



CLODRONATE

OTHER NAMES: Bonefos[®], Ostac[®]

PURPOSE: Clodronate is a drug that may be given in addition to chemotherapy in the treatment of breast cancer in order to decrease or prevent bone pain, fractures or spread of cancer to the bones. Clodronate may also be used to decrease high levels of calcium in the blood (hypercalcemia).

ADMINISTRATION: Clodronate may be given by injection into a vein, or by mouth in the form of capsules.
Take capsules on an empty stomach, with 2 glasses of water. Take clodronate at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after food (including dairy products) or medications containing calcium, magnesium, aluminum or iron (such as iron products, vitamins or antacids). Do not lie down for 30 minutes after swallowing.

SIDE EFFECTS: Not all patients will experience all side effects. Many of these will disappear as your body adjusts to the medication.

SIDE EFFECT	MANAGEMENT
Nausea, stomach pain (infrequent, more common with oral than with injection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drink plenty of liquids.• Eat often in small amounts.
Diarrhea (infrequent, more common with oral than with injection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decrease high fiber foods.• Drink only clear fluids. Avoid milk and milk products.• Use medicine only on the advice of your doctor.
Pain, redness, or tenderness may occur where the needle was placed. This may not occur until several days after the treatment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply warm compresses or soak in warm water for 15-20 minutes several times a day.• Acetaminophen (Tylenol[®]) may help.
Other symptoms you may experience include muscle cramps, swelling of the feet or legs, or shortness of breath	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report any of these to your doctor as soon as possible.

OTHER IMPORTANT PRECAUTIONS:

- 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 clodronate.
- Inform your doctor, nurse, and pharmacist if you develop any new allergies or sensitivities.
- If you experience any symptoms or problems not listed above, inform your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

STORAGE: Store clodronate at room temperature away from heat, direct light, and moisture. Whenever possible, return unused medication to the pharmacy from which it was dispensed for proper disposal.

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
