

# Cisplatin (Platinol®)

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

## 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:

- nausea (upset stomach) and vomiting (throwing up) (can begin 1 hour after treatment and last up to 72 hours)
- lowered red cells, white blood cells and platelet counts (2 to 3 weeks after starting treatment)
- change in your hearing
- ringing in your ears
- numbness and tingling in your hands and feet
- changes in how your kidneys work
- loss of appetite or taste
- hair loss

### Less common:

- pain or redness at the IV site
- muscle twitching or irritability due to magnesium or calcium loss
- allergic reactions
- constipation (not having regular bowel movements), diarrhea or both
- blurred vision
- mouth sores
- balance problems

## Special Notes

- While taking cisplatin and for several days after treatment, it is important that you get plenty of fluids by IV or by mouth. This is to help make sure your kidneys are working well.
- Some medicines interact with cisplatin. Tell your doctor if you are taking any of the following:
  - medicines for seizures, such as phenytoin (Dilantin®), levetiracetam (Keppra®), lamotrigine (Lamictal®), divalproex sodium (Depakote®), carbamazepine (Tegretol®)
  - diuretics, such as furosemide (Lasix®)
  - ethacrynic acid (Edecrin®)
  - bumetanide (Bumex®)
  - certain antibiotics.

**(over)**

- 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.
- Talk with your doctor before you get any immunizations, such as the flu shot, while you are taking cisplatin.

## **When To Call Your Doctor**

You should call your doctor if you have:

- nausea and vomiting you cannot control
- ringing in your ears, trouble hearing
- fever, chills, or sore throat
- numbness or tingling in your hands or feet
- swollen face, lips or tongue
- swollen ankles, sudden weight gain
- trouble breathing
- changes in how often or how much you urinate
- muscle cramps.

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