



Provincial Health Services Authority

**For the Patient: Lanreotide**  
Other names: SOMATULINE®

- **Lanreotide** (lan-REE-oh-tide) is a drug that is used to treat some types of cancer. It is a clear liquid that is injected under the skin.
- Tell your doctor if you have ever had an unusual or **allergic reaction** to lanreotide, somatostatin, or octreotide (SANDOSTATIN®) before receiving lanreotide.
- A **blood test** may be taken before each treatment. The dose and timing of your lanreotide may be changed based on the test results and/or other side effects.
- Other drugs such as bromocriptine and cyclosporine (NEORAL®) may **interact** with lanreotide. Tell your doctor if you are taking these or any other drugs as you may need extra blood tests or your dose may need to be changed. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before you start or stop taking any other drugs.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of lanreotide.
- Lanreotide may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with lanreotide. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breast feed during treatment.
- **Tell** doctors, dentists, and other health professionals that you are being treated with lanreotide before you receive any treatment from them.

Side effects are listed in the following table in the order in which they may occur. Tips to help manage the side effects are included.

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<b>Injection site reactions</b> such as pain, inflammation, or swelling may sometimes occur.	You may take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day or ibuprofen (e.g., ADVIL®) for mild to moderate pain.
<b>Nausea</b> does not usually occur with lanreotide.	

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<b>Diarrhea</b> and <b>flatulence</b> may sometimes occur.	If diarrhea is a problem: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drink plenty of fluids.</li> <li>• Eat and drink often in small amounts.</li> <li>• Avoid high fibre foods as outlined in <a href="#">Food Choices to Help Manage Diarrhea</a>.*</li> </ul>
<b>Gall stones</b> may sometimes form in your bile tract. These may or may not cause any symptoms.	Report any of these symptoms to your doctor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recurring or ongoing indigestion</li> <li>• Pain or tenderness under your rib cage on the right side</li> <li>• Pain between your shoulder blades</li> <li>• Light or chalky coloured stools</li> <li>• Indigestion after eating, especially fatty or greasy foods</li> </ul>
<b>Slower heart rate</b> may rarely occur.	Your doctor will check your heart rate at each visit.
<b>Abdominal or joint pain</b> may sometimes occur.	You may take acetaminophen (e.g., <b>TYLENOL®</b> ) every 4-6 hours to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day or ibuprofen (e.g., <b>ADVIL®</b> ) for mild to moderate pain. Tell your doctor if the pain interferes with your activity.
<b>Blood sugar control</b> may rarely be affected in diabetic patients.	Check your blood sugar regularly if you are diabetic.
<b>Weight loss</b> may rarely occur, and may persist after discontinuation of lanreotide.	Try the ideas in <a href="#">Food Ideas to Help with Decreased Appetite</a> .*
<b>Fatigue</b> and lack of energy may rarely occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not drive a car or operate machinery if you are feeling tired.</li> <li>• Try the ideas in <a href="#">Fatigue/Tiredness – Patient Handout</a> OR <a href="#">Your Bank to Energy Savings: Helping People with Cancer Handle Fatigue</a>.*</li> </ul>
<b>Hair loss</b> is rare with lanreotide. If you lose hair, it will grow back once you stop treatment with lanreotide. Colour and texture may change.	If hair loss is a problem, refer to <a href="#">Resources for Hair Loss and Appearance Changes – Patient Handout</a> .*

**\*Please ask your chemotherapy nurse or pharmacist for a copy.**

**SEE YOUR DOCTOR OR GET EMERGENCY HELP IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:**

- Signs of an **allergic reaction** (rare) soon after a treatment including dizziness, fast heart beat, face swelling, or breathing problems.
- Signs of **heart or lung problems** such as slow, fast, or uneven heartbeat, chest pain, chest pressure, shortness of breath or difficulty in breathing, or fainting.
- Severe **abdominal pain** with or without nausea or vomiting.
- Signs of an **infection** such as fever (over 100°F or 38°C by an oral thermometer), shaking chills; severe sore throat, productive cough (coughing up thick or green sputum); cloudy or foul smelling urine; painful, tender, or swollen red skin wounds or sores.

**SEE YOUR DOCTOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (DURING OFFICE HOURS) IF YOU HAVE:**

- Signs of **anemia** such as unusual tiredness or weakness.
- **Pain** in your head, back, bones, joints, or elsewhere.
- **Dizziness.**
- **Changes in eyesight.**
- Ringing in your ears or **hearing problems.**
- **Changes in mood.**
- **Numbness or tingling** in feet or hands.
- **Swelling** of feet or lower legs.

**CHECK WITH YOUR DOCTOR IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONTINUE OR BOTHER YOU:**

- Uncontrolled nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Pain not controlled with acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®).
- Skin rash or itching.
- Excessive sweating.
- Runny nose.
- Loss of appetite.
- Difficulty sleeping.
- Changes in fingernails or toenails.
- For diabetic patients: uncontrolled blood sugars.

**REPORT ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS TO YOUR DOCTOR**

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