

Medical Oncology

Drug Information Sheet

Bevacizumab (avastin, Mvasi and Zirabev): 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. The first dose will be given over 90 minutes. The second dose will be given over 60 minutes. The rest of the doses will take 30 minutes or less.

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.
Wounds that do not heal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You should NOT have elective surgery while on <i>bevacizumab</i> • <i>bevacizumab</i> should be stopped for at least 28 days prior to any surgery procedure. • <i>bevacizumab</i> should not be taken for at least 28 days following any surgery or until adequate wound healing.
High Blood Pressure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let your primary care doctor know that you are taking <i>bevacizumab</i>. • Your blood pressure will be monitored. • Contact your doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ headaches ○ shortness of breath ○ nosebleeds ○ dizziness or passing out ○ change in eyesight
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.

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Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
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>How to manage diarrhea during chemotherapy</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)
Headache	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can begin during treatment and lasts 24-72 hours. • Usually decreases after first few infusions. • Use pain medicine as prescribed. Call your doctor if the pain is not under control. Do not take Aspirin. • Call your doctor if your headache <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Follows a head injury ○ lasts more than 48 hours ○ is severe or starts suddenly ○ is associated with vomiting, visual disturbance, neck stiffness, drowsiness, confusion, rash, weakness in arm or leg, or numbness ○ is made worse by coughing or lowering the head.
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.
Bone, muscle, joint pain	Use pain prescription as directed. Notify your doctor if the pain is uncontrolled.
Bleeding problems (bloody nose)	Call your doctor if you have signs of bleeding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ bad headache, dizziness or weakness ○ coughing up blood or blood clots ○ vomiting blood or your vomit looks like coffee grounds ○ red or black stools that look like tar or are sticky ○ menstrual bleeding that is heavier than normal ○ unusual or heavy bleeding that you cannot stop
Protein in urine.	Lab tests will be done to check your urine

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Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
Bevacizumab 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 has been touched by body waste 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.

Less common side effects that may happen	What to do:
Tears in the stomach or intestine	Call your doctor right away if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ severe, ongoing abdominal pain ○ fever 100.4° or higher ○ stomach pain that does not go away ○ a change in your bowel habits
Eye problems	Call your doctor right away if you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ have blurred vision, loss of vision or other vision changes ○ see color dots ○ see a halo (seeing blurred outline around objects) ○ have eye pain, swelling, or redness of eyes ○ have watery eyes ○ are bothered by bright lights

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Less common side effects that may happen	<u>What to do:</u>
<p>Osteonecrosis of the jaw Injury to jaw bone</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important to practice good mouth care. • Before you have dental work, call the Cancer Care Center and talk to your treatment team. • Call you doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ any loose teeth ○ tooth pain or swelling ○ signs of a mouth infection (sores or drainage) ○ jaw pain
<p>PRES/RPLS Rare swelling in the back part of the brain</p>	<p>Call your doctor if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ loss of eyesight ○ confusion ○ headache ○ lethargy ○ seizure ○ visual or neurologic disturbances
<p>Allergic reactions</p>	<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 ○ 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 <p>After you go home, call 911 and go to the Emergency Department right away if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trouble breathing • chest tightness • swelling of your face, lips, or tongue <p>Call you doctor if you develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a rash • itching • hives

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Less common side effects that may happen	<u>What to do:</u>
Blood clots (stroke, heart attack, angina-chest pain)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink 6-8 glasses of water and non-caffeine beverages a day. • Staying active by walking or doing mild exercise can decrease your risk for blood clots. • Avoid air travel or long car rides for several days after your infusion. • Call the doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ pain, swelling, redness or warmth in an arm or leg ○ unexplained shortness of breath ○ decreased vision in one eye ○ difficulty speaking ○ chest pain or discomfort ○ unexplained rapid heart rate ○ numbness or weakness on one side of the body.
Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) or Cardiomyopathy	A rare side effect could cause weakening of the heart muscle. Call the doctor or nurse right away if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ any shortness of breath ○ increased or unexplained cough ○ swelling in feet or legs ○ sudden weight gain of more than 3 pounds in a day ○ chest discomfort
These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor.	