

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 Cisplatin – fluorouracil (5FU) – trastuzumab (trastuzumab maintenance)

Date: *October 2016*

Revision:

Medication	Administration
Trastuzumab	Intravenous infusion over 30 minutes* *First dose is always administered over 90 minutes.
<i>Treatment repeated every 3 weeks</i>	

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General Information associated with your treatment

- › Trastuzumab is used to prevent the multiplication of abnormal cells and destroy them.
- › A **blood test** will be done prior to every cycle if needed.
- › 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.
- › **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. A birth control method is strongly recommended during treatment and up to 7 months after the end 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** or if you need to receive a **vaccine**. 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
Usually there is no hair loss with this treatment.	
You may experience allergic reactions with trastuzumab. Fever and chills are relatively frequent during the first infusion. Nausea, pain, cough, headaches, dizziness, trembling, cutaneous eruptions may also occur.	› Notify the nurse if these symptoms occur during the administration of the drug. Medications can be given to alleviate these symptoms.
Rare adverse effects that can be severe or serious to communicate quickly to your doctor	
You may experience shortness of breath, swelling of the ankles and rapid heartbeats. This could be related to some harmful effects of trastuzumab on your heart.	› If you notice any one these effects, contact a member of your healthcare team as soon as possible. › Furthermore, you will have to do a cardiac test to evaluate your heart regularly.

Pharmacist: _____

Phone: _____

from ____ h to ____ h (Monday to Friday)