



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 _____

INTERFERON (Alpha)

Early Side Effects

- a. Mild nausea and vomiting, a change in taste and loss of appetite may occur.
- b. Unusual tiredness may be experienced.
- c. Fever, chills and aching muscles (flu like symptoms) may occur. Your temperature may reach 103°. Tylenol (acetaminophen) may be taken to decrease the temperature; consult your doctor.
- d. Dizziness, headaches and confusion occur less commonly.
- e. Chest pain and irregular heartbeat rarely occur.

Late Side Effects

- a. A drop in blood cell counts.
- b. Weight loss.
- c. Depression.
- d. Fatigue.