Octreotide (Sandostatin) LAR Injection

What is Octreotide?
Octreotide, is a hormone medicine used to treat acromegaly and the symptoms of carcinoid syndrome. There are 2 types of Octreotide: a short-acting medicine (sub-Q Octreotide) and a long-acting medicine (Sandostatin LAR). The short-acting medicine is given by subcutaneous injection (sub-Q shot) into the fat layer under the skin. The long-acting medicine is given as an intramuscular injection (IM shot) into the muscle.

Why do I need this medicine?
Carcinoid syndrome is a group of symptoms that can happen when you have a carcinoid tumor. Common symptoms may include diarrhea and flushing of your skin. Your doctor may order Sandostain LAR to help prevent and control symptoms. The amount (dose) of medicine you take will depend on your symptoms. Your doctor may also order sub-Q Octreotide to help control breakthrough symptoms.

How is the Sandostatin LAR given?
The IM shot is usually given 1 time every 4 weeks at your doctor’s office. Your doctor will tell you the dose and how often you will be given the medicine.
What are the common side effects?

Common side effects may include:

- Nausea, bloating or gas
- Fatigue
- Blood sugar level changes (low or high)
- Weight gain
- Thyroid problems (underactive thyroid)
- Tenderness or soreness at the injection site
- Gallbladder problems

When should I call the doctor?

Call 911 and get emergency help if you have any of the following:

- Shortness of breath
- Chest pain

Call your doctor right away if you have chills or a fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius) or higher.

What if I need help with paying for my medicine?

Talk to your doctor or nurse about any assistance you may need to help cover the cost of this medicine. Your health care team can help you find resources for this medicine.