

Medication Information Sheet

goserelin (go-SARE-i-lin)

This document provides general information about your medication. It does not replace the advice of your health care professional. Always discuss your therapy with your health care professional and refer to the package insert for more details.

Other Name: Zoladex®, Zoladex® LA

Appearance: Prefilled syringe and needle for injection

What it is used for

- For treating prostate cancer either alone or combined with other medications
- For treating cancers of the breast
- Also used for treating certain non-cancer conditions

Before receiving it

- Tell your doctor if you have/had significant medical condition(s), especially if you have / had problems passing urine, weakness in your legs, severe osteoporosis, heart problems (including irregular heartbeat), diabetes, or have any allergies.
- Patients who have cancer are at a higher risk of developing blood clots. Some cancer drug treatments may increase this risk. Discuss this with your doctor.

Pregnancy and breastfeeding

- This drug may harm or affect the growth of embryos/offspring of animals exposed to it.
 - While this may not be directly applicable to you, if there is **ANY** chance that you/your partner may become pregnant, you and your partner together must: ► **Use 2 effective forms of birth control at the same time while taking this drug.** Do not use birth control pills if you have breast cancer. Keep using birth control until **6 months** after the last dose. Discuss with your healthcare team.
- Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant.
- Do not breastfeed while taking this drug.
- Effects on Fertility: Probable

How it is given

- This drug is given by injection under the skin. Various dosing schedules are used - check with your health care professional about how often you are given this medication.
- Be sure to visit your doctor for your repeat injection. Speak to your health care professional to see what drugs and supplies you need to bring for your next visit.

*The most updated version and more symptom control information can be found on: <http://www.cancercare.on.ca/druginfo>

Prepared with input from the Cancer Care Ontario-Medication Information Sheets Working Group.

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While receiving it

- Make sure your health care team knows about all your medications (prescription, over-the-counter, herbals and supplements). Check with your health care team before starting or stopping any of them.

Safety / Storage

- Store this drug at cool room temperature or in the refrigerator (no warmer than 25°C/77°F). Do not freeze. Protect from light and moisture.
- Keep out of reach of children and pets.
- Do not throw out any unused drugs at home. Bring them to your pharmacy for safe disposal.

Side effects and what to do

The following side effects are common or severe. You may not have all of the side effects. Other side effects may occur. If you have any unusual or bothersome symptoms, discuss with your doctor.

Side effects and what to do	When to contact doctor?
Most Common Side Effects	
Diarrhea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink plenty of clear fluids. Do not eat hot, spicy, fried foods, foods or drinks with caffeine (coffee, tea or cola), orange or prune juice. • Try low-fiber foods, such as Bananas, white Rice, Apple sauce and Toast (BRAT diet) • Take anti-diarrhea drug(s) if given to you by your doctor. • Also see Diarrhea pamphlet.* 	Contact your health care team if no improvement or if severe
High (more common) or low blood pressure Severe headache, severe dizziness, fainting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be due to a significant rise or drop in blood pressure. • Get emergency medical help if this happens. 	Contact your health care team if no improvement or if severe
Symptoms of having low testosterone levels (in men) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hot flashes, memory loss • Breast swelling or tenderness • Decrease in sexual desire, impotence • Osteoporosis • Contact your doctor or nurse if these symptoms bother you. 	Contact your health care team if no improvement or if severe

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<p>Symptoms of having low estrogen levels (in women)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaginal dryness (possibly with discharge or bleeding) • Hot flashes, memory loss • Emotional effects (depression, for example) • Decrease in sexual desire • Irregular vaginal bleeding • Contact your doctor or nurse if these feelings bother you. 	
<p>Trouble with falling asleep</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to your doctor if this bothers you 	<p>Contact your health care team if no improvement or if severe</p>
<p>Flare of symptoms of your prostate cancer (increased pain at tumour area, severe bone pain, severe back pain and/or weakness in the legs, difficulty passing urine or poor bladder/bowel control)</p> <p>Flare of symptoms of your breast cancer (increased pain at tumour area, severe bone pain)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usually happens during the first few weeks of treatment 	<p>Get emergency medical help right away</p>
Less Common Side Effects, but may be Severe	
<p>Heart problems (irregular heartbeat, chest pain, fainting, swelling in legs/ankles/belly, shortness of breath)</p>	<p>Get emergency medical help right away</p>
<p>Abnormal liver lab tests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your doctor will check these regularly. Call your doctor if you have yellowish skin or eyes, or unusually dark urine. 	<p>Contact your health care team if no improvement or if severe</p>
<p>Blockage of an artery (blood vessel) in your heart, brain, chest, belly, or limbs; this may result in stroke (sudden loss of vision, speech, or the use of your limb(s)) or heart attack (chest pain, shortness of breath), or pain in chest, belly or limb</p>	<p>Get emergency medical help right away</p>
<p>Blood clot (limb pain or swelling, hardened vein in limb), may occur in lungs (sudden start of coughing, breathing problems, chest pain, coughing blood)</p>	<p>Get emergency medical help right away</p>
<p>Eye problems (dry eyes, redness, irritation, pain, tearing, sensitivity to light, blurred vision or other unusual changes with your sight)</p>	<p>Contact your health care team as soon as possible</p>
<p>High blood sugar (increased thirst, urinates frequently)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check your blood sugar regularly if you have diabetes. 	<p>Contact your health care team as soon as</p>

	possible
Allergic reaction (fever, severe rash, itchiness, swollen face, lip or tongue, chest or throat tightness; may occur during or shortly after the drug is given)	Get emergency medical help right away
Unusual changes in personality, mood (for example, depression) or disordered thoughts	Contact your health care team if no improvement or if severe
Bone pain; Bone loss	Contact your health care team if no improvement or if severe
Bleeding or blood flow problems in the pituitary gland (sudden severe headache, vision changes, loss of consciousness)	Get emergency medical help right away
Reactions at the injection site (redness, itchiness, bruising, mild rash or swelling) Injection site injury (pain, bleeding, bruising after injection, may be severe)	Contact your health care team if no improvement or if severe
Kidney problems (lower back pain, body swelling, passing little or no urine, or recent unusual weight gain)	Get emergency medical help right away

The information set out in the medication information sheets, regimen information sheets, and symptom management information (for patients) contained in the Drug Formulary (the "Formulary") is intended to be used by health professionals and patients for informational purposes only. The information is not intended to cover all possible uses, directions, precautions, drug interactions or side effects of a certain drug, nor should it be used to indicate that use of a particular drug is safe, appropriate or effective for a given condition.

A patient should always consult a healthcare provider if he/she has any questions regarding the information set out in the Formulary. The information in the Formulary is not intended to act as or replace medical advice and should not be relied upon in any such regard. All uses of the Formulary are subject to clinical judgment and actual prescribing patterns may not follow the information provided in the Formulary.