

# Carboplatin (KAR-bo-plat-in)

*Also Known As: Paraplatin®*

## How It Is Given:

Intravenously (by vein)

## Early Side Effects (beginning within one week) Can Include:

- Rare:
  - Flushing
  - A feeling of tightness in the chest or back
  - Shortness of breath
  - Achoking sensation
  - Fast heart rate
  - Lowered blood pressure while you receive it
 This may happen after you have received many doses of this drug.
- Diarrhea the day of treatment. It is usually gone within 24 hours.
- Mild nausea or vomiting within 24 to 72 hours. It can last for a few days.

## Late Side Effects (after one week) Can Include:

- A temporary decrease in blood cell counts one to three weeks after treatment. All blood cells are affected.
- Numbness, tingling, and burning in the hands or feet after several treatments. (Uncommon) If you get these symptoms and they get worse, call your doctor.
- A rash or itchiness on hands. Medicine can be given to treat it.

## Special Points:

- Increase your fluid intake before and for one week after treatment.
- Tell your doctor or nurse if you are taking any other medicines or have changed medicines. Some may change the way this drug works. Include:
  - Medicines that do and do not require a prescription.
  - Herbal remedies.
  - Vitamins.
  - Dietary supplements.
- Aspirin, NSAIDs (Advil®, Motrin®), and vitamin E can add to bleeding problems. Do not take medicine that has them unless your doctor says it is okay. Your nurse will give you a fact card that tells you what drugs you cannot take and what you can use instead.
- This drug may have effects on your hearing. You may have:
  - Ringing or a stuffed sensation in the ears.
  - Hearing loss of high frequency sounds.
  - Difficulty hearing background noise.
 Discuss any change in your hearing with your doctor.

## Call Your Doctor or Nurse If You:

- Have less urine than usual or only a small amount of urine.
- Have nausea and vomiting that does not get better.
- Are unable to eat or drink for more than 24 hours after receiving the drug.
- Have more than three watery stools in 24 hours.
- Have chills, a fever of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher, or other signs of infection.
- Have any sign of bleeding. This includes:
  - Black bowel movements.
  - Bruising.
  - Faint red rash.
  - Other signs of bleeding.
- Have a rash or itchiness.
- Any unexpected, unexplained problems.
- Any questions or concerns.

The information on this card is selective and does not cover all possible side effects; others may occur. Please report any problems to your doctor.

