



# 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 \_\_\_\_\_

### G-CSF FILGRASTIM (Neupogen®)

Many chemotherapy drugs cause the white blood cells, or neutrophils, to fall to a level that could make you susceptible to severe infections. Your doctor has prescribed G-CSF to help increase the production of neutrophils in your bone marrow, and reduce the change of serious infection.

Your doctor will require routine (sometimes daily) blood tests to check your complete blood count (CBC).

#### Side Effects

- a. This drug is generally well tolerated.
- b. Pain at injection site. This can be decreased if the solution is allowed to reach room temperature before injecting.
- c. Mild to moderate bone pain. The cause of the bone pain is the intense production of neutrophils in your bone marrow due to G-CSF. This is an indication that the drug is doing its job. Inform your doctor if you experience this effect. There are medications available which can minimize your discomfort. If your white blood count is high enough, your doctor may stop the G-CSF treatment.

#### Special Instructions

- a. **Keep refrigerated. Do not freeze.**
- b. Inspect the liquid to be sure it is clear and colorless before administering dose.
- c. If the liquid is left out of the refrigerator more than 4 hours, call the pharmacy for instructions.
- d. **Do not shake** the contents of the vial. Liquid may be given at room temperature by holding vial in hands just prior to injection.