

## Saizen Injection

Somatropin (rmc), recombinant  
human growth hormone



### What is Saizen used for?

Saizen contains somatropin, which is identical to human growth hormone found naturally in humans, but is made in laboratories. It is believed that it may help in the stimulation phase of IVF treatments to produce better quality eggs for those who have been found to respond poorly to standard IVF stimulation protocols. It should only be used under the supervision of your doctor.

### Do not use Saizen if:

- ◆ You have history of allergy to Saizen or it's ingredients
- ◆ A tumour of the hypothalamus or pituitary gland
- ◆ Any other active cancers
- ◆ A history of Diabetes Mellitus or diabetic retinopathy
- ◆ Recent heart or abdominal surgery, multiple trauma or acute respiratory failure
- ◆ You are pregnant
- ◆ You are breast feeding
- ◆ Do not take Saizen after the expiry date on the package has been passed
- ◆ Do not take Saizen if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering
- ◆ If your medicine has expired or is damaged, return it to your pharmacy/clinic for disposal

### Before you use Saizen

#### TELL YOUR DOCTOR if you have any allergies to:

- ◆ Any other medicines
- ◆ Any other substance such as foods, preservatives or dyes
- ◆ Any other pre-existing medical conditions

**TELL YOUR DOCTOR** if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

### How to use Saizen

Saizen is given by subcutaneous injection, preferably in the evening, usually below or near your navel. Your clinic nurse or doctor will explain to you how to give the injection. For IVF purposes 3mg daily is the recommended dose, however, your doctor will explain the dose to be taken to you.

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or clinic nurse carefully.

They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you forget to take Saizen you should contact your doctor or clinic nurse immediately.

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### While you are using Saizen

Your doctor will monitor your response to Saizen carefully using blood tests and ultrasound.

#### **DO NOT:**

- ◆ Stop using Saizen without telling your doctor
- ◆ Change the dose unless your doctor or clinic nurse tells you to. Changing your dose without advising your doctor can increase your risk of unwanted side effects or can prevent the drug from working properly.

### Side effects

**TELL YOUR DOCTOR or clinic nurse if you do not feel well while taking Saizen.**

All medicines have side effects. Sometimes they are more serious, most of the time they are not.

If you think you have side effects talk to your doctor or clinic nurse

- ◆ Pain, redness and itching may appear at the injection site
- ◆ Muscle and joint pain may occur when first using Saizen
- ◆ High blood sugar levels

**Contact your doctor or clinic IMMEDIATELY** if you experience any of the following:

- ◆ Shaking or light headedness, this can indicate a low blood sugar level
- ◆ Strong, recurrent headaches associated with nausea, vomiting or sight disturbances.

### Storage

- ◆ The 3mg Saizen and solvent must be stored in the refrigerator at 2°C - 8°C
- ◆ Do not freeze
- ◆ Keep in original packaging and protect from light
- ◆ Reconstituted Saizen must be stored in the refrigerator at 2°C - 8°C and used within 14 days

### Disposal

- ◆ Saizen vials, needles and syringes should be discarded in an appropriate disposal unit
- ◆ If you have any expired or left over Saizen that is no longer required return it to your clinic or pharmacy