



VINOURELBINE

OTHER NAMES: Navelbine®

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

ADMINISTRATION: Vinorelbine is given by injection into a vein.

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

SIDE EFFECT	MANAGEMENT
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.
Pain, redness, swelling, itching or irritation at the injection site and darkening of the vein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report this to your nurse immediately.
Muscle weakness, especially after repeated doses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report this to your doctor.
Nausea and vomiting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This rarely requires treatment and may resolve in a short time.
Numbness or tingling in your fingers and toes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report this to your doctor or nurse. This may improve with a reduced dose or after treatments are completed.
Other symptoms you may experience include diarrhea or constipation, fatigue, hair loss or thinning (mild) and decreased deep tendon reflexes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report these to your doctor.

OTHER IMPORTANT PRECAUTIONS:

- Other medications may interact with vinorelbine. 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 vinorelbine.
- 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 blood counts and other lab tests as ordered. Your dose may be altered 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
