



CHRONIC RENAL FAILURE

Saizen® (somatropin) is used in the treatment of Chronic Renal Failure (CRF). This booklet is intended for the parent or carer of a patient with CRF.

MyTreatment
MySaizen®
with easyPod™



Chronic Renal Failure (CRF)

What is it?

The kidneys are two bean-shaped organs, near the middle of the back. They have lots of jobs, including clearing waste from what we eat and drink, so we can produce urine. They also make hormones that keep our bones strong and our blood healthy.

With chronic renal failure, the kidneys don't work very well, which can limit growth. The good thing is this can be helped by taking a growth hormone, like Saizen®.

Why does it happen?

CRF can be caused by a number of conditions, which your child's doctor will be able to discuss with you. They will also be able to run through what treatment options are available.

How can it be treated?

Depending on the cause, your child's doctor may have given them different types of treatments for their condition, including Saizen®, which will replace natural growth hormone and enable them to grow and develop like their friends. So instead of growth hormone being made by the body, they will get a copy of the hormone in their medicine.

What happens next?

Growth hormone doesn't cure CRF but if taken regularly it will help your child's body to grow and develop. It's important they take it as often as their doctor advises so that it works properly – usually every day.

Lifestyle advice. Staying healthy

Finding ways of encouraging your child to eat a variety of healthy foods will help them respond positively to growth hormone therapy. It's also important for your child to get regular exercise and plenty of sleep.

Managing growth hormone treatment

It's important that your child takes their treatment regularly, usually just before they go to bed. This is because the body normally releases growth hormone during the night. Your teen may eventually feel confident enough to administer their own medication. Initially, though, they may need your help and support. Both you and your teen will receive training from your nurse to administer the medication correctly.

Reporting of side effects:

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in the package leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard In the Republic of Ireland, side effects can be reported online at www.hpra.ie

By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.