Sandostatin® (octreotide), Sandostatin LAR® (octreotide long-acting)

What conditions do Sandostatin and Sandostatin LAR treat?1-5

Sandostatin (octreotide) and Sandostatin LAR (octreotide long-acting) are used to treat 3 different conditions. They are listed below. Sandostatin and Sandostatin LAR may also be used for other conditions. Please talk to your doctor if you have any questions.

- **Acromegaly**
  - This is a disease where too much growth hormone causes an increase in size of the hands, feet, or facial features.
  - Symptoms include fatigue, sweating, headache, and joint pain.
  - Treatments for this condition include the following: surgery, radiation, or medications such as Sandostatin or Sandostatin LAR.

- **Carcinoid tumors**
  - These are tumors starting in the digestive tract or lung that can produce hormones that cause carcinoid syndrome.
  - Carcinoid syndrome symptoms include flushing (area gets red, hot, tingling) of the face or upper chest, diarrhea, and trouble breathing.
  - Treatments for carcinoid tumors include surgery, radiation, and cancer chemotherapy. Medications to treat symptoms include Sandostatin or Sandostatin LAR.

- **Vasoactive Intestinal Peptide tumors (VIPomas)**
  - A VIPoma is a tumor of a hormone-secreting cell in the pancreas.
  - It causes watery diarrhea.
  - Treatments for VIPoma tumors include surgery, radiation, and cancer chemotherapy. Diarrhea treatment includes replacing fluids and certain salts back into the body. Medications for long-term control of diarrhea include Sandostatin or Sandostatin LAR.
What are the possible side effects of Sandostatin and Sandostatin LAR?¹,²

The most common reported side effects include:
- Bile duct disorders (including gall stones)
- Stomach issues (eg, diarrhea)
- Pain at the injection site
- Headaches
- Dizziness
- Heart rate or rhythm changes
- Low and high blood sugar
- Low thyroid hormone levels

When should I call my doctor?⁶

Call your doctor right away if you notice any of these side effects:
- Allergic reaction (eg, itching or hives, swelling or tingling in the mouth or throat, trouble breathing)
- Irregular heartbeat
- Increase in how much or how often you urinate, increase in thirst or hunger
- Shakiness, sweating, sudden hunger
- Severe stomach pain
- Unusual tiredness or weakness, weight gain
- Yellowing of the skin or eyes
How do I take Sandostatin or Sandostatin LAR? How is it stored?1,2

Table 1 lists injection and important storage information.

Table 1. Injection and Storage Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sandostatin</th>
<th>Sandostatin LAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Injection information</strong></td>
<td>• Usual route of injection is under the skin.</td>
<td>• Usual route of injection is into the muscle.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Injection sites are the abdomen, thigh, upper arm, and buttocks. Rotate sites with each injection.</td>
<td>• Should be given in the buttocks on alternate sides.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May be self-injected or given by your doctor or nurse.</td>
<td>• Should be given by your doctor or nurse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Storage information</strong></td>
<td>• Store at refrigerated temperatures (2°-8°C or 36°-46°F).</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Do not freeze.</td>
<td>• Do not freeze.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Protect from light.</td>
<td>• Protect from light.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The medicine is stable for 14 days at room temperature (20°-30°C or 70°-86°F) if protected from light.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What can I do to decrease pain from the injection?1,2

- You may want to numb the injection site with ice to reduce pain.
- Bring the medication to room temperature before injecting.
  - Remove Sandostatin LAR from the refrigerator 30 to 60 minutes before injecting.
  - Do not use heat to warm it faster because heat can destroy the medicine.
What other resources are available?

For more information on Sandostatin or Sandostatin LAR, please contact the following resources:

- **OptumRx**
  Phone: **1-800-702-8423**
  Website: www.optumrx.com

- **My Sandostatin Info and Sandostatin Control**
  Phone: **1-888-NOW-NOVA (1-888-669-6682)**
  Website: www.us.sandostatin.com

- **Acromegaly.org**
  Phone: **1-805-499-9973**
  Website: www.acromegaly.org

- **Pituitary Network Association (PNA)**
  Phone: **1-805-499-9973**
  Website: www.pituitary.org

- **Carcinoid Cancer Foundation, Inc.**
  Phone: **1-212-722-3132**
  Website: www.carcinoid.org

- **National Cancer Institute**
  Phone: **1-800-4-CANCER (1-800-422-6237)**
  Website: www.cancer.gov

References:

1. Sandostatin Prescribing Information. East Hanover, NJ: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; 2010
5. VIPomas. Novartis Oncology. Disease Information.

The information in this educational handout doesn’t substitute the medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment provided by your doctor. Always seek the help of your doctor or a qualified health provider for any questions about your medical condition.