



# SMALL FOR GESTATIONAL AGE

Saizen® (somatropin) is used in the treatment of patients considered 'small for gestational age' (SGA). This booklet is intended for the parent or carer of a patient with SGA.

**MyTreatment**  
**MySaizen®**  
with easypod™



# Small for Gestational Age



## What is it and how can it be treated?

If a baby is born much smaller than average, doctors may describe them as 'small for gestational age' (SGA). Most babies who weigh less than 2.5kg (5½lb) at full term are considered SGA. Many SGA babies catch up with others of the same age, but if they are still relatively small by the time they're four years old, doctors may suggest growth hormone medicine to help them grow.

## Why does it happen?

There are many different reasons, including things that may have happened in the womb before the child was born.

## How can it be treated?

Growth hormone treatment can help your child grow and catch up with other children their age.

Your child's doctor wants them to take a medicine called Saizen®, which is a copy of the growth hormone that is usually made by the body. So instead of growth hormone being made naturally, your child will get it from medicine.

This will help them grow, so it's important they take it as often as their doctor advises, usually every day.

## Lifestyle advice. Staying healthy

Finding ways of encouraging your child to eat a variety of healthy foods will help them to 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 child may eventually feel confident enough to administer their own medication. Initially, though, they may need your help and support.

## 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](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard) In the Republic of Ireland, side effects can be reported online at [www.hpra.ie](http://www.hpra.ie)

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