



## Fulvestrant (Faslodex®)

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**How drug is given:** By injection on a monthly basis

**Purpose:** To block the estrogen receptor in breast cancer cells of post menopausal women.

### Things that may occur during or within hours of treatment

1. Burning, itching, redness, or swelling at the injection site may occur. These reactions are usually mild and go away. Applying a cold pack to the area may help.
2. Some patients have mild nausea. You may be given medicine to help with this.
3. Hot flashes and/or sweats are common. As your body gets used to the drug, these may not bother you as much. Caffeine, spicy food, alcohol and stress may cause these to get worse. Mild exercise may help.

### Things that may occur a few days to weeks later

1. You may have vaginal dryness which may cause discomfort during sex. Vaginal lubricants such as KY jelly®, Astro Glide®, or Replens® may be helpful. Speak with your doctor or nurse for helpful options if these lubricants do not work.
2. Vaginal dryness may increase your risk of urinary tract infections (UTI). Drink plenty of fluids (water or cranberry juice may be helpful). Report any burning or urgency with urination.

*The above information includes some, but not necessarily all, of the possible side effects of this medication. The side effects in this teaching sheet may not be the same ones you experience. Your side effects may be different, depending on how often you receive treatment (your schedule) and how much you receive each time (your dosage). Side effects may also vary if you take other medications. Please talk with your doctor or nurse if you have questions about possible side effects you may experience. This document should not take the place of conversations with members of your health care team.*

*If you experience any significant change in your health during or after treatment, contact a member of your health care team right away.*