



NYUCancerInstitute

P A T I E N T I N F O R M A T I O N

The side effects listed below are those that occur most frequently. Other side effects may occur; please contact your doctor or oncology nurse to report any medical problems.

Dose _____

ETOPOSIDE (VP-16)

Early Side Effects

- a. Nausea, vomiting and a loss of appetite occur rarely. There are medications to prevent or decrease these side effects; you may request these from your physician.
- b. Low blood pressure can occur while receiving the drug. If you experience any dizziness or weakness, report it to your doctor or nurse, but the drug is given slowly to prevent this and a nurse will monitor your blood pressure.
- c. Fever with chills may occur a few hours after receiving VP- 16.

Late Side Effects

- a. 7 - 14 days after treatment, a drop in blood cell count may occur.
- b. Mouth sores sometimes occur, but can be treated. Report any mouth sores to your doctor or nurse as soon as they occur.
- c. Hair loss begins several weeks after treatment. This loss is temporary, and hair will grow back after the drug has been discontinued.