Palonosetron (Aloxi[®])

Palonosetron is a medicine that prevents and treats nausea and vomiting caused by chemotherapy or radiation.

How Is It Given?

Palonosetron is given as a liquid by an intravenous (IV) injection in a vein.

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:

- headache
- constipation

Less common:

- allergic reaction (itching or hives, swelling in your face or hands, swelling or tingling in your mouth or throat, tightness in your chest, and breathing problems)
- fast, slow or uneven heartbeat
- diarrhea (loose stools)
- dizziness

Special Notes

- Palonosetron will work in your body for several days. Repeating this medicine within seven days is not recommended.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Talk about birth control with your doctor. There are no studies about taking this medicine during pregnancy.

You should talk with your doctor if you are planning to get pregnant or father a child.

- Tell your doctor if you have any heart rhythm problems, heart disease or low levels of potassium or magnesium in your body.
- Some medicines may interact with palonosetron. Tell your doctor if you are taking any of these:
 - digoxin (Lanoxin[®])
 - erythromycin
 - fluoxetine (Prozac[®])
 - medicines used to treat mental illness
 - medicines used to treat heart rhythm problems.

When To Call Your Doctor

You should call your doctor if you have:

- shortness of breath
- swelling in your face or hands
- chest tightness
- swelling in your mouth or throat
- fast, slow or uneven heartbeat
- nausea that is not controlled by this medicine.

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

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