

## PART III: CONSUMER INFORMATION

### Pr LUPRON® leuprolide acetate injection

This leaflet is part III of a three-part "Product Monograph" published when LUPRON® was approved for sale in Canada and is designed specifically for Consumers. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about LUPRON®. Contact your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions about the drug.

#### ABOUT THIS MEDICATION

##### What the medication is used for:

LUPRON® (leuprolide acetate injection) is indicated in the treatment of children with central precocious puberty.

##### **What is precocious puberty:**

Precocious puberty occurs when girls under the age of 8 or boys under the age of 9 begin to develop signs of sexual maturity.

##### **Signs and symptoms:**

- Girls develop breasts and may have monthly periods.
- The penis and testicles of boys grow larger.
- Behavior may change; children may become aggressive or moody.
- Pubic hair grows in both sexes.
- Children may have oily skin and/or acne.
- Children may be the tallest in the class; there is a sudden growth spurt like that usually seen in teenagers.

##### **Why does it happen:**

In most cases, there is no special reason for this early development. It is not caused by anything we do and is not necessarily passed on from parents to children. However, there may be some physical problem, like a tumor, causing precocious puberty; this would require other treatment. A doctor will need to perform tests to rule out some possible physical causes.

##### What the medication does:

LUPRON® is a hormone-like agent. It is given by injection **once a day** to adjust your child's body clock (monthly injections are also available).

- Your child will stop making some hormones at adult levels.
- Pubertal changes (pubic hair, girl's period, breasts, etc.) should stop and may even become less obvious.
- Growth rate becomes more normal.
- When it's right for your child, your child's doctor will stop administering the shots and puberty will begin again.

##### When it should not be used:

LUPRON® should not be used:

- If your child is allergic to leuprolide acetate, any similar nonapeptides (e.g., histrelin, desorelin), or any of the nonmedicinal ingredients in LUPRON®.
- In women who are pregnant or breast-feeding.

##### What the medicinal ingredient is:

leuprolide acetate

##### What the important nonmedicinal ingredients are:

Each 2.8 mL multiple-dose vial contains benzyl alcohol, sodium chloride, and sterile water for injection. Each vial also contains sodium hydroxide and/or acetic acid.

*For a full listing of non-medicinal ingredients see PART I of the Product Monograph.*

##### What dosage forms it comes in:

LUPRON® is a drug which contains 5 mg of leuprolide acetate per mL. It comes in 2.8 mL multiple-dose vials. LUPRON® is supplied as a 14-day kit.

#### WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

##### **Before your child takes LUPRON®, tell your child's doctor if:**

- Your child is allergic to any component of the medication
- Your child has a family history of osteoporosis or is a chronic user of drugs that can reduce bone mass such as anticonvulsants, corticosteroids, alcohol and/or tobacco. LUPRON® can cause thinning of the bone and may pose additional risk in patients with such a history.
- Your child has had or is suspected of having seizures, epilepsy, cerebrovascular disorder, central nervous system anomalies, or brain tumor.
- Your child is taking other medication(s) that have been associated with convulsions or seizures such as bupropion and any SSRI medication for depression.

#### INTERACTIONS WITH THIS MEDICATION

Tell your child's doctor and pharmacist if your child is taking, has been taking, or planning to take any other medicines, including non-prescription drugs (such as drug products for colds or nausea).

#### PROPER USE OF THIS MEDICATION

##### Usual dose:

Your child needs one injection a day, as prescribed by your child's doctor.

It is very important that the doctor check your child's progress at regular medical visits.

Only a small amount of LUPRON<sup>®</sup> is needed once a day. Use the recommended ½ cc presterilized disposable syringe (see [Instructions for Use Leaflet](#)). Syringes are provided in the Patient Administration Kit.

Change the site of injection as instructed by the doctor.

As a guide, the usual sites of injection are indicated below:

SUGGESTED ROTATION OF THE INJECTION SITE



**Missed Dose:**

Follow these instructions unless instructed otherwise by your child's doctor: if your child misses an injection at the usual time, give it to him/her as soon as you remember, if you remember on the same day. If not, do not give him/her the missed dose at all. Simply wait until it is time for your child's next dose. Do not give two doses at once.

**SIDE EFFECTS AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM**

Postmarketing reports of convulsions have been observed in patients taking LUPRON<sup>®</sup>. These included patients in the female and pediatric populations, patients with a history of seizures, epilepsy, cerebrovascular disorders, central nervous system anomalies or tumors, and in patients on concomitant medications that have been associated with convulsions such as bupropion and SSRIs. Convulsions have also been reported in patients in the absence of any of the conditions mentioned above.

In the first few weeks of taking LUPRON<sup>®</sup>, your child's hormone levels will initially increase and then decline over several weeks. During this period some patients may experience worsening of symptoms.

The following items are not necessarily problems, but your child's doctor will want to know about them. Call your child's doctor or tell the doctor at your child's next appointment if:

- Pubertal changes continue.
- Your daughter has a period, especially after the first month of treatment with LUPRON<sup>®</sup>.
- Your child has substantial mood swings (write down the date this happens).
- You observe any behavioural changes in your child (boys may become aggressive; girls may become moody).

A skin reaction may occur: itching, redness, burning and/or

swelling at the injection site. These reactions usually are mild and disappear after a few days. If they persist or worsen, tell your child's doctor.

**SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS, HOW OFTEN THEY HAPPEN AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM**

Symptom / effect		Talk with your doctor or pharmacist		Stop taking drug and call your doctor or pharmacist
		Only if severe	In all cases	
Uncommon	Abnormal swelling or numbness of limbs		✓	
	Convulsion		✓	
	Severe bone pain		✓	
	Severe pain in chest or abdomen		✓	
	Vision changes		✓	
Common	Headache	✓		
	Itching rash		✓	
	Skin reactions including reaction at site of injection		✓	
	Vomiting /nausea	✓		

*This is not a complete list of side effects. For any unexpected effects while taking LUPRON<sup>®</sup>, contact your doctor or pharmacist.*

**HOW TO STORE IT**

Store LUPRON<sup>®</sup> vials or kits in the refrigerator (2 to 8°C) and protect from light (keep in carton until use).

As with other medications, KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

## **REPORTING SUSPECTED SIDE EFFECTS**

You can report any suspected adverse reactions associated with the use of health products to the Canada Vigilance Program by one of the following 3 ways:

- Report on line at:  
[www.healthcanada.gc.ca/medeffect](http://www.healthcanada.gc.ca/medeffect)
- Call toll-free at 1-866-234-2345
- Complete a Canada Vigilance Reporting Form and:
  - Fax toll-free to 1-866-678-6789
  - Mail to: Canada Vigilance Program  
Health Canada  
Postal Locator 0701C  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

Postage paid labels, Canada Vigilance Reporting Form and the adverse reaction reporting guidelines are available on the MedEffect™ Canada Web site at <http://www.healthcanada.gc.ca/medeffect>

*NOTE: Should you require information related to the management of side effects, contact your health professional. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.*

## **MORE INFORMATION**

This document plus the full product monograph, prepared for health professionals can be found at:

<http://www.abbott.ca>

or by contacting the sponsor, Abbott Laboratories, Limited  
Saint-Laurent, Qc H4S 1Z1  
at: 1-800-699-9948.

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