



NYUCancerInstitute

P A T I E N T I N F O R M A T I O N

The side effects listed below are those that occur most frequently. Other side effects may occur; please contact your doctor or oncology nurse to report any medical problems.

Dose _____

LEUPROLIDE (Depo-Leupron®)

Leuprolide is like a natural hormone in the body. Regular intramuscular injections of leuprolide (monthly or every 3 months) interrupt the normal production of sex hormones, reducing testosterone levels. Prostate cancer responds to the removal of testosterone.

Early Side Effects

- a. Redness or irritation at the site of injection may occur.
- b. Dizziness, headache, nausea, vomiting and loss of appetite may occur rarely.

Late Side Effects

- a. The sudden change in hormone levels may cause a paradoxical reaction to occur - a worsening of your symptoms may be noticed in the first week of treatment. However, this effect is usually transient and resolves with continued treatment. Other symptoms that may be experienced at this time are bone pain, prostate pain, penile pain/swelling, or difficulty in urination.
- b. Continuous low levels of testosterone can cause several effects including hot flashes, sweating, testicular atrophy, breast swelling/tenderness, decreased sexual desire (libido) or ability (impotence).