

Fludarabine (Fludara[®])

Fludarabine is an anti-cancer medicine that stops cell growth and division. This medicine is used to treat chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) and certain types of lymphoma.

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:

- lowered white blood cell and platelet counts (7 to 14 days after first dose)
- mild nausea (upset stomach) and vomiting (throwing up)
- diarrhea
- fatigue

Less common:

- hair thinning
- vision or hearing changes
- mouth sores
- shortness of breath or cough
- swollen legs or feet
- numb or tingling hands or feet
- lower red blood cell count

Special Notes

- Fludarabine is given through the IV for 5 days in a row for about 30 minutes each day.
- 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, chills or other signs of infection
- severe mouth sores
- diarrhea
- numbness or tingling in hands or feet
- vision or hearing changes.

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