

## Regimen Monograph

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## A - Regimen Name

**GOSE Regimen**

Goserelin

**Disease Site** Genitourinary - Prostate

**Intent** Neoadjuvant  
Adjuvant  
Palliative

**Regimen Category** **Evidence-Informed :**

Regimen is considered appropriate as part of the standard care of patients; meaningfully improves outcomes (survival, quality of life), tolerability or costs compared to alternatives (recommended by the Disease Site Team and national consensus body e.g. pan-Canadian Oncology Drug Review, pCODR). Recommendation is based on an appropriately conducted phase III clinical trial relevant to the Canadian context OR (where phase III trials are not feasible) an appropriately sized phase II trial. Regimens where one or more drugs are not approved by Health Canada for any indication will be identified under Rationale and Use.

**Rationale and Uses**

- for cytoreduction before brachytherapy
- in combination with radiotherapy for the treatment of high-risk localized prostate cancer
- for palliative treatment of recurrent, progressive or metastatic prostate cancer

**Supplementary Public Funding** [goserelin](#)  
ODB - General Benefit

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## B - Drug Regimen

### [goserelin](#)

3.6 mg            SC depot            EVERY 4 WEEKS

**OR**

10.8mg           SC depot            EVERY 3 MONTHS (Q 13 weeks)

(Outpatient prescription in fixed-dose injection kits of 3.6mg and 10.8mg depot)

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## C - Cycle Frequency

### **Goserelin: Every 4 or 13 weeks depending on formulation**

- Neoadjuvant - Generally up to 6 months in duration
- Adjuvant - Generally up to 3 years
- Palliative - for non-metastatic disease (for example: rising PSA after radiation), use an intermittent schedule. Otherwise use continuously.

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## D - Premedication and Supportive Measures

**Antiemetic Regimen:** Not applicable

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## E - Dose Modifications

Doses should be modified according to the protocol by which the patient is being treated. The following recommendations have been adapted from clinical trials or product monographs and could be considered.

See appendix 6 for general recommendations.

### **Dosage with toxicity**

Dosage with myelosuppression: No adjustment required.

**Hepatic Impairment**

No adjustment required.

**Renal Impairment**

No adjustment required.

**Dosage in the elderly:**

No adjustment required.

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**F - Adverse Effects**

Refer to [goserelin](#) drug monograph(s) for additional details of adverse effects

<b>Most Common Side Effects</b>	<b>Less Common Side Effects, but may be Severe or Life Threatening</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hypogonadism and symptoms of ↓ testosterone</li> <li>• Disease flare – may be severe (may use short-term antiandrogen therapy for blockade of testosterone flare)</li> <li>• Diarrhea / constipation</li> <li>• Urinary symptoms</li> <li>• Insomnia</li> <li>• Hypertension</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardiotoxicity</li> <li>• Arrhythmia</li> <li>• QT prolongation</li> <li>• Arterial/venous thromboembolism</li> <li>• Osteopenia / osteoporosis</li> <li>• Pituitary hemorrhage</li> <li>• Hypersensitivity</li> <li>• Injection site injury/vascular injury</li> <li>• Increased LFTs</li> <li>• Glaucoma</li> <li>• Renal failure</li> </ul>

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## G - Interactions

Refer to [goserelin](#) drug monograph(s) for additional details

- Caution with concomitant QT-prolonging drugs, as androgen deprivation can have an additive QT-prolonging effect.

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## H - Drug Administration and Special Precautions

Refer to [goserelin](#) drug monograph(s) for additional details

### Administration:

- Subcutaneous injection of the depot into the anterior abdominal wall, below the naval line. Injection usually given at the Cancer Centre or physician's office. Should be administered by a healthcare professional experienced in administering deep subcutaneous injections under the supervision of a physician. Drug supplied by outpatient prescription.
- Store in original packaging between 2°C and 25°C. Protect from light and moisture.

### Contraindications:

- Patients who have a hypersensitivity to this drug or any of its components.
- Females with undiagnosed abdominal vaginal bleeding.

### Other Warnings/Precautions:

- Use with caution in patients with osteoporosis (or risk factors for osteoporosis), diabetes, risk factors for QT prolongation, history of depression, cardiovascular disease, metastatic vertebral lesions and/or urinary tract obstruction due to the risk of disease flare.
- Patients who experience anaphylaxis/anaphylactoid shock while on goserelin may require removal of the implant. If implant removal is necessary, it may be located by ultrasound.
- Goserelin requires administration by deep subcutaneous injection and is not recommended in patients with low body mass index (BMI <18.5) or in patients who are fully anticoagulated (INR >2).

### Other Drug Properties:

- Carcinogenicity: No

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**Pregnancy and Lactation:**

- Genotoxicity: No
- Embryotoxicity: Yes
- Fetotoxicity: Yes  
Not recommended for use in pregnancy. Adequate non-hormonal contraception must be used by most sexes during treatment and for at least 6 months after goserelin cessation (general recommendation).
- Breastfeeding: Not recommended  
Goserelin is secreted into milk in animals.
- Fertility effects: Fertility may be affected in males and females, but may be reversible.

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**I - Recommended Clinical Monitoring**

Treating physicians may decide to monitor more or less frequently for individual patients but should always consider recommendations from the product monograph.

Recommended Clinical Monitoring

- Blood glucose; especially in diabetic patients or patients at risk of hyperglycemia; basaeline and periodic
- Electrolytes, including calcium and magnesium; baseline, also regularly in patients at risk
- Clinical assessment of disease flare, osteoporosis, symptoms of hypogonadism, injection site reactions, cardiovascular effects, signs of abdominal hemorrhage; at each visit
- Grade toxicity using the current [NCI-CTCAE \(Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events\) version](#)

Suggested Clinical Monitoring

- Monitor bone and prostatic lesions; periodic

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**J - Administrative Information**

Outpatient prescription; drug administration at Cancer Centre or physician's office

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## K - References

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Sarosdy MF, Schellhammer PF, Soloway MS, et al. Endocrine effects, efficacy and tolerability of a 10.8-mg depot formulation of goserelin acetate administered every 13 weeks to patients with advanced prostate cancer. *Br J Urol Int* 1999;83(7):801-6.

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**March 2016** replaced regimen category, updated adverse effects, added interactions, administration, precautions

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## M - Disclaimer

Refer to the [New Drug Funding Program](#) or [Ontario Public Drug Programs](#) websites for the most up-to-date public funding information.

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