

Medical Oncology

Drug Information Sheet

Octreotide (Sandostatin): a treatment your doctor has ordered for you.

How will you get this drug? A nurse will give this drug to you by injection under the skin (subcutaneous) or into your muscle at the cancer center.

What should I avoid while receiving *Octreotide (Sandostatin)*?

- Talk to your doctor if you are taking medicines that reduce acid in the stomach (treat heartburn).
 - Omeprazole (Prilosec)
 - Lansoprazole (Prevacid)
 - Dexlansoprazole (Dexilent)
 - Rabeprazole (AcipHex)
 - Pantoprazole (Protonix)
 - Esomeprazole (Nexium)
 - Famotidine (Pepcid)
 - Nizatidine (Axid)
- *Octreotide (Sandostatin)* increases the effects of pain medicine. Talk to your doctor if you are taking prescription pain medicine. Your dose may need to be adjusted.
- This medicine may decrease effectiveness of hormone contraceptives. **Talk to your doctor about effective birth control to prevent pregnancy.**

You **MAY OR MAY NOT** experience the side effects listed below:

Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
Nausea/vomiting Decreased appetite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take nausea medicine as instructed. Let your doctor know if it is not working for you. • Eat smaller, frequent meals. • Try liquid nutrition supplements (Boost, Ensure). • A dietitian is available to talk with you.
Stones in your gallbladder	<p>Call your doctor or go to the emergency room if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swelling or bloating of your belly. • High fever (higher than 101 degrees Fahrenheit). • Nausea with or without vomiting. • Severe abdominal pain. • Yellowing of the skin or whites of your eyes.
Fatigue or weakness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may be more tired than usual or have less energy. • Stay as active as possible, but know it is okay to rest as needed. • Try to do some activity every day. • Plan your activities, and do them at a time of day when you feel more energetic. • Avoid driving or doing other tasks that call for you to be alert.

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Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
Belly pain and gas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following can cause more gas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Common gas-causing foods include beans, peas, lentils, cabbage, onions, broccoli, cauliflower, whole-grain foods, mushrooms, certain fruits, and beer and other carbonated drinks. Try removing one food at a time to see if your gas improves. ○ Dairy. Reducing dairy products from your diet can lessen symptoms. You also may try dairy products that are lactose-free or take milk products supplemented with lactase to help with digestion. ○ Sugar substitutes. ○ Fried or fatty foods. ○ Carbonated beverages. • Regular exercise may help decrease gas • Call your doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ severe abdominal pain ○ bloody stools (dark, tarry or sticky) ○ nausea
Injection site reactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The skin around the injection site may become red, warm or cause you discomfort. • Call doctor if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reaction does not go away after 3 days ○ Skin becomes blistered ○ Redness is larger than your fist ○ Severe bruising or bleeding ○ Severe pain or itching at injection site ○ Site reactions are getting worse with each shot ○ Rash across bridge of nose and cheeks ○ Purplish-red spots anywhere on your body
Headache	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use pain medicine as prescribed. Call your doctor if the pain is not under control. Do not take Aspirin. • Call your doctor if your headache <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Follows a head injury ○ lasts more than 48 hours ○ is severe or starts suddenly ○ is associated with vomiting, visual disturbance, neck stiffness, drowsiness, confusion, rash, weakness in arm or leg, or numbness; or is made worse by coughing or lowering the head.

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Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
Avoid pregnancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This drug may cause harm to the unborn baby if you take it while you are pregnant. If you are pregnant or you get pregnant while taking this drug, call your doctor right away. • Use birth control that you can trust to prevent pregnancy while taking this drug. • If you or your sex partner gets pregnant while taking this drug, call your doctor right away.

Less common side effects that may happen:

Less common side effects	What to do:
Low blood sugar levels	Call your doctor if you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ become sweaty ○ have feelings of anxiety ○ are feeling weak or dizzy ○ are feeling hungry ○ are feeling irritable ○ feel a fast heartbeat or a heartbeat that does not feel normal ○ have changes in eyesight ○ have a headache or chills ○ are feeling confused ○ become shaky
Increased blood sugar levels	Call your doctor if you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ have feelings of confusion ○ are feeling more sleepy than normal ○ are more thirsty than normal ○ are more hungry than normal ○ pass urine more often than usual ○ have fast breathing ○ have breath that smells like fruit
Changes in heart rhythm or increase in heart rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call your doctor right away if you have the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ fast heartbeat or a heartbeat that does not feel normal ○ Feeling dizzy or faint • Some medicines can affect your heartbeat. Your nurse will give you a list of medicines to avoid (QT prolongation). • Tell your doctor if you take any heart or blood pressure medicines.

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Less common side effects	What to do:
Thyroid problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Your doctor may prescribe thyroid hormone replacement for you.• Call your doctor if you have:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ loss of appetite○ a change in weight without trying○ feeling nervous and excitable○ feeling restless○ feeling very weak○ tiredness that gets worse and does not go away○ hair thinning or hair loss○ headache○ low mood (depression)○ unable to focus○ shakiness○ sweating○ problems with heat○ fast heart rate
These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor.	