Leuprolide (loo PROE lide)
Patient Education

US Brand Names:  Eligard®; Lupron Depot-Ped®; Lupron Depot®; Lupron Depot®-3 Month; Lupron Depot®-4 Month; Lupron®
Therapeutic Category:  Hormone therapy

What is this medicine used for?

- Used for treatment of advanced prostate cancer.

How does it work?

- This medicine blocks hormone production in your body. Blocking hormones that stimulate the growth of cancer cells reduces the risk of cancer cells growing.

What should my doctor or nurse know before I take this medication?

- If you are allergic to any medicines.
- If you are taking other over-the-counter or prescription medicines, including vitamins and herbal remedies.
- If you have heart disease.
- If you have diabetes (High blood sugar level).

How is this drug given?

- This medicine is injected into your muscle or fat tissue. Ask your doctor or nurse how and when you will be taking this medication.
What are the general precautions when taking this medicine?

- Talk with your doctor or nurse before taking aspirin, aspirin-containing products, over-the-counter or prescription medications including vitamins and herbal remedies.
- If you or your partner can get pregnant, use birth control during your treatment.
- Once completing treatment, discuss the timing for discontinuing birth control measures with your provider.

What are the common side effects of this medicine?

- Injection site burning/stinging.
- Hot flashes/flushing.

*Not common, but may happen:

  - “tumor flare” or worsening of symptoms including bone pain, numbness and tingling in hands and feet, blood in the urine, or an obstruction decreasing your ability to urinate during the first 2 weeks.
  - Atrophy (getting smaller) of the testis.
  - Swelling of feet/legs (Edema).

Danger signals to report immediately to your doctor or nurse:

- Signs or symptoms of infection at the injection site. These include redness swelling, burning or pain.
- Increase in thirst and urination.
- Chest pain.
- New bone pain.
- Sudden onset of difficulty breathing.