

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 Liposomal pegylated Doxorubicin + Carboplatin

Date : *October 2014*

Revision date: *November 2016*

Medication	Administration
Liposomal Doxorubicin	Intravenous infusion over 60 minutes (first infusion may last longer)
Carboplatin	Intravenous infusion over 30 to 60 minutes depending on the dose

Cycle repeated every 4 weeks

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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. Depending on the 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 *fines herbes* 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.)
- › 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. The menstrual cycle 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 and their management

Adverse effects	Management
Significant nausea and vomiting may occur mainly on the same day and the day 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 during 1 or 2 days following your treatment, depending on your need.› Communicate with a member of your healthcare team if the nausea or vomiting is not relieved by your medication.
Depending on the individual, a partial or total hair loss 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">› Use gentle shampoo.› Avoid brushing hair vigorously.› Avoid hair spray, dyes and perms.
A decrease in the white blood cells will occur about 2 to 3 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.› Contact a member of your healthcare team quickly if you notice any signs of infection (fever, chills, cough, sore throat, pain while urinating...)› 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.› In case of fever, do not take acetaminophen (Ex: Tylenol®, Atasol®) and anti-inflammatory medication (Ex : Motrin®, Advil®).
A decrease in platelets will occur about 2 to 3 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.

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<p>Ulcers in the mouth and the throat may appear approximately 7 to 10 days following the start of your treatment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">› Gently and regularly brush your teeth after each meal and at bedtime.› Rinse your mouth with a solution of water and salt with or without baking soda. Gargle 4 times a day – after every meal and at bedtime. Do not drink or eat for one hour after you gargle.› Mouthwashes without alcohol found in stores are a good alternative.› If you notice ulcers, redness or painful areas in your mouth, contact a member of your healthcare team.
<p>Leg weakness, numbness or tingling of hand and feet may occur. These symptoms usually increase with the number of treatments given.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">› If you experience these symptoms, speak to a member of your healthcare team at your next visit.
<p>Hand and foot syndrome may appear during your treatment. You may experience numbness, tingling, swelling, redness on your hands and feet. Pain, blisters, desquamation may accompany these symptoms.</p>	<p>To prevent this syndrome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">› Avoid wearing tight clothes or shoes. Wear absorbent sponge rubber soles, and/or gel pads to relieve pressure points.› Pat dry your hands and feet rather than rubbing them.› Wear light clothing or keep skin free of clothing to avoid perspiring.› Wear rubber gloves while washing dishes› Wash your hands and feet in lukewarm water; avoid hot water.› Moisturize your skin regularly using a non perfumed emollient and thick cream.› Avoid activities that require applying pressure and repetitive friction on your hands and feet. <p>If symptoms occur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">› If these symptoms occur and affect your daily activities, notify a member of your healthcare team as soon as possible. Your pharmacist or doctor will recommend appropriate treatment to relieve your symptoms.

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You may experience constipation .	<ul style="list-style-type: none">› Exercise if possible.› Drink lots of liquids (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 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.› If you have with diarrhea with fever, contact immediately a member of your health care team.
You may experience infusion-related reactions with liposomal doxorubicin, especially during the first infusion. You may experience hot flashes, shortness of breath, headache, chills, back pain, chest or throat tightness, variation of blood pressure, swelling of the face. These symptoms are less likely to happen with subsequent infusions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">› Notify the nurse if these symptoms occur during the administration of the drug. Medication 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 liposomal doxorubicin on your heart. This effect usually increases with the number of treatments given.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">› 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.
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Special Consideration

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

Pharmacist : _____

Phone: _____ (From _____ AM to _____ PM (Monday to Friday))