

ABOUT your medicine

Vinorelbine is an anti-cancer agent that inhibits microtubule formation, thereby preventing cancer cell division. It is commonly used to treat non-small cell lung cancer.

PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

HOW is the medicine given?

It is given by injecting into a vein.

VINORELBINE

What are the possible **SIDE-EFFECTS** of the medicine?

- Mild hair loss
- Mild to moderate nausea, vomiting
- Constipation (can be severe)
- Diarrhoea
- Abdominal cramps
- Loss of appetite
- Metallic taste
- Decrease in platelet count, white blood cell count and red blood cell count which may take place about 7 days after chemotherapy but would increase gradually to normal within 21 days
- Numbness, pain or tingling of fingers or toes, muscle pain, jaw pain
- Temporary decrease in white blood cells and platelets
- Pain at injection site. Notify the nursing staff if this occurs.

What **PRECAUTIONS** should I take?

Avoid constipation by drinking at least 8 glasses of fluids daily. You may need to use stool softeners prescribed to you by your doctor.

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Keep all medication out of reach of children

Discard all medication that has expired or is no longer required

Come back to the hospital if you have:

- A temperature that exceeds 38 degrees Celsius
- Mouth ulcers that do not heal within 3 days
- Excessive vomiting / diarrhoea despite taking medicine
- Severe constipation
- Pain, numbness or tingling in fingers or toes (take care to prevent injury)

Come back to the hospital for regular blood test/s as instructed by the doctor.

Maintain adequate hydration (2-3 liters of fluid a day, unless otherwise advised by the doctor) and nutrition (small frequent meals will help).

Avoid crowds and do not go near people with infections during neutropenic (low white cell count) period.

Avoid half-cooked or uncooked foods. If you wish to take salad or fruits, wash them yourself. There are no other specific food restrictions.

Do not take any alternative medicines without informing your doctor.

Observe oral hygiene. Gargle mouth with water after each meal and use a soft-bristled toothbrush.

Avoid hot, scalding soups and beverages.

Avoid breast-feeding.

Contraceptive measures are recommended during therapy as this drug may cause harm to the developing baby.

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Information is correct at time of printing and subject to revision without prior notice.

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