

Dacarbazine (DTIC[®])

Dacarbazine is an anti-cancer medicine that stops cell growth and division. This medicine is used to treat skin cancer, Hodgkin's disease, and many other 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:

- nausea (upset stomach) and vomiting (throwing up) (can occur 1 to 3 hours after starting treatment)
- loss of appetite
- burning at the IV site
- lowered white blood cell and platelet count (occurs 2 to 4 weeks after treatment)
- hair loss
- sun sensitivity

Less common:

- facial flushing
- facial numbness
- skin rash
- allergic reaction
- diarrhea

- flu-like symptoms (muscle pain, headache, fatigue) that can occur up to 7 days after treatment

Special Notes

- Your skin may become more sensitive to sunlight. It is important to wear sunscreen when you are outside and not spend much time in the sun.
- This drug can cause pain or soreness above the IV site while it is being given. Please let your nurse know if you have any discomfort during your treatment.
- 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:

- fever, chills or sore throat
- unusual bleeding or bruising
- severe diarrhea
- severe mouth sores
- trouble breathing
- severe rash or hives
- nausea or vomiting you cannot control.

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