

Medical Oncology

Drug Information Sheet

Carboplatin (paraplatin): 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.
Lower than normal red blood cells Anemia	Call you doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ shortness of breath with activity ○ fatigue ○ dizziness ○ fast heartbeat or a heartbeat that does not feel normal ○ headache
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 nutrition supplements (Boost, Ensure) • A dietitian is available to talk with you.
Changes in electrolytes and other lab values Low calcium levels Low potassium levels Low sodium levels Low magnesium levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your lab values will be checked. • Call you doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ feeling confused ○ mood changes ○ muscle pain or weakness ○ heartbeat that does not feel normal ○ seizures ○ very bad upset stomach or throwing up
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.

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Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
Serious allergic 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 ○ 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 • Call 911 and go to the Emergency Department right away if you have any symptoms after you return home: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ trouble breathing ○ chest tightness ○ swelling of your face, lips, or tongue • Call you doctor if you develop: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a rash ○ itching ○ hives
Carboplatin 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>
Neuropathy Numbness or tingling in hands or feet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell the doctor if this occurs or worsens. • Be careful because you may not feel an injury to your hands or feet that have reduced feeling or numbness. • Check areas that are numb for redness or open sores. Do this every day. • Apply cream or lotion to your hands and feet. • Avoid wearing tight footwear. • Avoid standing for long periods of time. • May continue even after treatment has stopped. • These nerve problems can get worse the more times you get this drug. • Sometimes, these nerve problems have not gone back to normal.
Hearing loss (rare)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell your doctor if you have any signs of decreased hearing.
Changes in kidney function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kidney function can be affected. • Electrolytes and kidney function will be evaluated with each visit. • Dose may be held or adjusted if kidney function is decreased. • Talk to you doctor before taking NSAIDs (Ibuprofen, Motrin, Aleve). • To help maintain good kidney function stay well hydrated with water and non-caffeine liquids. • Notify your doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ changes in mood or confusion. ○ smaller amount of urine than normal. ○ blood in urine. ○ swelling in ankles. ○ trouble emptying your bladder. ○ weight gain. ○ painful urination.
Vision changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call your doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A change in eyesight. ○ Loss of eyesight. ○ Uncontrolled eye movements. ○ Seeing flashes of light. ○ Blurry vision. ○ Light hurting your eyes. ○ New or increased floaters.
These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor.	