

## Regimen Monograph

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## A - Regimen Name

# OCTR Regimen

Octreotide

**Disease Site**      Gastrointestinal - Neuroendocrine (GI)  
Lung - Neuroendocrine (Lung)

**Intent**              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**      Treatment of choice for neuroendocrine symptom control in patients with neuroendocrine tumours, especially carcinoid syndrome, where symptoms are debilitating or chemotherapy has not provided symptom relief

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

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**B - Drug Regimen**[octreotide](#)

50-100 mcg

Subcut

BID to TID

(short acting formulation)

**THEN**[octreotide\\*](#)

10-30 mg

IM

Day 1

(long-acting, LAR formulation)

\*Start when symptoms controlled on short-acting octreotide (continue short-acting octreotide for at least 2 weeks).

[back to top](#)**C - Cycle Frequency****CONTINUOUS TREATMENT**

(octreotide- short acting)

**REPEAT EVERY 28 DAYS**

(octreotide LAR)

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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 may be considered.

### **Octreotide short-acting:**

- Titrate dose by 50-100 mcg every 8-12 hourly until symptom control
- Typical dose range in carcinoid: 100-600 mcg/day
- Typical dose range in VIPomas: 200-300 mcg/day

### **Dosage with toxicity**

Clearance reduced in the elderly; dose adjustment may be required.

### **Hepatic Impairment**

Clearance reduced in cirrhosis; dose adjustment may be required.

### **Renal Impairment**

Clearance reduced in severe renal impairment; dose adjustment may be required.

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## F - Adverse Effects

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

Most Common Side Effects	Less Common Side Effects, but may be Severe or Life-Threatening
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nausea/vomiting</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> <li>• Cholelithiasis, cholecystitis</li> <li>• Injection site reactions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduction abnormalities, arrhythmia, ischemia, CHF</li> <li>• Arterial/venous thromboembolism</li> <li>• Hypo/hyperglycemia</li> <li>• ↑ LFTs, hepatitis (rare)</li> <li>• Anaphylaxis</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pancreatitis</li><li>• Malabsorption</li></ul> |
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### G - Interactions

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

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### H - Drug Administration and Special Precautions

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

#### Administration:

- Keep refrigerated; protect from light.

#### Short Acting (sc ampoules or multidose vials):

- Subcutaneous self-administration (or administered by home caregiver); drug available by outpatient prescription.
- Rotate injection sites; multiple SC injections at the same site within short periods of time should be avoided.
- For day-to-day use, may be stored at room temperature for up to 2 weeks, protected from light. Open ampoule(s) just prior to administration and discard unused portion
- Incompatible in TPN solutions.
- For IV infusion (emergency treatment for carcinoid syndrome only): further dilute in NS (preferred) or D5W.

#### Long Acting (ie. Sandostatin LAR®):

- May only be administered by deep intragluteal injection
- To be injected at doctor's office or cancer centre. Drug available by outpatient prescription.
- Alternate between left and right gluteal muscles for subsequent injections.
- Vials can remain at room temperature, protected from light, on the day of the injection
- Reconstitute with supplied diluent as directed. Suspension must be prepared immediately

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before IM injection.

- Patients switching over to the long-acting injection may need to continue to receive SC octreotide (short acting) for approximately 2 weeks, and some individuals may need additional rescue SC octreotide (short acting) for up to 2 to 3 months because of the time required to reach steady-state octreotide levels, as the drug is slowly released from the microspheres.

#### Contraindications/precautions:

- contraindicated in patients with hypersensitivity to octreotide or to any component of the formulation.
- In **insulin dependent diabetics**, reduction of insulin requirements may result following initiation of octreotide therapy.
- Safety in **pregnancy** or effects on **fertility** has not been established, although no effects have been seen in animals.
- **Breastfeeding** is not recommended since octreotide can be secreted into animal milk.

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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

- Baseline and periodic serum glucose levels, especially in diabetic patients
- Ultrasonograph of the gall bladder and bile ducts, to assess the presence of gallstones (during long-term therapy, every 6 – 12 months)
- Baseline and periodic thyroid function tests with long term usage
- Periodic assessment of fat malabsorption and vitamin B12 levels with long term use
- Periodic monitoring of zinc levels in patients on TPN, as serum zinc may rise excessively with reversal of fluid loss
- Clinical toxicity assessment (including GI, hepatobiliary); at each visit
- Grade toxicity using the current [NCI-CTCAE \(Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events\) version](#)

#### Suggested Clinical Monitoring

Assessment of fat malabsorption and vitamin B12 levels with long term use;

Periodic

Monitoring of zinc levels in patients on TPN, as serum zinc may rise excessively with reversal of fluid loss; Periodic

Thyroid function tests, with long term usage; Baseline and periodic

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## J - Administrative Information

Outpatient prescription

SC: for home administration by patient or caregiver

IM: for administration at physician's office or Cancer Centre

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## K - References

Jacobsen MB, Hanssen LE. Clinical effects of octreotide compared to placebo in patients with gastrointestinal neuroendocrine tumours. Report on a double-blind, randomized trial. *J Intern Med* 1995;237:269-75.

Kvols LK, Moertel C, O'Connell M et al. Treatment of malignant carcinoid syndrome: evaluation of a long acting somatostatin analog. *NEJM*. 1986.315:663-6.

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Öberg K, Norheim I, Theodorsson E, Ahlman H, Lundqvist G, Wide L. The effects of octreotide on basal and stimulated hormone levels in patients with carcinoid syndrome. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab* 1989;68:796-800.

O'Toole D, Ducreux M, Bommelaer G, et al. Treatment of carcinoid syndrome: a prospective crossover evaluation of lanreotide versus octreotide in terms of efficacy, patient acceptability, and tolerance. *Cancer* 2000;88:770-6.

Rinke A, Müller HH, Schade-Brittinger C, et al. Placebo-controlled, double-blind, prospective, randomized study on the effect of octreotide LAR in the control of tumor growth in patients with metastatic neuroendocrine midgut tumors: a report from the PROMID Study Group. *J Clin Oncol* 2009;27(28):4656-63.

Rubin J, Ajani J, Schirmer W, Venook AP, Bukowski R, Pommier R, et al. Octreotide acetate long-acting formulation versus open-label subcutaneous octreotide acetate in malignant carcinoid syndrome. *J Clin Oncol* 1999;17:600-606.

Saslow SB, O'Brien MD, Camilleri M, von der Ohe M, Homburger HA, Klee GG, et al. Octreotide inhibition of flushing and colonic motor dysfunction in carcinoid syndrome. *Am J Gastroenterol* 1997;92:2250-6.

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## **PEBC Advice Documents or Guidelines**

- [Systemic Therapy of Incurable Gastroenteropancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumours](#)

**June 2019** Updated emetic risk category

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### **L - Other Notes**

Patients will need training on how to prepare their doses and how to self-administer SC doses; training may be started by the oncology primary care team or by home care nursing.

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### **M - Disclaimer**

#### ***Regimen Abstracts***

*A Regimen Abstract is an abbreviated version of a Regimen Monograph and contains only top level information on usage, dosing, schedule, cycle length and special notes (if available). It is intended for healthcare providers and is to be used for informational purposes only. It is not intended to constitute or be a substitute for medical advice, and all uses of the Regimen Abstract are subject to clinical judgment. Such information is provided on an "as-is" basis, without any representation, warranty, or condition, whether express, or implied, statutory or otherwise, as to the information's quality, accuracy, currency, completeness, or reliability, and Cancer Care Ontario disclaims all liability for the use of this information, and for any claims, actions, demands or suits that arise from such use.*

*Information in regimen abstracts is accurate to the extent of the ST-QBP regimen master listings, and has not undergone the full review process of a regimen monograph. Full regimen monographs will be published for each ST-QBP regimen as they are developed.*

#### ***Regimen Monographs***

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

*The information set out in the drug monographs, regimen monographs, appendices and symptom management information (for health professionals) contained in the Drug Formulary (the "Formulary") is intended for healthcare providers and is to be used for informational purposes only. The information is not intended to cover all possible uses, directions, precautions, drug interactions or adverse effects of a particular drug, nor should it be construed to indicate that use of a particular drug is safe, appropriate or effective for a given condition. The information in the Formulary is not intended to constitute or be a substitute for medical advice and should not be relied upon in any such regard. All uses of the Formulary are subject to clinical judgment and actual prescribing patterns may not follow the information provided in the Formulary.*

*The format and content of the drug monographs, regimen monographs, appendices and symptom management*

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*information contained in the Formulary will change as they are reviewed and revised on a periodic basis. The date of last revision will be visible on each page of the monograph and regimen. Since standards of usage are constantly evolving, it is advised that the Formulary not be used as the sole source of information. It is strongly recommended that original references or product monograph be consulted prior to using a chemotherapy regimen for the first time.*

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