



**For the Patient: Testosterone Enanthate**  
Other names: DELATESTRYL®

**BC Cancer Agency**

- **Testosterone enanthate** (tes-TOS-te-ron en-AN-thate) is a male hormone that is used to treat breast cancer in women. It is a clear liquid that is injected into a muscle.
- A **blood test** may be taken from time to time. The dose and timing of your testosterone enanthate may be changed based on the test results and/or other side effects.
- Tell your doctor if you have **thyroid** problems as testosterone enanthate may interact with thyroid tests (thyroid function is not affected). Tell your doctor if you have high **cholesterol** as testosterone enanthate may increase or decrease cholesterol.
- **Store** testosterone enanthate at room temperature and out of the reach of children.
- **Use** testosterone enanthate exactly as directed by your doctor. Make sure you understand the directions and feel comfortable with the injections.
  - Use a different site for each injection. Check with your nurse or doctor to find out which sites on your body can be used for injections.
  - Use each syringe once only to avoid infection. Place used syringes in a rigid plastic container with a lid. Discard the container as instructed by your treatment centre. Keep out of reach of children.
- Other drugs such as warfarin (COUMADIN®) may **interact** with testosterone enanthate. Tell your doctor if you are taking this/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 taking any new drugs.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of testosterone enanthate.
- Testosterone enanthate may cause **menopause** in women. If you plan to have children, discuss this with your doctor before being treated with testosterone enanthate.
- Testosterone enanthate may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with testosterone enanthate. Tell your doctor right away if you become pregnant. Do not breast feed during treatment.
- **Tell** doctors or dentists that you are being treated with testosterone enanthate 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>Swelling</b> of hands, feet or lower legs may occur if your body retains extra fluid.	If swelling is a problem: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elevate your feet when sitting.</li> <li>• Avoid tight clothing.</li> </ul>
<b>Sugar control</b> may be affected in diabetics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check your blood sugar regularly if you are diabetic.</li> </ul>
<b>Pain or tenderness</b> may occur where the needle was placed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply cool compresses or soak in cool water for 15-20 minutes several times a day.</li> </ul>

**STOP USING TESTOSTERONE ENANTHATE AND SEE YOUR DOCTOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (DURING OFFICE HOURS) IF YOU HAVE:**

- Signs of **liver problems** such as yellow eyes or skin, white or clay-coloured stools.
- Signs of **high blood calcium** such as loss of appetite, confusion, weakness, nausea and vomiting, thirst, frequent need to pass urine.
- Signs of **male effects** such as acne, facial hair growth, scalp hair loss, deepened voice, clitoral growth.
- Signs of **fluid problems** such as excessive swelling of legs or feet, sudden weight gain, shortness of breath or breathing problems.

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

- For diabetics: uncontrolled blood sugars.
- Changes in menstrual periods.

**REPORT ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS TO YOUR DOCTOR**

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