



CISPLATIN

OTHER NAMES: Platinol[®], Platinol-AQ[®]

PURPOSE: Cisplatin is a drug used in the treatment of cancer. It interferes with the growth and spread of tumor cells.

ADMINISTRATION: Cisplatin is given by injection into a vein.

SIDE EFFECTS: Not all patients will experience all side effects.

SIDE EFFECT	MANAGEMENT
Nausea and vomiting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will be given medications to prevent or control nausea and vomiting. • Drink plenty of fluids. • Eat often in small amounts. • If vomiting lasts more than 24 hours, contact your doctor or nurse.
Lowered white blood cell counts. You may be more susceptible to infection, cold and flu and experience symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, chills and shakes, pain and burning when you pass urine.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash hands often and avoid people with infections if possible. • Contact your doctor or nurse immediately if your temperature is 38°C (100°F) or above or if you have any other signs of infection. • Do not take acetaminophen (Tylenol[®] or others) for fever or other signs of infection unless approved by your doctor or nurse.
Lowered platelet counts which may cause unusual bleeding or bruising.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brush teeth gently with a soft toothbrush • Blow nose gently • Prevent constipation • Avoid cuts, burns and falls • Report persistent bleeding to your doctor • Do not take ASA (Aspirin[®] or others) or any nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (ie., naproxen, ibuprofen, indomethacin, etc.) if you have low platelets. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if starting new medications.
Numbness, tingling, or burning in hands and feet (fingers and toes).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report this to your doctor • This may improve with a reduced dose or when treatments are finished
Ringing in ears or loss of hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report this to your doctor
Other symptoms you may experience include loss of appetite, altered taste and fatigue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report these to your doctor

OTHER IMPORTANT PRECAUTIONS:

- Drink 8-10 glasses of fluid for at least the next 24 hours after treatment and void frequently. This helps prevent kidney problems.
- Other medications may interact with cisplatin.
Do not start taking new medications or herbal products without checking with your doctor or pharmacist. Tell your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist if you are taking any other prescription or non-prescription medicine, vitamin, or herbal product.
- Inform other doctors, dentists or pharmacists that you are receiving cisplatin.
- Inform your doctor, nurse and pharmacist if you develop any new allergies or sensitivities.
- Discuss fertility and birth control with your doctor if necessary.
- It is very important to have your blood counts and other lab tests as order. Your dose may be adjusted accordingly.
- If you experience any symptoms or problems not listed above, inform your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

If you have any questions regarding this or any other drug therapy, please phone your cancer centre.

Cross Cancer Institute – (780) 432-8771, Tom Baker Cancer Centre – (403) 521-3764
Central Alberta Cancer Centre – (403) 343-4802, Grande Prairie Cancer Centre – (780) 538-7288
Lethbridge Cancer Centre – (403) 329-0633, Medicine Hat Cancer Centre – (403) 529-8817

OR
