

# LEUPROLIDE ACETATE INJECTION (BRAND NAME LUPRON®) 14 DAY KIT



**Description:** Leuprolide Acetate (Lupron) is related to a naturally occurring hormone called gonadotropin releasing hormone (GnRH). It is a GnRH agonist. Leuprolide Acetate has also been used to treat endometriosis, uterine fibroids, early puberty, and as part of the process to stimulate multiple eggs for assisted reproductive technologies. The strength of Leuprolide Acetate is 1 mg/0.2 ml.

Leuprolide Acetate may also be used to “trigger” the final maturation of the eggs during a GnRH antagonist IVF cycle. When used in this way, it releases luteinizing hormone (LH) and follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) from the pituitary, which luteinizes the mature eggs in the ovarian follicles in preparation for the egg retrieval procedure. Leuprolide Acetate Trigger is dispensed as a vial, with appropriate sized insulin syringes to use for subcutaneous injection. Do not use after expiration or beyond use date indicated on vial.

**How it works:** Leuprolide Acetate is administered as a subcutaneous injection using insulin syringes. Insulin syringes are used because the measurement on the syringe is in units (i.e.: 10 units is equivalent to 0.1 ml). For the role it plays in assisted reproductive technologies, Leuprolide Acetate is used to reduce the amount of estrogen and testosterone in the body. This decrease in estrogen production will prevent ovulation and may stop menstrual periods.

**Potential side effects:** Side effects that may occur include hot flashes, sweating, mood swings, vaginal dryness, decreased libido, nausea, vomiting, breast tenderness, insomnia, headaches, and injection site reaction (redness, itching, and swelling at the injection site). If you experience an allergic reaction - difficulty breathing; closing of your throat; swelling of your lips, tongue or face; or hives; seek emergency medical attention immediately. And if at any time you experience bone pain, difficulty urinating, numbness, tingling or weakness in the arms or legs contact your physician immediately. PLEASE NOTE: If these or any other side effects occur, contact your physician.

**Storage:** Store at room temperature (below 77°F). Do not freeze. Protect from light. Once vial is pierced, must be used within 28 days.

## SUBCUTANEOUS ADMINISTRATION OF LEUPROLIDE ACETATE

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- Pop off the plastic top of Leuprolide Acetate.
- Swab off the top of the vial with an alcohol pad to prevent contamination.
- Select an orange capped insulin syringe provided by Village Fertility Pharmacy. Insulin syringes are marked off from 0-50 units.
- Remove the orange cap.
- Using your syringe, draw back a small portion of air equal to your dose.
- Firmly insert the needle through the rubber stopper into the vial. Invert the vial and syringe as one complete unit and depress the air into the vial in order to equalize the pressure, which will make withdrawal of the solution easier. Once you depress the plunger of the air-filled syringe into the vial, make sure the tip of the needle is **BELOW** the liquid level and pull the plunger to withdraw the prescribed dose/units.
- Cleanse your selected **SUBCUTANEOUS** injection site with an alcohol wipe and allow to dry.
- While holding the syringe with your dominant hand between your thumb and finger (as you would a pencil), pinch the skin (with your other hand) at the site you have selected.
- With a quick, dart-like motion, insert the entire needle (up to the hub of the syringe) at a 90° or a 45° angle and depress the plunger slowly and carefully.
- After the injection is complete, quickly pull out the needle. If bleeding, apply pressure to the injection site with a sterile gauze pad. If discomfort occurs after your injection, you may gently massage the injection site to alleviate your discomfort.
- Use Sharps waste container for needle and syringe.

