



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 _____

BLEOMYCIN (Blenoxane®)

Early Side Effects

- a. Mild nausea, vomiting or appetite loss and a change in taste may occur.
- b. Fever with chills may occur a few hours after receiving **Bleomycin** and can last for several hours.
- c. Low blood pressure can occur during or a few hours after the drug is received. Report any dizziness or weakness to your doctor or nurse.

Late Side Effects

- a. Mouth sores sometimes occur within 2 - 10 days of treatment. Avoid using commercial mouthwashes because they contain alcohol, which can cause irritation. Use a soft toothbrush to clean your teeth. Avoid alcohol and spicy or acidic foods, as they will increase the pain. To relieve the discomfort, medications are available, contact your doctor or nurse.
- b. Skin reaction consists of darkening of the fingernails and lines on the palm of the hand. Occasionally, patients may experience body rash with itching. Report this to your doctor so that it can be determined whether the reaction is caused by the medication.
- c. After many treatments at high dosage levels, scarring of the lung tissue may occur. Report any chest pain; dry cough or difficulty breathing to your doctor.