

Medical Oncology

Drug Information Sheet

Bendamustine (Belrapzo; Bendeka; Treanda): a drug to treat your cancer.

How will you get this drug? A Cancer Care nurse will give this drug to you through an IV or your port.

You **MAY OR MAY NOT** experience the side effects listed below

Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
Increased risk for infection due to decreased blood counts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid contact with people who have infections, colds or flu. • Wash your hands often. • Report chills or a fever of 100.4° or higher to your doctor right away, day or night. • Report any signs or symptoms of infection, such as cough, burning with urination, skin redness or sores. • Call your doctor before taking any medicine for a fever or chills.
Increased risk for bleeding due to decreased blood counts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report signs of bleeding or bruising. • Avoid taking aspirin or aspirin products unless your doctor tells you to take it. • Use soft toothbrush. • Use electric razor. • Talk to your doctor before any scheduled medical or dental procedures.
Nausea/vomiting Decreased appetite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take nausea medicine as instructed. Let your doctor know if it is not working for you. • Eat smaller, frequent meals. • Try liquid nutritional supplements (Boost, Ensure) • A dietitian is available to talk with you.
Fatigue or weakness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may be more tired than usual or have less energy. • Stay as active as possible, but know it is okay to rest as needed. • Try to do some activity every day. • Plan your activities, and do them at a time of day when you feel more energetic. • Avoid driving or doing other tasks that call for you to be alert.
Diarrhea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep well hydrated with water or fluids. • Take over the counter anti-diarrhea medicine (Immodium A-D™ or loperamide HCL). Use the “<i>Helpful Tips for Diarrhea after Chemotherapy or Radiation Therapy</i>” instruction sheet. • Call your doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More than 4 loose stools in 24 hours ○ A fever of 100.4° or higher ○ bad stomach pain or cramps ○ dizziness or feel faint ○ bloody stools (dark, tarry or sticky)

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Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
Liver problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab results will be monitored. • Call your doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ dark urine (tea colored) ○ severe right sided stomach pain ○ light colored stools ○ bruising or if you start to bleed easily ○ yellowing of skin or eyes ○ severe nausea or throwing up ○ unexplained weight gain ○ your belly feels big or bloated
Fever/shivering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink non-caffeine fluids to stay well hydrated. • Report chills or a fever of 100.4° or higher to your doctor right away, day or night. • Report any signs or symptoms of infection, such as cough, burning with urination, skin redness or sores. • Call your doctor before taking any medicine for a fever or chills.
<i>Bendamustine (Belrapzo; Bendeka; Treanda)</i> will be in urine and stool for 48 hours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caregivers will need to handle soiled linens and clothing wearing gloves or using a bag as a barrier. • Keep your soiled items separate from others' dirty laundry and wash right away. • Women who are pregnant should not handle your soiled clothing or linens. • Wash any skin that body waste has touched with soap and water. • You may use the same toilet that you normally use. • If the toilet or toilet seat becomes dirty with urine, stool or vomit, clean the surfaces before other people use the toilet • Wash hands with soap and water after using the toilet. • It is safe to hug and kiss
Avoid pregnancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This drug may cause harm to the unborn baby if you take it while you are pregnant. If you are pregnant or you get pregnant while taking this drug, call your doctor right away. • Use birth control that you can trust to prevent pregnancy while taking this drug and for 6 months after stopping this drug. • If you or your sex partner gets pregnant, while taking this drug or within 6 months after stopping this drug, call your doctor right away. • May cause fertility problems.

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Less common side effects that may happen	<u>What to do:</u>
Stinging or burning if drug gets out of vein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell your nurse right away, if you have redness, burning, pain, swelling, or leaking of fluid where the drug is going into your body. • The drug can cause severe damage to the tissue at the IV site.
Severe skin and mouth reactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a moisturizing cream free from alcohol, perfume or dye at least twice a day. • When outside, use sunscreen and wear clothing and eyewear that protects you from the sun. • Choose mild soaps. • Call your doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin (with or without fever) or a rash ○ red or irritated eyes ○ sores in your mouth, throat, nose or eyes
Infusion-related reactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call the nurse right away for unusual feelings, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ hot or flushed face and neck ○ fever 100.4° or higher ○ chills ○ pain in the abdomen or back ○ trouble breathing or wheezing ○ chest tightness ○ swelling of your face, lips or tongue ○ a rash ○ itching ○ hives ○ cough ○ runny or stuffy nose • You will receive medicines before your treatment to help prevent a reaction. There will be a one-hour wait after your pre-medicines before you receive your treatment. • You will be observed for one hour after your treatment is finished. • Call 911 or go to the Emergency Department right away if you have any symptoms after you return home.
Hepatitis B reactivation	Your doctor will do blood tests to check for Hepatitis B before starting <i>Bendamustine (Belrapzo; Bendeka; Treanda)</i> and monitor you throughout your treatment.
Increased risk for bone marrow problems or another cancer Leukemia, MDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to your doctor about your concerns. • Be sure your family doctor knows you have received chemotherapy medicine.

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Less common side effects that may happen	<u>What to do:</u>
Changes in electrolytes and other lab values Low potassium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your lab values will be checked. • Call you doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ muscle pain or weakness ○ heartbeat that does not feel normal
Tumor Lysis Syndrome Caused by rapid tumor cell death	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink non-caffeine fluids to stay well hydrated. • Call your doctor right away if you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ have a fast heartbeat or a heartbeat that does not feel normal ○ pass out ○ have trouble passing urine ○ have muscle weakness or cramps ○ have an upset stomach ○ are throwing up ○ have loose stools ○ fever ○ chills ○ confusion ○ shortness of breath ○ seizure ○ dark or cloudy urine ○ unusual tiredness
These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor.	