

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 Panitumumab

Date : *October 2013*

Revision: *December 2016*

Medication	Administration
Panitumumab	Intravenous infusion over 60 to 90 minutes*. * If the first dose is well tolerated, subsequent doses may be administered over 30 minutes.
<hr/> <i>Repeated every 2 weeks</i> <hr/>	

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General Information associated with your treatment

- › Panitumumab is used to prevent the multiplication of abnormal cells and destroy them.
- › A **blood test** will be done before 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 fine herbs or lemon juice. Eating fruits, 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.).
- › It is not known if panitumumab may affect the embryo if administered during pregnancy. A method of contraception is strongly recommended during treatments. Breast-feeding is contra-indicated during the whole duration of treatment.
- › 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.
- › 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.

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Adverse effects and their management

Adverse effects	Management
Rarely, slight nausea may occur the same day or the day following your treatment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">› As deemed necessary, you may be prescribed medication to be taken prior to treatment for the prevention of nausea. You may also be prescribed medication to be taken at home as needed.› Contact a member of your healthcare team if you have nausea that bothers you.
Usually there is no hair loss with this treatment.	
<p>Skin reactions may occur 1 to 2 weeks after starting your treatment. These reactions may present as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">› A skin rash might appear mainly in the face, the neck, and the upper part of the body. This reaction looks like acnea and usually disappears within a few weeks after the end of the treatment.› Your skin may become drier. Redness and itchiness may develop.› Your skin may become more sensitive to the sun.	<p>To help to prevent or to reduce these reactions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">› Cleanse with fragrance-free, alcohol-free mild soaps or cleansers or bath or shower oils to avoid skin dryness.› Apply twice a day a thick, moisturizing cream on skin, such as Aveeno® lotion, Neutrogena® Norwegian Formula hand cream or Vaseline Intensive Care® Advanced Healing Lotion.› Use only fragrance-free, alcohol-free, and dye-free lotions and cosmetics.› Use make up recommended by dermatologists for masking skin problems.› Remove make up with a mild cleaning product.› Avoid over the counter products for acnea as they can dry skin.› Avoid exposure to the sun. If you have to go under the sun, wear a hat and clothes with long sleeves.› Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen (SPF of 30 or more) until 2 months after the end of your treatment. <p>If despite all these measures, skin reactions appear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">› Contact a member of your healthcare team who can recommend appropriate treatment.

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Nail changes as well as redness and pain around the nails may occur. This problem generally happens 4 to 8 weeks after the treatment begins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">› Wear comfortable and wide shoes in order to avoid rubbing or pressure on the nails.› Avoid nail biting and do not cut your nails too short.› If nail changes occur or if you experience pain or you lose a nail, speak to a member of your healthcare team.
You may experience fatigue during your treatments. This is usually only temporary and may be related to different reasons (medication, stress, the disease).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">› Maintain a good level of activity but rest when you feel the need to.
Abdominal pain can occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">› Immediately tell a member of your healthcare team or go to the Emergency Room if you experience severe abdominal pain along with nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.
You may sometimes experience diarrhea .	<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.
Rarely, you may experience infusion-related reactions with panitumumab. The most common reactions are fever and chills but hives, itching, hot flashes, difficulty breathing, headache, dizziness, nausea, changes in your blood pressure, swelling of the tongue or throat may also happen. These symptoms, usually mild to moderate, are more frequent during the first infusion and less common with subsequent infusions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">› Notify the nurse immediately if you experience these symptoms during the administration of the drug. Medication can be given to alleviate these symptoms.
If you experience cough with or without persisting fever and sudden shortness of breath .	<ul style="list-style-type: none">› Contact a member of your healthcare team as soon as possible or go to Emergency Room.
Eye problems like pain, redness, blurred vision or decreased vision may rarely occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">› Quickly contact a member of your healthcare team.

Pharmacist : _____ **Phone:** _____ (Monday to Friday)