong	Raised	Raised
GHRP-6	GHS-R1a	Strong	Raised	Raised
CJC-1295 No DAC	GHRH-R	Moderate; synergistic with Ipa	Not raised	Not raised
CJC-1295 + DAC	GHRH-R	Sustained (days)	Not raised	Not raised

Research Status

Study	Design	Key Finding
Raun et al. 1998 (Novo Nordisk)	Rat pituitary; in vitro	Established GHS-R1a selectivity; no cortisol/ACTH elevation
Beck et al. 2014 (Phase II)	Postoperative ileus; human	Well tolerated; did not meet primary efficacy endpoint
Multiple Phase I	GH kinetics; healthy adults	GH pulse ~30 min post-injection; half-life ~2 hours confirmed

Storage

State	Temperature	Duration	Notes
Lyophilised (powder)	–20°C (freezer)	Up to 24 months	Protect from light and moisture
Reconstituted (liquid)	2–8°C (refrigerator)	Up to 30 days	Do not freeze after reconstitution
Short-term (travel)	<25°C	Up to 72 hours	Avoid heat and direct sunlight



DISCLAIMER

This document is an educational research reference only. It is not medical advice, not a treatment plan, and not a recommendation to use Ipamorelin outside of a qualified research context. Ipamorelin is banned by WADA and not FDA-approved for therapeutic use. By purchasing from LA LAB you confirm you are 18+ and that products are for research purposes only.