

Warning

This fact sheet aims to let you know the side effects most commonly seen following the administration of your treatment. Please note that when you take any medication, there is a possibility that it causes rare side effects and it is difficult to predict which patients will be affected.

General information for patient Protocol : TAP

Date: February 24, 2012

Revision date: August 2015

Medication	Administration
Doxorubicine	Intravenously over a few minutes on day 1
Cisplatine	Intravenous infusion over a few hours on day 1
Paclitaxel	Intravenous infusion over 3 hours on day 2
<i>Cycle repeated every 3 weeks</i>	

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General information associated with your treatment

- › These medications are used to prevent the multiplication of abnormal cells and destroy them.
- › A **blood test** will be done prior to every treatment cycle. Depending on its results and side effects of the previous treatment, the dose of the medication might be adjusted or the treatment might be delayed.
- › You may experience **fatigue** during your treatments. This is usually only temporary and may be related to different reasons (medication, stress, the disease). Maintain a good level of activity but rest when you feel the need to.
- › Your **appetite may diminish**. Eat more often, in smaller quantities.
- › Your **sense of taste may be altered**. Enhance foods with fine herbs or lemon juice. Eating fruits, chewing non-sugared gums, etc. may mask the metallic taste.
- › Consumption of **alcohol** (in small quantities) is permitted and will not affect the efficacy of the treatments.
- › You can have an **active sexual** life during your treatments. However, a decrease in your sexual drive may occur during this period. This may also be influenced by various factors (fatigue, stress, etc.).
- › For **pre-menopausal female patients**, chemotherapy may cause irregularities or cessation of the menstrual cycle during treatments. After stopping chemotherapy the menstrual cycle may restart or return to normal. It may also stop permanently. However, a pregnancy remains possible and a method of **contraception** is strongly recommended during treatments. Chemotherapy administered during pregnancy may harm the embryo. Breast-feeding is contra-indicated during treatment.
- › Consult your doctor or pharmacist before you take other medications (even over the counter medications available without a prescription) or natural products. These may provoke an interaction with your treatment and diminish its efficacy or increase side effects.
- › Follow the instructions given by your cancer center about the right way to handle and dispose of body fluids (for example urine, stools) in order to protect the environment and your relatives.
- › Be sure to always have at hand the complete list of your medications, dietary supplements, vitamins and other natural health products. Give it to you doctor and your pharmacist. It is important to make them aware of any change.

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Adverse effects	Management
Severe nausea and vomiting may occur and persist up to 5 days following your treatment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You will be prescribed medication to prevent nausea to be taken prior to treatment. At home, you will take medication on a regular basis and as needed for at least 2 days following your treatment.• Communicate with a member of your healthcare team if the nausea or vomiting is not relieved by your medication.
Total loss of body hair will occur, in general, 2 to 3 weeks after the treatment. However, don't worry; your hair will grow back after the treatments have ended.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use a gentle shampoo.
A decrease in white blood cells will occur about 1 to 2 weeks following treatment. You may be at higher risk of infections during this period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wash your hands often.• During this period, avoid coming into contact with people who have contagious diseases.• Quickly contact a member of your healthcare team if you notice any signs of infection (fever, chills, cough, sore throat, pain while you urinate, etc.).• Consult your doctor or go immediately to the Emergency Room if you have a fever of 38,3 °C (101 °F) once or 38 °C (100.4 °F) twice one hour apart.• In case of fever, do not take acetaminophen (ex.: Tylenol[®], Atasol[®]) and anti-inflammatory medication (ex. : Motrin[®], Advil[®]).

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A decrease in platelets will occur about 1 to 2 weeks following treatment. You may bruise or bleed more easily than you normally do.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use a tooth brush with soft bristles.• Check with your pharmacist before taking medications with Aspirin[®], ibuprofen or other anti-inflammatory drugs.• Contact a member of your healthcare team if you bruise more easily than you normally do or if you have a tendency to bleed easily from the nose or the gums.
You may experience allergic reactions associated with paclitaxel during your treatment such as cutaneous eruptions, redness, itchiness, swelling, shortness of breath. These reactions usually occur within the first hour of the infusion and are more common with the first few treatments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medication to prevent allergic reactions will be prescribed prior to treatment.• Notify the nurse immediately if you have difficulty breathing or if you experience swelling of the tongue or the throat during treatment.
You may experience muscle and bone pain that may occur a few days following your treatment. These symptoms usually last for 4 to 7 days.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If this occurs, speak to a member of your healthcare team who will recommend analgesics.
Leg weakness, numbness or tingling of hand and feet may occur. These symptoms usually increase with the number of treatments given.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If these side effects impair your normal daily activities, speak to a member of your healthcare team at your next visit.
Cisplatin may affect your kidneys .	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drink plenty of water or fluid (10-12 glasses (230ml-8oz.) daily for the 48 to 72 hours following your treatment (unless otherwise instructed by your doctor) and urinate frequently.• Notify a member of your healthcare team if you urinate less than normally.
Cisplatin may cause ringing in your ears and rarely hearing loss .	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notify a member of your healthcare team at your next visit.
You may sometimes experience diarrhea , which may start approximately 5 to 8 days after the start of treatment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drink lots of liquids (unless otherwise instructed by your doctor).• Please contact a member of your healthcare team if you have significant diarrhea (more than 3 loose stools per day) for more than 24 hours.

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You may experience shortness of breath, swelling of the ankles and rapid heartbeats.	• If you notice any one these effects, contact a member of your healthcare team as soon as possible.
During your treatment, you may experience some pain, irritation, swelling or burning sensation at the injection site.	• Notify your nurse immediately if you feel any of these symptoms during treatment.

Special considerations

Your **urine** may be a **reddish color** the same day or the day following your treatment. This is normal and corresponds to the elimination of Doxorubicine. Don't worry, it is not blood.

After your treatment, it is recommended that you do not drive a vehicle or perform activities requiring attention, as you might feel sleepy or dizzy.

Pharmacist: _____

Phone: _____

From ___ h to ___ h (Monday to Friday)