## UPMC | HILLMAN CANCER CENTER

# Lanreotide (Somatuline Depot)

#### **About This Medicine**

Lanreotide is used to treat cancer and acromegaly. It is given an injection under the skin (subcutaneously), usually in the buttock area.

#### **Possible Side Effects**

- Nausea and vomiting (throwing up)
- Diarrhea (loose bowel movements)
- Pain in your abdomen
- Injection site reaction you may get a rash, swelling or bruising or your skin may get red, warm, itchy or painful at the site of your injection
- Inflammation (swelling) of the gallbladder and formation of gallstones. Possible signs are nausea/ vomiting, fever, tenderness in the right side of the abdomen.
- Blood sugar levels may change
- Bone and muscle pain
- Muscle spasm
- Headache
- Feeling dizzy
- High blood pressure

**Note:** Each of the side effects above was reported in 5% or greater of patients treated with lanreotide. 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

- Decreased heart rate
- Changes in your thyroid function

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



## Important Information

• This medicine may cause dizziness and impair your ability to drive or use machinery. If you experience dizziness, use caution and talk to your doctor and/or nurse about any precautions you may need to take.

## **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.
- Get regular exercise, with your doctor's approval. If you feel too tired to exercise vigorously, try taking a short walk.
- If you are dizzy, get up slowly after sitting or lying.
- Drink enough fluids to keep your urine pale yellow.
- If you throw up or have diarrhea, you should drink more fluids so that you do not become dehydrated (lack of water in the body from losing too much fluid).
- If you have diarrhea, eat low-fiber foods that are high in protein and calories and avoid foods that can irritate your digestive tracts or lead to cramping.
- Ask your nurse or doctor about medicine that can lessen or stop your diarrhea.
- To help with nausea and vomiting, eat small, frequent meals instead of three large meals a day. Choose foods and drinks that are at room temperature. Ask your nurse or doctor about other helpful tips and medicine that is available to help stop or lessen these symptoms.
- 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 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 lanreotide with food.
- Check with your doctor or pharmacist about all other prescription medicines and over-the-counter medicines and dietary supplements (vitamins, minerals, herbs, and others) you are taking before starting this medicine as there are known medicine interactions with lanreotide. 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.

## 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
- Feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- Headache that does not go away



- Trouble breathing
- Blurry vision or other changes in eyesight
- Tiredness or weakness that interferes with your daily activities
- Diarrhea, 4 times a day or diarrhea with lack of strength or a feeling of being dizzy
- Nausea that stops you from eating or drinking and/or is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Throwing up more than 3 times a day
- Pain in your abdomen that does not go away
- Severe pain in the right side of your abdomen that may spread to the right side of your back, shoulder or chest
- Pain that does not go away or is not relieved by prescribed medicine
- Unexplained weight gain
- Yellowing of the eyes or skin
- Signs of low thyroid function: tiredness, unexplained weight gain, hair loss, dry skin, constipation, increased sensitivity to cold
- Abnormal blood sugar
- Signs of high blood sugar: unusual thirst, passing urine often, headache, sweating, shakiness, irritability
- Signs of low blood sugar: feeling sleepy, increased hunger, sweating, shakiness, irritability
- 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 this happens, call 911 for emergency care.
- If you think you may be pregnant

## **Reproduction Warnings**

- **Pregnancy warning**: It is not known if this medicine may harm an unborn child. For this reason, be sure to talk with your doctor if you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant while receiving this medicine. Let your doctor know right away if you think you may be pregnant.
- **Breastfeeding warning**: Women should not breastfeed during treatment and for 6 months after stopping treatment because this medicine could enter the breast milk and cause harm to a breastfeeding baby.
- **Fertility warning:** In women, this medicine may affect your ability to have children in the future. Talk with your doctor or nurse if you plan to have children. Ask for information on egg banking.

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