

# Decitabine (Dacogen<sup>®</sup>)

Decitabine is an anti-cancer medicine that kills cancer cells by changing their DNA. This medicine is used to treat some leukemias and myelodysplastic syndrome.

## How Is It Given?

- 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:

- swelling
- bruising
- high blood glucose
- low albumin
- low potassium, sodium or magnesium levels
- constipation
- diarrhea (loose stools)
- nausea (feel like throwing up) and vomiting (throwing up)
- low white blood cell count
- muscle pain
- feeling dizzy
- headache
- low neutrophils and platelets

- trouble sleeping
- cough
- feeling tired
- fever
- anemia (low red blood cell count)
- pneumonia

### Less common:

- confusion
- anxiety or depression
- chest pain

## When To Call Your Doctor

Call your doctor if you have:

- allergic reaction:
  - itching
  - hives
  - swelling in your face and hands
  - tingling in your mouth or throat
- chest pain
- pounding heartbeat
- fainting
- feeling dizzy
- fast weight gain.

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