

Medical Oncology

Drug Information Sheet

Nivolumab (Opdivo): An anticancer treatment your doctor has ordered for you. This medicine works with your immune system to kill the cancer cells. It may also affect the healthy and normal cells within your body even after treatment has stopped.

How will you get this drug? A Cancer Center 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.
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
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.
Increased blood sugar levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your lab work will be monitored • Call your doctor if you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ have feelings of confusion ○ are feeling more sleepy than normal ○ are more thirsty than normal ○ are more hungry than normal ○ pass urine more often than usual ○ have fast breathing ○ have breath that smells like fruit

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Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
Liver problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab work will be checked • 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
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.
Changes in electrolytes and other lab values Low potassium levels Low sodium levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab work will be checked. • Call your doctor if you have signs of low potassium: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ weakness ○ fatigue ○ muscle cramps or twitching ○ constipation ○ heart beat that does not feel normal • Call your doctor if you have signs of low blood sodium: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ headache ○ trouble focusing ○ problems with your memory ○ feelings of confusion ○ change in balance ○ weakness
Increased triglyceride levels Type of fat found in your blood	Your blood levels will be checked.
Diarrhea or Colitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep well hydrated with water or fluids recommended by your care team. • Do NOT take over the counter anti-diarrhea medicine Immodium A-D™ (loperamide HCL) • Call your doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ severe abdominal pain ○ bloody stools (dark, tarry or sticky) ○ more than 4 loose stools a day ○ nausea

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Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
Bone, muscle, joint pain	Use pain prescription as directed. Notify your doctor if the pain is uncontrolled.
Cough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take your medications as prescribed. • Stop smoking and avoid things around you that cause you to cough. • You may try using a humidifier to keep your throat and nasal passages moist if you have a chronic, persistent dry cough. • If it is okay with your doctor, you may try using cough drops or an over the counter cough syrup. • Get plenty of rest and drink plenty of fluids. • Call your doctor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ for a cough that gets worse or will not go away. ○ for a temperature greater than 100.4°. ○ if you have an increase in shortness of breath or trouble breathing. ○ if you have labored and more rapid breathing.
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.
Nivolumab (opdivo) 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.

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Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
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 5 months after stopping this drug. • If you or your sex partner gets pregnant while taking this drug or within 5 months after stopping this drug, call your doctor right away. • May cause fertility problems.

Less common side effects that may happen	What to do:
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. • Use tepid water, rather than hot water. • Wear loose-fitting cotton clothing. • Apply cool, wet cloth to soothe skin. • Avoid using perfumes and cologne. • Avoid rubbing and scratching. • Call your doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A skin rash that bothers you or does not go away. ○ red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin ○ red or irritated eyes ○ sores in your mouth, throat, nose or eyes • Your doctor may prescribe steroids
Hormone and gland problems (adrenal glands, pituitary, thyroid, or pancreas)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call your doctor if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ You have changes in vision. ○ Bright lights hurt your eyes. ○ You have extreme tiredness. ○ You have changes in mood or behavior. ○ You have a deeper voice than usual. ○ Headache that will not go away or unusual headaches. ○ Body aches. ○ Loss of body hair. ○ Rapid heartbeat. ○ Increased sweating. ○ Weight gain or weight loss. ○ Dizziness or fainting. ○ Nausea or vomiting.

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Less common side effects that may happen	<u>What to do:</u>
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 • This is usually not an allergic reaction. This is your immune system working. Once your body has relaxed, the infusion can be restarted. • Call 911 or go to the Emergency Department right away if you have any symptoms after you return home.
Swelling of your kidneys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrolytes and kidney function will be checked with each visit. • Steroids may be prescribed. • Dose may be held or adjusted if kidney function is decreased. • To help maintain good kidney function, stay well hydrated with water and non-caffeine liquids • Inform your doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ pain between the abdomen and thighs (pelvis). ○ pain in the kidneys or belly. ○ painful or burning when urinating. ○ been urinating more often. ○ cloudy urine. ○ blood or pus in the urine. ○ swelling in ankles, face or legs. ○ temperature greater than 100.4 degrees F.
Eye problems	<p>Call your doctor right away if you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ have blurred vision, loss of vision or other vision changes. ○ see color dots or dark floating spots. ○ 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>
Breathing problems Sometimes severe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call your doctor right away if you have:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ severe shortness of breath or trouble breathing.○ labored and unusually rapid breathing.○ new or dry cough or a cough that gets worse.○ confusion.○ extreme tiredness.○ wheezing.○ chest pain.• Call 911 if you cannot catch your breath or stop coughing.
These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor.	