

Goserelin acetate (Zoladex)

About This Medicine

Goserelin acetate is used to treat cancer and certain conditions of the uterus. It is an implant given as an injection under the skin (subcutaneously).

Possible Side Effects

- Hot flashes or sudden skin flushing may happen. You may also feel warm or red.
- Sexual dysfunction
- Impotence (erectile dysfunction)
- Urinary tract symptoms, including infection

Note: Each of the side effects above was reported in greater than 10% of male patients treated with goserelin acetate. All possible side effects are not included. Your side effects may be different depending on your cancer diagnosis, condition, or if you are receiving other medicines in combination. Please discuss any concerns or questions with your medical team.

- Hot flashes or sudden skin flushing may happen. You may also feel warm or red.
- Decreased sex drive
- Increased sweating
- Changes in mood, which may include depression or a feeling of extreme well-being
- Depression
- Headache
- Decrease in breast size
- Acne, flaky skin
- Vaginal inflammation (swelling), dryness
- Menstrual bleeding may become irregular or stop while you are getting this medicine. Do not assume that you cannot become pregnant if you do not have a menstrual period.
- Swelling in your legs, ankles and/or feet

Note: Each of the side effects above was reported in greater than 20% of female patients treated with goserelin acetate. All possible side effects are not included. Your side effects may be different

depending on your cancer diagnosis, condition, or if you are receiving other medicines in combination. Please discuss any concerns or questions with your medical team.

Warnings and Precautions

- Tumor flare phenomenon. During the first few weeks, typical signs and symptoms of your cancer may worsen. You also may have an increase in bone pain. In men, obstruction of urine flow and compression of spinal cord can happen very rarely. Let your doctor know if you have any difficulties in urinating, moving your bowels, or numbness, tingling, or pain in your legs and feet.
- Increased risk of heart attack and stroke in men. Symptoms of a stroke such as sudden numbness or weakness of your face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of your body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, feeling dizzy, loss of balance or coordination; or sudden bad headache with no known cause. **If you have any of these symptoms for 2 minutes, call 911.**
- Abnormal electrocardiogram (EKG/ECG)
- Blood sugar levels may change, and you may develop diabetes
- Increased level of calcium in your blood
- Bone loss
- Allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis are rare but may happen in some patients. Signs of allergic reaction to this medicine may be swelling of the face, feeling like your tongue or throat are swelling, trouble breathing, rash, itching, fever, chills, feeling dizzy, and/or feeling that your heart is beating in a fast or not normal way. **If this happens, do not take another dose of this medicine. You should get urgent medical treatment.**
- Injection site reaction - you may get a rash, swelling, bleeding or bruising or your skin may get red, warm, itchy, or painful at the site of your injection. Injury to blood vessels can occur and bleeding at the injection site can be severe.

Note: *Some of the side effects above are very rare. If you have concerns and/or questions, please discuss them with your medical team.*

Treating Side Effects

- Keeping your pain under control is important to your well-being. Please tell your doctor or nurse if you are experiencing pain.
- If you have diabetes, keep good control of your blood sugar level. Tell your nurse or your doctor if your glucose levels are higher or lower than normal.
- While you are getting this medicine, please tell your nurse right away if you get a rash, swelling, bleeding or bruising or your skin gets red, warm, itchy, or painful at the site of your injection.

Food and Medicine Interactions

- There are no known interactions of goserelin acetate with food.
- This medicine may interact with other medicines. Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all the prescription and over-the-counter medicines and dietary supplements (vitamins, minerals, herbs, and others) that you are taking at this time. Also, check with your doctor or pharmacist before



starting any new prescription or over-the-counter medicines, or dietary supplements to make sure that there are no interactions.

- This medicine interacts with hormonal birth control (i.e., birth control pills, skin patches, vaginal rings, injections) and affect how they work. Discuss with your doctor and/or nurse what method of birth control may be right for you during your treatment.

When to Call the Doctor

Call your doctor or nurse if you have any of these symptoms and/or any new or unusual symptoms:

- Fever of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher
- Headache that does not go away
- Tiredness that interferes with your daily activities
- Feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- Feeling irritable, nervous, or restless
- Feeling abnormally well
- Lose interest in your daily activities that you used to enjoy and feeling this way every day, and/or you feel hopelessness
- Feeling that your heart is beating in a fast or not normal way (palpitations)
- Trouble breathing
- Chest pain or symptoms of a heart attack. Most heart attacks involve pain in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes. The pain may go away and come back or it can be constant. It can feel like pressure, squeezing, fullness, or pain. Sometimes pain is felt in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw, or stomach. **If any of these symptoms last 2 minutes, call 911.**
- Symptoms of a stroke such as sudden numbness or weakness of your face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of your body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, feeling dizzy, loss of balance or coordination; or sudden bad headache with no known cause. **If you have any of these symptoms for 2 minutes, call 911.**
- Signs of allergic reaction: swelling of the face, feeling like your tongue or throat are swelling, trouble breathing, rash, itching, fever, chills, feeling dizzy, and/or feeling that your heart is beating in a fast or not normal way. **If you have any of these symptoms, call 911.**
- Signs of a urinary tract infection such as burning or pain when you pass urine, difficulty urinating, smelly and/or cloudy urine, pain in your lower abdomen or lower/side of your back
- Difficulty urinating
- Difficulty moving your bowels
- Pain in your abdomen that does not go away
- Numbness, tingling, or pain in your legs and feet
- Abnormal blood sugar
- Unusual thirst, passing urine often, headache, sweating, shakiness, irritability
- Weight gain of 5 pounds in one week (fluid retention)
- Swelling in your legs, ankles and/or feet



- If you think you may be pregnant

Reproduction Warnings

- **Pregnancy warning:** This medicine can have harmful effects on the unborn baby. Women of childbearing potential should use effective non-hormonal methods of birth control during your cancer treatment and for 12 weeks after stopping treatment. Let your doctor know right away if you think you may be pregnant.
- In women, menstrual bleeding should stop while you are getting this medicine. Let your doctor know if you experience breakthrough menstrual bleeding.
- **Breastfeeding warning:** It is not known if this medicine passes into breast milk. For this reason, women should talk to their doctor about the risks and benefits of breastfeeding during treatment with this medicine because this medicine may enter the breast milk and cause harm to a breastfeeding baby.
- **Fertility warning:** Fertility studies have not been done with this medicine. Talk with your doctor or nurse if you plan to have children. Ask for information on sperm or egg banking.

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