



# 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 \_\_\_\_\_

### HERCEPTIN

Herceptin is a monoclonal antibody therapy that differs from traditional treatments.

Mechanism of action - target tumor cells that over express the HER2 protein.

Herceptin is administered once a week by IV infusion. The first infusion usually takes about 90 minutes, but may be slowed or stopped if you experience any discomfort from side effects. Subsequent weekly infusions will only last about 30 minutes if the prior infusion was well tolerated.

#### **Common side effects**

- Fever and chills (during the first infusion)
- Nausea
- Pain (in some cases at tumor sites)
- Headache
- Diarrhea

Your doctor may check the condition of your heart before you begin therapy with Herceptin, and may monitor your heart function throughout your treatment.