Ganirelix Acetate Injection® Patient Information

**Definition:**
Ganirelix Acetate® is an antagonist (prevents the release of) of the natural Gonadotropin Releasing Hormone (GnRH).

**Anatomy/Physiology:**
GnRH itself is normally released by the brain, which stimulates the pituitary gland to release Luteinizing Hormone (LH) and Follicle Stimulating Hormone (FSH). The LH and FSH hormones in turn stimulate the ovaries and testes to produce eggs, sperm and other hormones. Ganirelix Acetate works by blocking the release of the natural GnRh from the brain which then inhibits the release of LH & FSH. By controlling the LH & FSH release, we can prevent premature ovulation.

The medication is usually started when you have ovarian follicles measuring 13 to 14 millimeters during an IVF cycle or superovulation cycles.

**Indications:**
Women undergoing ovulation induction and ART are candidates for the medication.

**Contraindications:**
Individuals with a known sensitivity to the drug, known sensitivity to Lupron® or Synarel®, or known to be pregnant or breastfeeding should not use this medication.

**Administration:**
With ART, the medication is usually given daily via a small needle into the fat just below the skin (subcutaneous). This method allows your physician to adjust the medication dose on a daily basis. The ART team will notify you of the precise medication dosage desired. It is preferred that the medication be given at the same time each morning, usually near 7:00 a.m.

**Complications:**
Complications from the medicine are rare. One may see a reaction at the local injection site with very rare cases of a true allergic reaction.

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