How to store Somatuline Autogel

Somatuline Autogel should be refrigerated (at 2°C to 8°C) in its original package. Do not freeze. Keep out of the reach and sight of children. Do not use after the expiry date shown on the labels and box.

Somatuline® Autogel®
(lanreotide) Injection

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Somatuline® Autogel®
(lanreotide) Injection

Your step-by-step guide to injecting with the **Somatuline® Autogel® delivery system**

Injecting Somatuline Autogel

Somatuline Autogel is given as a deep subcutaneous (under the skin) injection by a healthcare professional or a properly trained person. You may give yourself an injection, in the thigh region only, if you have been properly trained and are able to follow the instructions for administration of Somatuline Autogel. Please refer to the consumer information leaflet that comes inside your Somatuline Autogel box for complete information including important safety information.

About the Somatuline Autogel delivery system

Somatuline Autogel is supplied in a ready-to-use prefilled syringe. To prevent needle stick injury, the syringe is fitted with an automatic safety system where the needle is pulled inside after the full dose is given. Please read through the instructions carefully before starting the injection. The injection is a deep subcutaneous injection that requires a specific technique.

Important:
- This is a one-time use prefilled syringe with a retractable needle.
- ALL the medication must be injected in one use.

1 Before you inject

Remove Somatuline Autogel from the fridge 30 minutes before injecting as injecting cold medication may be painful. Keep the laminated pouch sealed until just prior to injection.

While waiting, make sure you have everything you need, including:

- A cotton ball or sterile gauze
- A secure puncture-resistant sharps container (or disposal box) for the needle cap and used syringe

2 Before opening the pouch

- Check that the pouch is intact and that the medication has not expired. The expiry date is printed on the outer carton and the pouch.
- Do not use if the medication has expired, if the laminated pouch is damaged in any way, or if you drop or damage the prefilled syringe.
- Wash your hands with soap and ensure there is a clean area for preparation.

3 Opening the protective pouch

- Tear open the pouch along the dotted line and take out the tray containing the prefilled syringe.
- Visually inspect the contents.
- The contents of the prefilled syringe have a gel-like appearance and are white to pale yellow in colour. The solution can also contain bubbles that can clear up during injection. This is normal.
- Check for particles and discolouration. Do not administer if you see particles or if there is a change in colour.

4 Choosing an injection site

Avoid areas with moles, scar tissue, reddened skin, or skin that feels bumpy. **Be sure to alternate between the right and left sides each time you inject.**

- **For injection by a trained caregiver:** Select the upper outer quadrant of the buttock or the upper outer part of the thigh.
- **For self-injection:** Select the upper outer part of your thigh for injection.

5 Cleaning the injection site

Clean the injection site with sterile gauze without rubbing the skin too much.

6 Removing the prefilled syringe from the tray

Before injecting, take the prefilled syringe out of the tray. Discard the tray.

7 Removing the needle cap

Remove the needle cap by pulling it off and discard it.

8 Inserting the needle

- Use your thumb and index finger (of the hand not holding the syringe) to stretch and flatten the skin at the injection site, without pinching, folding or pressing on the skin.
- Insert the needle perpendicular (90° angle) to the skin in a strong, straight, dart-like motion.
- Be sure to insert the needle all the way into your skin. You should not see any needle once it's inserted all the way.

9 Injecting the full dose

- Let go of the injection site area that has been flattened by your hand.
- Using your other hand, push the plunger with firm, steady pressure. The medication is thicker and harder to push than you might expect. Typically 20 seconds are needed.
- Inject the full dose and give a final push to make sure you cannot push it any further.
- **Keep your thumb** on the plunger to prevent the automatic safety system from being activated too soon.

10 Removing the needle

Without releasing pressure on the plunger, withdraw the needle from your skin.

11 Retracting the needle

Release pressure on the plunger. The needle will automatically retract into the needle guard where it will be locked permanently.

12 After you inject

- Apply gentle pressure to the injection site with a dry cotton ball or sterile gauze to prevent any bleeding. **Don't rub or massage the injection site.**
- Properly dispose of the used syringe.