Ganirelix

(Ganirelix Acetate) - Merck

THERAPEUTIC CLASS
GnRH antagonist

DEA CLASS
RX

INDICATIONS
For inhibition of premature luteinizing hormone surges in women undergoing controlled ovarian hyperstimulation.

ADULT DOSAGE
Adults: After initiating follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) therapy on Day 2 or 3 of the cycle, 250mcg may be administered SQ qd during the mid to late portion of the follicular phase. Continue daily until the day of human chorionic gonadotropin administration.

HOW SUPPLIED
Inj: 250mcg/0.5mL

CONTRAINDICATIONS
Known/suspected pregnancy.

WARNINGS/PRECAUTIONS
Should be prescribed by physicians who are experienced in infertility treatment. Pregnancy must be excluded before starting treatment. Cases of hypersensitivity reactions, including anaphylactoid reactions reported; caution with signs and symptoms of active allergic conditions. Not recommended with severe allergic conditions. Packaging contains natural rubber latex which may cause allergic reactions.

ADVERSE REACTIONS
Abdominal pain (gynecological), headache, ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome.

DRUG INTERACTIONS
May suppress the secretion of pituitary gonadotropins; dose adjustments of exogenous gonadotropins may be necessary.

PREGNANCY
Category X, not for use in nursing.

MECHANISM OF ACTION
Gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) antagonist; acts by competitively blocking the GnRH receptors on the pituitary gonadotroph and subsequent transduction pathway. It induces a rapid, reversible suppression of gonadotropin secretion.

PHARMACOKINETICS
Absorption: Rapid. Absolute bioavailability (91.1%); T_{max}=1 hr. Administration of variable doses resulted in different parameters. **Distribution:** (IV) V_d=43.7L; plasma protein binding (81.9%). **Metabolism:** 1-4 peptide and 1-6 peptide (primary metabolites). **Elimination:** (IV) Feces (75.1%), urine (22.1%).

ASSESSMENT
Assess for hypersensitivity to the drug, allergic conditions, pregnancy/nursing status, and for possible drug interactions.

MONITORING
Monitor for hypersensitivity and other adverse reactions.

PATIENT COUNSELING
Instruct on proper injection technique. Inform about the duration of treatment, the required monitoring procedures, and the risk of possible adverse reactions. Inform that the medication should not be taken if pregnant; instruct to notify physician if pregnant.

ADMINISTRATION/STORAGE
Administration: SQ route. Refer to PI for administration instructions. **Storage:** 25°C (77°F); excursions permitted to 15-30°C (59-86°F). Protect from light.