# Changing to Decapeptyl® SR (triptorelin)

Information for patients moving from another GnRHa to Decapeptyl® SR.

#### **PDF VERSION**

This guide is intended only for men prescribed Decapeptyl® SR.

For further information about Decapeptyl® SR you should also refer to the Patient Information Leaflet provided with Decapeptyl® SR.

This booklet has been developed by Ipsen.

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## Why is my medicine changing?

Your doctor has reviewed your treatment and believes that changing to Decapeptyl® SR may suit you.

#### What kind of medicine is Decapeptyl® SR?

Decapeptyl<sup>®</sup> SR is a hormone therapy for the treatment of prostate cancer.

Decapeptyl® SR belongs to a class of drugs called gonadotropin-releasing hormone analogues (GnRHas), sometimes also called luteinising hormone-releasing hormone agonists (LHRHas).

GnRHas are given to reduce the level of testosterone in your body. Prostate cancer needs testosterone to grow. Changing to Decapeptyl® SR will mean you are still taking GnRHa therapy for prostate cancer.

Decapeptyl<sup>®</sup> SR is mixed in a vial to form a suspension which is injected into a muscle, usually the buttocks.

## Will changing my treatment affect my cancer?

There is no reason to be concerned about changing to Decapeptyl® SR. Your disease will continue to be monitored carefully and your doctor may perform blood tests to check how you are doing.

#### Will changing my treatment cause side effects?

Any medical treatment can cause side effects.

However it is unlikely that you should experience any new or different side effects when you change to Decapeptyl® SR, as you have already been receiving treatment with another GnRHa. Most of the side effects of Decapeptyl® SR occur because it is working to lower the levels of testosterone in your body – these side effects are very similar for all drugs that work by reducing testosterone levels.

The most common side effects associated with Decapeptyl® SR (those which may affect more than 1 in 10 people) are hot flushes, weakness, excessive sweating, back pain, pins and needles sensation in the legs, reduced libido and impotence. Remember hormone therapy can affect men in different ways so you may only experience a few side effects.

Other side effects which are common (those which may affect up to 1 in 10 patients) may include nausea, dry mouth, pain, bruising, redness and swelling of injection site, muscle and bone pain, pain in the arms and legs, oedema (build-up of fluid in the body tissues), lower abdominal pain, high blood pressure, allergic reaction, increase in weight, dizziness, headache, loss of libido, depression and mood changes.

Refer to the Patient Information Leaflet for side effects which are uncommon.

If you experience any unwanted effects from your treatment which make you uncomfortable, or cause you distress, please talk to your doctor or nurse. They will be happy to help and can provide treatment and/or advice. You should also tell your doctor if you think your symptoms have worsened or changed, particularly if you are experiencing more pain or if you have difficulty passing urine during the course of your treatment.

## How will my treatment be changed?

It is very easy. The next time you come for your usual GnRHa injection, your doctor or nurse will give you Decapeptyl® SR instead. You will then have a repeat injection according to the dosing schedule.

#### What if I still want to see the nurse or doctor?

You only need to come into the surgery between injections if you or your doctor feel you need to.

Remember, you can book an appointment at any time to see your GP or practice nurse if you have any particular concerns about your treatment or any other health issue.

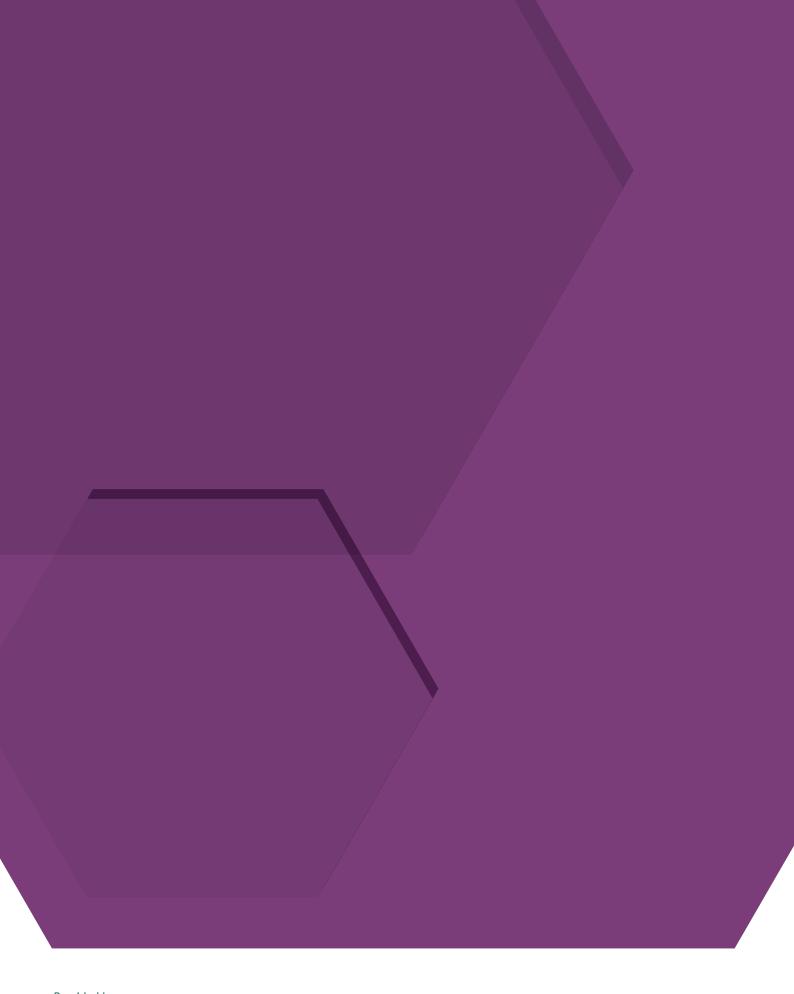
#### Reporting of side effects.

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in the

package leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at <a href="https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/">https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/</a>

or search for MHRA Yellow Card in Google Play or Apple App Store. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine. Adverse events should also be reported to Ipsen via email at <a href="mailto:pharmacovigilance.uk-ie@ipsen.com">pharmacovigilance.uk-ie@ipsen.com</a> or phone on 01753 627777.





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