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**Generic Name:**

Tesamorelin

**Trade Name:**

Egrifta

**Company:**

EMD Serono

**Notes:**

[Tesamorelin](#) is a synthetic analogue of growth hormone–releasing factor, administered once daily as a 2-mg subcutaneous injection, which has been shown to reduce abdominal fat in patients with HIV. Two 26-week studies with 26-week extension phases conducted in 816 patients with HIV and lipodystrophy with excess abdominal fat provided the basis for [FDA](#) approval. Patients randomized to tesamorelin had 14% to 18% reductions in visceral adipose tissue, compared with minimal changes in the placebo group. The most commonly reported adverse events included arthralgia, injection site erythema and pruritus, pain in extremity, peripheral edema, and myalgia. Other safety concerns with tesamorelin include induction of supraphysiological levels of insulin-like growth factor 1, which may affect the development of malignancies, glucose intolerance, and fluid retention.

**Medication Monitor Categories:**

[New Drug Approvals](#)

**Use:**

Treatment of lipodystrophy in patients with HIV

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