

Ifosfamide (IFEX[®])

Ifosfamide is an anti-cancer medicine that stops cell growth and division. This medicine is used to treat many types of cancer.

How Is It Given?

- clear liquid by IV (intravenous)

What Side Effects May Occur?

This is a partial list of the side effects you may have with this medicine. You may have some, all or none of those listed, or you may have other side effects not listed. Most side effects last only a short time.

Common:

- blood in urine
- frequent or painful urination
- fatigue
- lowered white blood cell count
- nausea (upset stomach) and vomiting (throwing up) (can occur within 1 to 2 hours after starting treatment)
- loss of appetite
- hair loss (occurs 2 to 4 weeks after treatment)

Less common:

- mouth sores
- lower back or side pain
- lowered red blood cell and platelet counts
- diarrhea (loose, watery stools)
- constipation
- dizziness
- confusion
- drowsiness
- seizures

Special Notes

- Ifosfamide passes from the body in the urine. It is important to drink extra fluids and to empty your bladder often. This will help prevent bladder irritation and kidney problems.
- Another medicine (Mesna[®]) is usually given along with Ifosfamide to help prevent bladder problems. It is important to take the Mesna as scheduled by your doctor. You need to call your doctor or nurse right away if you cannot keep the mesna down.
- You may have changes in your menstrual cycle or sperm count. Discuss birth control measures with your doctor. You should not get pregnant or father a child while taking this medicine.

When To Call Your Doctor

You should call your doctor if you have:

- pain or burning with urination
- bloody urine
- fever, chills or sore throat
- unusual bleeding or bruising
- extreme tiredness or dizziness
- nausea, vomiting or diarrhea you cannot control
- shortness of breath
- stomach pain.

Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you want more complete medicine information or if you have questions.