

## PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

# Treosulfan

This information from Lexicomp® explains what you need to know about this medication, including what it's used for, how to take it, its side effects, and when to call your healthcare provider.

### Brand Names: US

Grafapex

### Brand Names: Canada

Treondyv

## Warning

- Low blood cell counts have happened with this drug. If blood cell counts get very low, this can lead to bleeding problems, infections, or anemia. Sometimes these effects can be deadly. If you have questions, talk with the doctor.
- This drug is used as part of a treatment plan that includes a stem cell transplant. The stem cell transplant will help to prevent possible deadly health problems. Talk with your child's doctor.

## What is this drug used for?

- It is used before certain stem cell transplants.
- It may be given to you for other reasons. Talk with the doctor.

## What do I need to tell the doctor BEFORE my child takes this drug?

- If your child is allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell the doctor about the allergy and what signs your child had.

## **If your child is breast-feeding a baby:**

- Be sure your child does not breast-feed a baby while taking this drug and for 1 week after the last dose.

This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with this drug.

Tell the doctor and pharmacist about all of your child's drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe to give this drug with all of your child's other drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug your child takes without checking with the doctor.

## **What are some things I need to know or do while my child takes this drug?**

- Tell all of your child's health care providers that your child is taking this drug. This includes your child's doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Have your child avoid tasks or actions that call for alertness while taking this drug. These include things like riding a bike, playing sports, or using items such as scissors, lawnmowers, electric scooters, toy cars, or motorized vehicles. Talk with the doctor.
- Have your child's blood work and heart function

checked as you have been told by the doctor.

- If your child has high blood sugar (diabetes), talk with the doctor. This drug can raise blood sugar.
- Talk with the doctor before your child gets any vaccines. Use of some vaccines with this drug may either raise the chance of very bad infection or make the vaccine not work as well.
- Your child may bleed more easily. Make sure your child is careful and avoids injury. Be sure your child has a soft toothbrush.
- Your child may have more chance of getting infections. Have your child wash hands often. Avoid crowds and people with infections, colds, or flu.
- Skin problems like rash and itching may happen with this drug. Keep your child's skin clean and dry on the days your child gets this drug. Clean any 'sweaty' skin parts (like armpits, groin, genital area, below the breasts) with a disposable washcloth and clear water. Do not let your child wear tight clothing or put cream on your child's skin on the days your child gets this drug. Some types of wound dressings need to be changed after your child gets this drug. If you see a rash or any other skin problem, call the doctor right away.
- Diaper rash may happen in patients wearing diapers.

Diapers will need to be changed often for 12 hours after each dose of this drug. If you see a rash or any other skin problems, call the doctor right away.

- Other types of cancer may rarely happen later in life.
- This drug may affect fertility. Fertility problems may lead to not being able to get pregnant or father a child. If you have questions, talk with the doctor before your child takes this drug.
- A pregnancy test may need to be done to show that your child is NOT pregnant before starting this drug.

**If your child is or may be sexually active:**

- If your child may become pregnant, have your child use birth control while taking this drug and for 6 months after the last dose. If your child gets pregnant, call the doctor right away.
- If your child's sex partner may become pregnant, birth control must be used while taking this drug and for several months after the last dose. Be sure your child knows how long to use birth control. If your child's partner gets pregnant, call the doctor right away.

**If your child is pregnant or may be pregnant:**

- This drug may cause harm to the unborn baby if your child takes it during pregnancy.

## What are some side effects that I need to call my child's doctor about right away?

**WARNING/CAUTION:** Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your child's doctor or get medical help right away if your child has any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Signs of infection like fever, chills, very bad sore throat, ear or sinus pain, cough, more sputum or change in color of sputum, pain with passing urine, mouth sores, or wound that will not heal.
- Signs of bleeding like throwing up or coughing up blood; vomit that looks like coffee grounds; blood in the urine; black, red, or tarry stools; bleeding from the gums; abnormal vaginal bleeding; bruises without a cause or that get bigger; or bleeding you cannot stop.
- Signs of liver problems like dark urine, tiredness, decreased appetite, upset stomach or stomach pain, light-colored stools, throwing up, or yellow skin or eyes.

- Signs of high or low blood pressure like very bad headache or dizziness, passing out, or change in eyesight.
- Signs of high blood sugar like confusion, feeling sleepy, unusual thirst or hunger, passing urine more often, flushing, fast breathing, or breath that smells like fruit.
- Confusion.
- Agitation.
- A burning, numbness, or tingling feeling that is not normal.
- Chest pain or pressure.
- Fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- Seizures.
- Swelling.
- Weakness on 1 side of the body, trouble speaking or thinking, change in balance, drooping on one side of the face, or blurred eyesight.
- Call the doctor right away if your child has signs of a blood clot like chest pain or pressure; coughing up blood; shortness of breath; swelling, warmth, numbness, change of color, or pain in a leg or arm; or trouble speaking or swallowing.
- This drug may cause tissue damage if the drug leaks

from the vein. Tell your child's nurse if your child has any redness, burning, pain, swelling, blisters, skin sores, or leaking of fluid where the drug is going into your child's body.

- Some people have had lung problems with this drug. Sometimes, this has been deadly. Call your child's doctor right away if your child has signs of lung problems like shortness of breath or other trouble breathing, cough that is new or worse, or fever.

### **What are some other side effects of this drug?**

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your child's doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother your child or do not go away:

- Headache.
- Feeling dizzy, tired, or weak.
- Muscle pain.
- Trouble sleeping.
- Flushing.
- Stomach pain.
- Constipation, diarrhea, upset stomach, throwing up, and decreased appetite are common with this drug. If these



happen, talk with the doctor about ways to lower these side effects. Call the doctor right away if any of these effects bother your child, do not get better, or are severe.

- Mouth irritation and mouth sores are common with this drug. These side effects may happen as early as a few days after getting this drug. Do what the doctor or other health care provider tells you to prevent mouth irritation or mouth sores. Call the doctor if mouth irritation or mouth sores are severe, bother your child, or do not go away.

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your child's doctor. Call your child's doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

### **How is this drug best given?**

Give this drug as ordered by your child's doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

- It is given as an infusion into a vein over a period of time.
- Other drugs may be given before this drug to help avoid side effects.

## What do I do if my child misses a dose?

- Call your child's doctor to find out what to do.

## How do I store and/or throw out this drug?

- This drug will be given in a healthcare setting. You will not store it at home.

## General drug facts

- If your child's symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your child's doctor.
- Do not share your child's drug with others and do not give anyone else's drug to your child.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your child's doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison

control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

## **Consumer Information Use and Disclaimer**

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If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit [www.mskcc.org/pe](http://www.mskcc.org/pe) to search our virtual library.

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