Carboplatin

- **Carboplatin** is a drug that is used to treat many types of cancers. It is a clear liquid that is injected into a vein.
- Tell your doctor if you have ever had an unusual or **allergic reaction** to CISplatin or mannitol before starting carboplatin treatment
- A **blood test** may be taken before each treatment. The dose and timing of your chemotherapy may be changed based on the test results and/or other side effects.
- Some drugs, herbal products and supplements may **interact** with your treatment. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any of these or before you start taking any new drugs.
- Carboplatin may cause **sterility** in men and **menopause** in women. If you plan to have children, discuss this with your doctor before being treated with Carboplatin.
- Carboplatin may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with Carboplatin. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breast feed during treatment.
- **Tell** doctors, dentists or other health care providers that you are being treated with this medication before you receive any other treatment from them.

Side effects that may occur and tips for management

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
Nausea and vomiting may occur after your treatment and may last for up to 24 hours.	You will be given a prescription for antinausea drug(s) to take before your chemotherapy treatment and/or at home. **It is easier to prevent nausea than treat it once it has occurred,** so follow directions closely. • Drink plenty of liquids. • Eat and drink often in small amounts.
Your **platelets** may decrease 3 weeks after your treatment. They usually return to normal 4 - 5 weeks after your last treatment**.** **Platelets help to make your blood clot when you hurt yourself. You may bruise or bleed more easily than usual.**	To help prevent bleeding problems: • Try not to bruise, cut, or burn yourself. • Clean your nose by blowing gently. Do not pick your nose. • Avoid constipation. • Brush your teeth gently with a soft toothbrush as your gums may bleed more easily. Maintain good oral hygiene. • Some medications such as aspirin, ibuprofen or other pain medications may increase your risk of bleeding. • For minor pain, try paracetamol (Panadol ®) • Refer to your doctor if any of these medications has been prescribed to you. • Do not stop taking any medication that has been prescribed by your doctor.
Your **white blood** cells will decrease 3-4 weeks after your treatment. They usually return to normal 5 weeks after your last treatment. White blood cells protect your body by fighting bacteria (germs) that cause infection. When they are low**, you are at greater risk of having an infection.**	To help prevent infection: • Wash your hands often and always after using the bathroom. • Take care of your skin and mouth • Avoid crowds and people who are sick. • Visit the National Center of Cancer Care and Research (NCCCR) urgent care unit immediately at the first sign of an infection such as fever (over 100°F or 38°C by an oral thermometer), chills, cough, or burning when you pass urine.
Tiredness and lack of energy may occur.	• Do not drive a car or operate machinery if you are feeling tired.
Hair loss is rare with carboplatin. Your hair will grow back once you stop treatment with carboplatin. Color and texture may change.	• Use a gentle shampoo and soft brush. • Apply mineral oil to your scalp to reduce itching. • Care should be taken with the use of hair spray, bleaches, dyes and perms.
Pain or tenderness may occur where the needle was placed.	Apply cool compresses or soak in cool water for 15 to 20 minutes several times a day.

Patient education leaflet
Adapted from BC Cancer Drug Manual: 2001 Limited revision: 20 February 2007
Prepared by Clinical Pharmacy Department at the National Center for Cancer Care and Research - Version 1 on May 2017

SEE YOUR DOCTOR OR GET EMERGENCY HELP IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:

- Signs of an **infection** such as fever (over 100°F or 38°C by an oral thermometer); chills; cough; pain or burning when you pass urine.
- Signs of **bleeding problems** such as black, tarry stools; blood in urine; pinpoint red spots on skin, extensive bruising.
- Signs of an **allergic reaction** (rare) soon after a treatment including dizziness, fast heartbeat, Face and tongue swelling or breathing problems.

SEE YOUR DOCTOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (DURING OFFICE HOURS) IF YOU HAVE:

- Signs of **anemia** such as unusual tiredness or weakness.
- Signs of **liver problems** such as yellow eyes or skin, white or clay-colored stools.
- Signs of **kidney problems** such as lower back or side pain, swelling of feet or lower legs, numbness or tingling in feet or hands.
- **Changes in eyesight.**
- Ringing in your ears or **hearing problems.**
- **Skin rash** or itching.
- **Stomach pain** not controlled by antacids or acetaminophen.

CHECK WITH YOUR DOCTOR IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONTINUE OR BOTHER YOU:

- Uncontrolled nausea, vomiting, constipation or diarrhea.
- Redness, swelling, pain or sores where the needle was placed.
- Easy bruising or bleeding.

REPORT ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS TO YOUR DOCTOR

This is a summary of useful information to help you understand and take your medicine safely .

We are available to answer your questions For urgent inquiries contact :

- **Urgent care unit at the National Center of Cancer Care and Research (NCCCR) TEL : 44397179 (available 24 hours, all week days).**

For further information or question contact :

- **Your doctor** (from 7 am – 3 pm) .
- **Clinical Pharmacy section,** TEL: 44397239 (Sun-Thurs from 7 am – 3 pm) .
- **Outpatient Pharmacy**, TEL: 44397531, 44397825 (Sun-Thurs from 7 am – 3 pm) .

Pharmacy Department