

A medication information leaflet for paediatric patients

TESTOSTERONE THERAPY

Other names: Sustanon® Injection



Important note: The following information is intended to add to, not replace, the knowledge and judgment of your doctor, pharmacist or other health care professional.

How does testosterone work?

Testosterone is a natural substance produced in the body to help in development of the testis or ovaries. Testosterone is used as a replacement therapy in patients who do not produce enough testosterone due to the pituitary or testicular disease.

Why you are taking this medicine

When testosterone is given to patients with hypopituitarism, (low activity of the pituitary causing a lack of hormones) this can lead to normal sexual development. Testosterone is also needed to maintain bone strength and protects against osteoporosis (loss of bone mass and increased risk of bone fractures). Thus giving testosterone therapy in a deficiency helps to prevent bone fractures, loss of muscle mass, loss of muscle strength and anaemia.

When to take this medicine

You will receive testosterone as an intramuscular injection (into the muscle) given by the nurse at a clinic visit at regular intervals – usually once a month. There may be some irritation or pain at the site of the injection but usually does not last very long.

Side Effects

Unfortunately as well as having good effects, most medicines have some effects on your body that are unwanted. These are called *side effects*.

Call your doctor **immediately** if you have any of these side effects:

- skin rash, severe itching or hives
- wheezing or difficulty breathing
- swelling of hands and feet

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have these side effects:

- mood changes
- headache
- dizziness
- cough
- gastrointestinal (stomach) upsets such as nausea and/or vomiting
- muscle pain
- acne

The list of side effects is **not** complete. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if any of these side effects are of a concern to you.

Other Medication

Always check with your doctor or pharmacist before giving your child any other medicines including herbal or complementary products and medicines you can buy without a prescription.

Before surgery of any kind tell your doctor or dentist that you are taking this medicine.

Storage

Keep all medicines out of reach of children.

Read this leaflet and discuss any questions you have about your medicines with your doctor or pharmacist.