



Provincial Health Services Authority

For the Patient: **Dexrazoxane**

Other names: **ZINECARD®**

- Dexrazoxane (dex-ray-ZOKS-ane) is a drug that is used to help prevent or lessen heart problems caused by some cancer drugs such as doxorubicin. It is a clear liquid that is injected into a vein.
- Tell your doctor if you have ever had an unusual or **allergic reaction** to dexrazoxane before taking dexrazoxane.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of dexrazoxane.
- Dexrazoxane may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with dexrazoxane. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breast feed during treatment.
- **Tell** your doctor, dentist, [and other health professionals](#) that you are being treated with dexrazoxane before you receive any treatment from them.

Side effects related to dexrazoxane are listed in the following table. Tips to help manage the side effects are included.

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
Pain or tenderness may occur where the needle was placed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply cool compresses or soak in cool water for 15-20 minutes several times a day.

The following symptoms are likely to be related to the chemotherapy portion of your treatment and not to dexrazoxane.

CHECK WITH YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM OR GET EMERGENCY HELP IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:

- Signs of an **infection** such as fever ([over 38°C or 100°F](#) by an oral thermometer); chills; cough; sore throat; pain or burning when you pass urine; redness, pain or swelling of any area of your body; sores forming anywhere on your body.
- Signs of **bleeding problems** such as black, tarry stools; blood in urine; pinpoint red spots on skin, extensive bruising.
- Signs of an **allergic reaction** (rare) soon after a treatment including dizziness, fast heart beat, face swelling or breathing problems.

- Severe **skin reaction** where you have had radiation.
- Signs of **anemia** such as unusual tiredness or weakness.
- Signs of **heart problems** such as shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, swelling of feet or lower legs.
- **Numbness** or tingling in feet or hands.
- **Skin rash** or **itching**.

CHECK WITH YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONTINUE OR BOTHER YOU:

- Uncontrolled nausea, vomiting or diarrhea.
- Easy bruising or bleeding.
- Redness, swelling, pain or sores where the needle was placed.
- Redness, swelling, pain or sores on your lips, tongue, mouth or throat.

REPORT ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS TO YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM

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