



Provincial Health Services Authority

## **For the Patient: GOOVLDOX**

Other Names: Treatment of Epithelial Ovarian Cancer  
Relapsing after Primary Treatment Using **DOXOrubicin  
Pegylated Liposomal** (CAELYX)

**GO** = **G**ynecologic **O**ncology (tumour group)

**OV** = **OV**ary

**LDOX** = (pegylated) **L**iposomal **DOX**orubicin

## **ABOUT THIS MEDICATION**

### **What is this drug used for?**

- **Doxorubicin pegylated liposomal** is an intravenous drug treatment given as therapy to treat recurrent ovarian cancer, peritoneal cancer, and Fallopian tube cancer.

### **How do these drugs work?**

- Doxorubicin works by interfering with the DNA, as well as preventing the repair of damaged DNA, inside of cancer cells. The pegylation and liposomal coating of doxorubicin helps to enhance its activity and reduce its harmful effects.

## **INTENDED BENEFITS**

- This drug is being given with the intention of destroying and/or limiting the growth of cancer cells in your body. This treatment may improve your current symptoms, and delay or prevent the onset of new symptoms.
- It may take several treatments before your doctor can judge whether or not this medicine is helping.

## **TREATMENT SUMMARY**

### **How are these drugs given?**

- This medication is given as one dose, repeated every four weeks, for up to six times. Each dose, together with the days-off after it may also be referred to as a “cycle”.
- **Doxorubicin pegylated liposomal** is a red-coloured liquid which is diluted in 250 mL of solution (~1 cup) and infused into a vein over an hour to an hour and a half.

### **What will happen when I get my drugs?**

- A blood test is done each cycle, on or about the day before each treatment. The dose and timing of your chemotherapy may be changed based on your blood counts and/or other side effects.
- The doctor will review the results of the blood test and meet with you each cycle. If you are to proceed with treatment, the appointment would usually be scheduled for the following day.

## **SIDE EFFECTS AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM**

The doctor will review the risks of treatment and possible side effects with you prior to beginning treatment. The nurse will review these with you on the day of your treatment. If you haven't already received a copy, please ask for "*Information for the Patient: doxorubicin pegylated liposomal*". It is also located on our website at: <http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/DrugDatabase/DrugIndexPt/Doxorubicinpegliposomal.htm>

[BC Cancer](#) Pharmacists are also available to answer your drug-related questions.

### **Medication Interactions**

Some drugs may **interact** with [doxorubicin pegylated liposomal](#) and you may need extra blood tests or your doses may need to be changed. See "*Information for the Patient: doxorubicin pegylated liposomal*".