



Cyclophosphamide (Cytosan[®], Neosar[®])

Generic Name: cyclophosphamide

Drug Name: Cytosan[®], Neosar[®]

Purpose: Cyclophosphamide is a chemotherapy drug used to treat certain types of cancer. It interferes with cell reproduction and growth to prevent the cancer from growing or spreading.

How drug is given:

- Cyclophosphamide may be given orally (by mouth) in pill form and should be taken in the morning. Disposable gloves should be worn if pills are handled by someone other than you. You **MUST** swallow the pills whole. **DO NOT BREAK OR CRUSH PILLS!**
- Cyclophosphamide may be given intravenously (IV) into a vein by a specially trained nurse at the hospital or Cancer Center.

Possible Side Effects:

- Mild nausea and vomiting
- Loss of appetite
- Bladder irritation with possible bleeding
 - tell your doctor if you have:
 - pink-red colored urine
 - pain when you urinate
 - difficulty urinating
 - To prevent bladder irritation you **MUST**:
 - drink 8 to 10 glasses (8 ounces) of non-alcoholic, decaffeinated fluid every day. Talk with your doctor/nurse about exactly how much you should drink.
 - urinate often, especially at bedtime
- Low white blood cell count. Call your doctor if you have:
 - fever
 - new cough
- Low red blood cell count. Call your doctor if you feel:
 - dizzy
 - short of breath
 - very tired
- Low platelet count. Call your doctor if you have:
 - bleeding
 - new bruises
 - tiny red spots on skin
- Temporary hair loss starting approximately 2 weeks after first treatment. Your hair will grow back.



Important:

1. Cyclophosphamide can interact with other medications such as blood-thinning medications, digoxin (Lanoxin). Talk to your doctor if you are taking these medications.
2. Cyclophosphamide can affect your ability to have children (for both men and women) by causing sterility that may be permanent. Talk about contraception (birth control) and/or family planning with your doctor before you start taking cyclophosphamide.
3. Disposable gloves **MUST** be worn by anyone other than you who touches your pills.
4. You **MUST** swallow the pills whole. **DO NOT BREAK OR CRUSH PILLS!**