

Patient Education

Medication Information



Cisplatin

(Platinol[®])

What is Cisplatin?

Cisplatin is a chemotherapy drug used to treat a variety of cancers. It can be given alone or in combination with other drugs.

How will I receive Cisplatin?

Cisplatin is given as an injection in your vein (IV).

What are the common side effects?

Please see chapter 5, “Managing Symptoms at Home,” in the manual.

What You May Expect	What You Should Do
<p>Nausea and vomiting are common during treatment, and may persist for 48 to 72 hours after.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You will be given medications to help you better tolerate these side effects.• See the “Nausea” section of the manual.
<p>Decreased blood counts (lowered platelets, red and white blood cells) may occur. You may feel weak and tired. You may develop infections more easily and may bruise more easily.</p> <p>Your health care providers will test your blood frequently to monitor your blood counts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report any signs of infection, fever, and unusual bleeding or bruising.

<p>Numbness or tingling in your hands and/or feet, similar to when your foot goes to sleep, may occur.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tell your nurse or doctor at your next visit, as there are other medications that may be helpful in decreasing this side effect.
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These are the most common side effects. Others may occur. Please report any problems to your doctor, pharmacist, or nurse.

Call and Seek Help Immediately If You Have:

- Signs of an infection such as fever, chills, cough, pain or burning when you urinate.
- Signs of uncontrolled bleeding such as black tarry stools, blood in the urine, or severe bruising.

Contact Your Nurse or Doctor If You Have:

- Uncontrolled nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Redness, swelling, or pain at the site where the needle was placed.
- Yellowing of the skin or eyes.
- Vision changes.
- Problems with your hearing, such as ringing in your ears.

Special Instructions

To protect your kidneys while you are receiving Cisplatin, you will receive additional intravenous fluids. Drink 8 to 10 glasses of fluid on the day you receive your medication, and for 1 to 2 days after. You may have additional blood and urine tests performed during your treatment. Please report to your doctor if you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Use contraception when receiving chemotherapy.

Talk to your doctor or nurse about any additional questions.

Questions?

Call _____

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or health care provider if you have questions or concerns. UWMC Clinic staff are also available to help at any time.

Drug-Drug Interactions

The anti-seizure medications phenytoin (Dilantin[®]) and carbamazepine (Tegretol[®]) interact with Cisplatin. Inform your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you are taking these or any other medications. Check with your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist before starting any new medications.

Drug-Food Interactions

None known at this time.

For more complete information, please request an additional teaching sheet from the National Library of Medicine at www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginformation.html, your nurse, pharmacist, or visit the Resource Center.

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A member of the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, a collaboration of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, the University of Washington and Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center