

## Medication Information Sheet

# lanreotide

 (lan-REE-oh-tide)

*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:** Somatuline® Autogel®

**Appearance:** pre-filled syringe

## What is this medication for?

- For use in neuroendocrine tumours or carcinoid syndrome

## What should I do before I have this medication?

- Tell your health care team if you have or had:
  - heart, liver or kidney problems,
  - diabetes,
  - or any allergies.

## How will this medication affect sex, pregnancy and breastfeeding?

- The use of this medication in men or women may cause harm to the unborn baby if pregnancy occurs. Let your health care team know if you or your partner is pregnant, becomes pregnant during treatment, or if you are breastfeeding
- If there is **any chance** that you or 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. Keep using birth control for at least **6 months** after your last dose unless your health care team told you differently. Talk to your health care team to figure out the best method(s) for you and/or your partner.
- Do not breastfeed while using this drug.
- This medication is unlikely to affect fertility (ability to get pregnant)

## How is this medication given?

- This drug is given by injection under the skin.

## What else do I need to know while on this medication?

- This medication can interact with other medications and can result in the treatment not working as well or cause severe side effects.
- 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.
- **For mild aches and pain or fever:**
  - If you feel unwell, take your temperature before taking any medications for pain or fever. They may hide a fever.
  - You may take acetaminophen (Tylenol®) tablets. Ask your health care team about the right dose for you.
  - Ibuprofen (Advil®, Motrin®), naproxen (Aleve®) or aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid, ASA), including low dose aspirin for heart conditions, may increase your chance of bleeding. Talk to your health care team before you start or stop these medications.
  - **Talk to your health care team or go to the closest emergency room right away if you have a fever.** See the [Fever](#) pamphlet for more information.
- Drinking alcohol and smoking during your treatment may increase some side effects and make your medication less effective. Speak to your health care team about smoking and drinking alcohol while on treatment.

## How should I safely store this medication?

- Keep in the refrigerator, but do not freeze. Keep out of sight and reach of children and pets.
- Never reuse needles. Proper disposal of drug vials, needle covers, needles and syringes is very important. They must always be disposed of in a puncture-proof container. Ask your pharmacist for help to properly dispose of these items, including the filled container.

## What are the side effects of this medication?

You may not have all of the side effects below. You may have side effects that are not listed.

---

\*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.  
May 2018

Side effects and what to do	When to contact doctor?
<b>Common Side Effects (10 to 24 out of 100 people)</b>	
<p><b>Pains or cramps in the belly</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you have constipation or diarrhea (loose, watery stools or poo) it may be causing the pain in your belly.</li> <li>• Talk to your health care team about managing diarrhea.</li> <li>• If the pain is severe, gets worse or doesn't go away, talk to your health care team about other possible causes.</li> </ul>	Contact your health care team if no improvement or if severe
<p><b>Nausea and vomiting (generally mild)</b></p> <p>May occur in hours to days after your treatment.</p> <p><b>If you have nausea or vomiting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take anti-nausea medication(s) as prescribed to you by your doctor.</li> <li>• Drink clear liquids and have small meals. Get fresh air and rest.</li> <li>• Do not eat spicy, fried foods or foods with a strong smell.</li> <li>• Limit caffeine (e.g. coffee, tea) and alcohol.</li> <li>• Contact your health care team if the prescribed anti-nausea medications are not helping to control your nausea and vomiting.</li> </ul> <p>Also see <a href="#">Nausea &amp; Vomiting</a> pamphlet for more information.</p>	Contact your healthcare team if nausea if no improvement or if severe
<p><b>Headache, mild joint, muscle pain or cramps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take your pain medication as prescribed by your doctor.</li> <li>• You can take acetaminophen (Tylenol®) tablets as needed for mild aches and pains. Ask your doctor or pharmacist about the right dose for you.</li> <li>• Talk to your doctor or pharmacist first before taking ibuprofen (Advil®, Motrin®), naproxen (Aleve®) or aspirin. These medication may increase bleeding risk.</li> <li>• Rest often and try light exercise as it may help.</li> </ul>	Contact your health care team if no improvement or if severe
<p><b>Gall bladder problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You may have nausea, vomiting or yellowing of your skin or eyes, severe pain and tenderness in the upper right belly.</li> <li>• The pain may spread to your right shoulder or back.</li> </ul>	Get emergency medical help right away
<p><b>High blood pressure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check your blood pressure regularly. Your doctor may prescribe medication to treat high blood pressure.</li> </ul>	Contact your health care team if no improvement or if severe

Side effects and what to do	When to contact doctor?
<b>Common Side Effects (10 to 24 out of 100 people)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you have a severe headache, severe dizziness, or if you faint get emergency help right away as it may be a sign your blood pressure is too high.</li> </ul>	

**Other rare, but serious side effects are possible.**

**If you experience ANY of the following, speak to your cancer health care provider or get emergency medical help right away:**

- Redness, itchiness, bruising, rash and/or swelling where you receive your injection
- Signs of an allergy such as fever, itchiness, rash, swollen lips, face or tongue, chest and throat tightness
- Signs of high or low blood sugar such as feeling very thirsty, peeing more than usual, feeling hungry, weak, dizzy or confused
- Low heart rate or fainting spells
- Yellowish skin or eyes, unusually dark pee or pain on the right side of your belly
- Pain in the centre of the belly that can spread to your back
- Difficulty digesting food, oily and smelly stools (poo)

For more links on how to manage your symptoms go to [www.cancercareontario.ca/symptoms](http://www.cancercareontario.ca/symptoms).

*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.*

---

\*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.

May 2018