

# Thioguanine (6-Thioguanine, 6-TG)

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

## How Is It Given?

- tablet by mouth

## 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 (feel like throwing up) or vomiting (throwing up)
- lowered white blood cell and platelet counts (occurs 1 to 4 weeks after treatment)
- diarrhea (mild)
- unsteadiness

### Less common:

- loss of appetite
- mouth sores
- yellowing of your skin or eyes

## Special Notes

- Take thioguanine on an empty stomach.
- Drink at least 6 to 8 glasses of liquid every day while taking this medicine.
- Some medicines interact with thioguanine. Let your doctor know if you are taking mercaptopurine (Purinethol®).
- 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

Call your doctor if you have:

- fever, chills or sore throat
- unusual bleeding or bruising
- uncontrolled nausea or vomiting
- stomach pain
- dark-colored urine
- yellowing of your skin or eyes.

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