

Streptozocin (Zanosar[®])

Streptozocin is an anti-cancer medicine that stops cell division and growth. This medicine is used to treat pancreatic 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:

- nausea (feel like throwing up) and vomiting (throwing up) starting 1 to 4 hours after treatment
- mild kidney damage
- decrease in blood glucose levels
- lowered white blood cell and platelet counts (1 to 2 weeks after treatment)
- mouth sores
- fatigue
- swollen feet or legs
- yellowing of your skin or eyes — can occur 2 to 3 weeks after treatment.

Less common:

- confusion
- depression
- diarrhea
- lowered red blood cells
- pain or redness at the IV site

Special Notes

- Drink plenty of fluids (1 to 2 liters a day) while receiving this medicine. Drink the same amount for the next several days after treatment.
- Some medicines interact with Streptozocin. Let your doctor know if you are taking any of the following:
 - phenytoin (Dilantin[®])
 - acetaminophen (Tylenol[®])
 - cyclosporine (Sandimmune[®])
 - lithium (Lithane[®])
 - tiopronin (Thiola[®]).
- Streptozocin may affect your blood glucose. If you have diabetes, make sure your doctor knows. Check with your doctor about any changes in your dosage of insulin or other diabetes 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

Call your doctor if you have:

- fever, chills or sore throat
- unusual bleeding or bruising
- pain when urinating
- decreased urine output
- yellowing of your skin or eyes
- anxiety, confusion or cold sweats
- shakiness, tiredness or weakness
- nausea, vomiting or diarrhea (loose stools) you cannot control.

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