

Doxorubicin HCL Liposome (Doxil[®])

Doxil is an anti-cancer medicine that stops cell growth and division. This medicine is used to treat many types of cancer.

How Is It Given?

- red 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 red blood cell, white blood cell and platelet counts
- allergic reactions (flushing of skin, shortness of breath, facial swelling, chills, back pain)
- mouth sores
- rash
- nausea (upset stomach) and vomiting (throwing up) (1 to 3 hours after treatment)
- red urine for 1 to 2 days after treatment.

Less common:

- heart muscle damage
- hair loss
- painful, swollen or red hands or feet or both (usually occurs after 6 weeks of treatment)
- fast or irregular heart beat
- redness, swelling, or pain at the IV site.

Special Notes

- You may have heart damage with high doses of this medicine, especially after receiving several cycles. You will not get more of your total dose than your doctor has determined. Your doctor may want to take tests to check your heart.
- Tell your nurse know if you have back pain, shortness of breath or tightness in your chest while you receive the drug.
- 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:

- swelling in your legs and feet
- shortness of breath
- mouth sores
- fever, chills, or sore throat
- redness, swelling, or pain where the IV is given
- unusual bleeding or bruising.

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

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