

# Medical Oncology

## Drug Information Sheet

**Denosumab (Prolia):** A treatment your doctor has ordered for you. This medicine is used to treat soft brittle bones in patients with osteoporosis or bone loss from anti-hormone therapy.

**How will you get this drug?** A Cancer Center nurse will give this drug to you subcutaneously (injection) at the cancer center.

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

Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
<b>Denosumab (Prolia) will be in urine and stool for 48 hours.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caregivers will need to handle soiled linens and clothing wearing gloves or using a bag as a barrier.</li> <li>Keep your soiled items separate from others' dirty laundry and wash right away.</li> <li>Women who are pregnant should not handle your soiled clothing or linens.</li> <li>Wash any skin that body waste has touched with soap and water.</li> <li>You may use the same toilet that you normally use.</li> <li>If the toilet or toilet seat becomes dirty with urine, stool or vomit, clean the surfaces before other people use the toilet</li> <li>Wash hands with soap and water after using the toilet.</li> <li><b>It is safe to hug and kiss.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Avoid pregnancy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>Use birth control that you can trust to prevent pregnancy while taking this drug and for <b>5</b> months after stopping this drug.</li> <li>If you or your sex partner gets pregnant while taking this drug or within <b>5</b> months after stopping this drug, call your doctor right away.</li> <li>May cause fertility problems.</li> </ul>

Less common side effects that may happen

Less common side effects	What to do:
<b>Broken bones after stopping Denosumab (Prolia)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After this drug is stopped, the chance of a broken bone is raised. This includes bones in the spine.</li> <li>Do not stop treatment with this drug without talking to your doctor.</li> <li>You are at greater risk if you have osteoporosis</li> </ul>
<b>Rare thigh bone fractures</b>	Call your doctor if you develop new pain in your hip, groin, or thigh.

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<b>Less common side effects</b>	<b>What to do:</b>
<b>Increased risk for infection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid contact with people who have infections, colds or flu.</li> <li>• Wash your hands often.</li> <li>• Report chills or a fever of 100.4° or higher to your doctor right away, day or night.</li> <li>• Report any signs or symptoms of infection, such as cough, burning with urination, skin redness or sores.</li> <li>• Call your doctor before taking any medicine for a fever or chills.</li> </ul>
<b>Osteonecrosis of the jaw</b> Injury to jaw bone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You should see your dentist before getting <i>Denosumab</i> (<i>Xgeva, Prolia</i>).</li> <li>• It is important to practice good mouth care.</li> <li>• Before you have dental work, call the Cancer Care Center and talk to your treatment team.</li> <li>• Call you doctor if you have:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ any loose teeth</li> <li>○ tooth pain or swelling</li> <li>○ signs of a mouth infection (sores or drainage)</li> <li>○ jaw pain</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Serious allergic reactions</b>	<p>After you return home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call 911 and go to the Emergency Department right away if you have any symptoms:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ trouble breathing</li> <li>○ chest tightness</li> <li>○ swelling of your face, lips, or tongue</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Call you doctor if you develop:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ a rash</li> <li>○ itching</li> <li>○ hives</li> <li>○ fever</li> <li>○ chills</li> <li>○ pain in the abdomen or back</li> <li>○ cough</li> <li>○ runny or stuffy nose</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>High Calcium levels</b>	<p>Call your doctor if you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ have nausea or vomiting</li> <li>○ have diarrhea</li> <li>○ have bone pain</li> <li>○ have muscle weakness</li> <li>○ have feelings of confusion</li> <li>○ are more thirsty than normal</li> <li>○ are more hungry than normal</li> <li>○ pass urine more often than usual</li> <li>○ have a headache</li> </ul>

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<b>Skin rash or itching</b>	<b>What to do:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use moisturizing lotions to keep skin hydrated especially after bathing.</li><li>• Use tepid water, rather than hot water.</li><li>• Wear loose-fitting cotton clothing</li><li>• Use over-the-counter anti-inflammation and anti-itch creams (hydrocortisone cream or diphenhydramine)</li><li>• Apply cool, wet cloth to soothe skin</li><li>• Avoid using perfumes and cologne.</li><li>• Avoid rubbing and scratching</li><li>• Drink water and non-caffeine beverages.</li><li>• Notify your doctor of rash, itching or swelling. This may occur on the face and can be around your eyes.</li></ul>
<b>Bone, muscle, joint pain</b>	Use pain prescription as directed. Notify your doctor if the pain is uncontrolled.
<b>These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor.</b>	