

Carboplatin

KAR boe pla tin

Patient/Caregiver Information

What is Carboplatin?

Carboplatin is an anti-cancer agent used to treat different types of solid tumors.

How does it work?

Carboplatin is a platinum agent. Carboplatin binds to DNA creating cross-links between DNA strands. This interferes with the function and replication of DNA.

How is it given?

Carboplatin is administered as an intravenous (IV) infusion over 30 to 60 minutes.

Special instructions:

- Carboplatin can affect your hearing. Report any changes in your hearing or a ringing sound in your ears to your doctor. Your hearing will also be tested before and during treatment.
- Prior to and while receiving carboplatin, your kidneys function will be tested regularly.
- Carboplatin can affect the levels of certain salts in your blood. Your blood will be tested and you may be prescribed some supplements to correct the disturbance.
- This medicine may make your mouth sore and irritated. The doctor or nurse may give you oral rinses to keep your mouth clean after you receive carboplatin.
- It is important to be hydrated while receiving carboplatin. If you are unable to drink enough liquid, the doctor may prescribe IV fluids while you receive carboplatin.

Possible Side Effects:

Listed below, but not limited to, are the more commonly experienced side effects that you may see. The side effects your child might experience may be temporary and some may be permanent.

| | Likely Happens to 21-100 children out of every 100 | Less Likely Happens to 5-20 children out of every 100 | Rare but serious Happens to <5 children out of every 100 |
|---|---|--|--|
| Immediate Within 1-2 days of receiving the medicine | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nausea ▪ Vomiting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Severe allergic reaction which can be life threatening with shortness of breath, low blood pressure, rapid heart rate, chills and fever* ▪ Constipation ▪ Diarrhea | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Metallic taste ▪ Rash ▪ Inflammation and/or sores in the mouth (and/or throat and/or oesophagus) that may lead to swallowing difficulties and pain |
| Prompt Within 2-3 weeks, prior to the next course | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hair loss ▪ Decreased blood cell components. A lower number of white blood cells may make it easier to get infections. Fewer red blood cells may make you feel tired and weak. Fewer platelets. This may cause you to bruise and bleed more easily. ▪ Abnormal levels of certain salts in the body, like potassium and sodium, that may require supplements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Damage to the liver ▪ Abdominal pain ▪ Damage to the kidneys ▪ A feeling of weakness and/or tiredness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased bilirubin (a substance produced by the liver when breaking down waste products) which can lead to jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes) |

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| Delayed Anytime later during therapy, excluding the above conditions | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damage to the ear causing hearing and balance problems | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hair loss Temporary change to your vision Numbness or tingling in the fingers and toes Diminished ability to sense vibration, light touch, pinpricks and joint position |
| Late Anytime later after completion of therapy | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new cancer or leukemia resulting from this treatment |
| * Allergic reactions are more likely to be seen with repeated courses of treatment | | | |

This information sheet is a brief overview. Each individual can respond differently to the medication, it is vital that you communicate all signs and symptoms you observe to your doctor or nurse.

If you have any questions about the information provided please discuss them with your oncologist or haematologist.

Further information can be obtained from your doctor, nurse or pharmacist or at the following website:
<http://medsafe.govt.nz/consumers/medicine/where.asp>