

# Trastuzumab (Herceptin<sup>®</sup>)

Trastuzumab is a monoclonal antibody medicine that is used to treat certain types of breast 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:

- reaction during infusion such as fever, chills or headache (these are less likely after the first dose)
- general pain
- loss of appetite

### Less common:

- nausea (upset stomach) and vomiting (throwing up) (rare)
- diarrhea (loose, watery stools) (rare)
- lowered white blood cell and platelet counts (rare)
- shortness of breath
- dizziness
- swollen feet, ankles or legs
- trouble sleeping
- skin rash
- cough
- headache

## Special Notes

- You will receive your first dose over a period of 90 minutes. If you tolerate this dose, you will receive smaller doses over a period of 30 minutes once a week.
- Tell your nurse right away if you have any shortness of breath, fever or chills while you are receiving this medicine.
- 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:

- shortness of breath
- fever or chills
- swollen feet, ankles or legs.

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