

### 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 Patients Eribulin

**Date :** June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Revision:** November 2015

Medication	Administration
Eribulin	Intravenous infusion over a few minutes on day 1 and day 8
<i>Cycle repeated every 3 weeks</i>	

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## General Information associated with your treatment

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- › This medication is used to prevent the multiplication of abnormal cells and destroy them.
- › A **blood test** will be done prior to every treatment. Depending on its results and side effects of the previous treatment, the dose of medication might be adjusted or treatment might be delayed.
- › Your **appetite may diminish**. Eat more often, in smaller quantities.
- › Your **sense of taste may be altered**. Enhance foods with herbs or lemon juice. Eating fruits and non sugared candies, chewing non-sugared gums, etc., may mask the metallic taste.
- › **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. Your partner will not be exposed to, nor harmed by chemotherapy effects. However, a decrease in your sexual drive may occur during this period. This may also be influenced by different factors (fatigue, stress etc.).
- › For **male patients**, the sperm count may be affected and have a negative effect on the embryo. In fact, the production of spermatozoids may be reduced or completely absent during treatments. In certain patients, this reduction of fertility may be permanent, may get better or return to normal after the treatments have stopped. This reduction of **fertility** does not prevent erection or sexual activity.
- › In **pre-menopausal female patients** chemotherapy may cause irregularities or cessation of the **menstrual cycle** during treatment. The menstrual cycle may restart or return to normal after the end of treatment. It may also stop permanently. However, a pregnancy remains possible and chemotherapy administered during pregnancy may harm the embryo. A birth control method is strongly recommended during treatment. Breast-feeding is contra-indicated during treatment.
- › Follow the instructions given by your cancer center about the right way to handle and dispose of biological fluids (for example urine, stools) in order to protect the environment and your relatives.
- › Be sure to always have on hand the complete list of your medications, dietary supplements, vitamins and other natural health products. Give it to your doctor and your pharmacist. It is important to make them aware of any change.
- › Consult your doctor or pharmacist before you take other medications (even over the counter medications available without a prescription) or natural health products. These may provoke an interaction with your treatment and diminish its efficacy or increase side effects.

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Adverse effects	Management
<b>Nausea</b> , usually light, may occur the same day or the day following your treatment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>› Before your treatment, medication to prevent nausea may be prescribed. At home, you may have to take medication as needed for 1 or 2 days or more, as needed.</li><li>› Communicate with a member of your healthcare team if your medication does not relieve your nausea.</li></ul>
Depending on the individual, a <b>partial or total hair loss</b> may occur. In general, this happens 2 to 3 weeks after the start of the treatment. However, don't worry; your hair will grow back after treatments have ended.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>› Use gentle shampoo.</li><li>› Avoid brushing hair vigorously.</li><li>› Avoid hair spray, dyes and perms.</li></ul>
A decrease in the <b>white blood cells</b> count will occur about 2 weeks following your treatment. You may be at higher risk to contract infections during this period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>› Wash your hands often.</li><li>› During this period, avoid coming into contact with people who have contagious diseases.</li><li>› Quickly contact a member of your healthcare team if you notice any signs of infection (fever, chills, cough, sore throat, pain while urinating...).</li><li>› Consult your doctor or go immediately to the Emergency Room if you have a fever 38,3 °C (101°F) once or 38 °C (100,4 °F) twice an hour apart.</li><li>› In case of fever, do not take acetaminophen (ex.: Tylenol®, Atasol®) and anti-inflammatory medication (ex.: Motrin®, Advil®).</li></ul>
You may experience <b>fatigue</b> with or without weakness and dizziness during your treatments. This is usually only temporary and may be related to various reasons (medication, stress, the disease, anemia, dehydration, etc.).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>› Maintain a good level of activity but rest when you feel the need to.</li><li>› If you feel tired, communicate with a member of your healthcare team.</li></ul>

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You may experience <b>numbness or tingling of the hands and feet</b> . This phenomenon usually increases with the number of treatments received and may persist for weeks and months after the end of the treatment.	› If you experience these symptoms, notify a member of your healthcare team at your next visit.
You may experience <b>constipation</b> .	› Exercise if possible. › Drink lots of fluids (at least 8 glasses a day unless otherwise instructed by your doctor). › Eat foods that are rich in fibre (cereals, fruits and vegetables). › Communicate with a member of your healthcare team who, if necessary, will prescribe the appropriate laxatives.
You may experience <b>muscle, bone and joint pain</b> that may occur a few days following your treatment.	› If this occurs, speak to a member of your healthcare team who will recommend analgesics.
<b>Fever</b> may occur a few hours following your treatment.	› If these symptoms bother you, your doctor or pharmacist may recommend a pain killer such as acetaminophen (Tylenol®, Atasol®). › Fever which occurs more than 24 hours after your treatment may be a sign of infection. Consult immediately your doctor or go to the Emergency Room.
You may experience <b>rapid or irregular heartbeat</b> .	› Notify a member of your healthcare team as soon as possible.

Pharmacist: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_ AM to \_\_\_\_\_ PM (Monday to Friday)