



# 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 \_\_\_\_\_

### DOXIL® (Liposomal Doxorubicin)

#### Early Side Effects

- a. Acute infusion reaction may occur. Patients who experience this reaction generally do so with the first infusion and not with subsequent dosing. Slowing the infusion rate can alleviate this reaction, which generally resolves after several minutes.
- b. If you experience pain, redness, swelling or irritation in the area of the infusion, contact your nurse immediately.
- c. Mild nausea and vomiting can occur. Also loss of appetite and diarrhea may occur.
- d. Mouth or throat ulcers may occur 2 - 3 days after treatment. Mouth care is very important. Your nurse can advise you regarding a mouth care regimen.
- e. Your urine may turn pink/orange or red in color for a few days. If your urine is red for longer than that, call your doctor or nurse for advice.
- f. Avoid hot foods 3 - 4 days.

#### Late Side Effects

- a. A drop in blood cell count occurs within 10 - 14 days of treatment. Report signs of unusual bleeding or bruising. Try to avoid damage to your teeth and gums when you brush or floss your teeth. Also call your doctor for advice if you get a fever, chills, or sore throat.
- b. You may experience skin rash, itching, peeling skin, blistering, swelling, or pain on the hands and feet. Let your doctor or nurse know if you notice these symptoms. This reaction usually occurs after 6 weeks of treatment, is usually mild and generally resolves in 1 to 2 weeks. Keep hands and feet cool.
- c. Hair loss may occur. This is temporary and regrowth resumes about 3 weeks after therapy has been discontinued.
- d. Effects on your heart may occur rarely. Let your doctor know if you experience an irregular heartbeat, palpitations, chest pain, or swelling of your legs or ankles.