

For the Patient: Dexrazoxane

Other names: ZINECARD®, CARDIOXANE®

## **BC** Cancer Agency

- <u>Dexrazoxane</u> (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 <u>drinking of alcohol</u> (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 <u>birth control</u> while being treated with dexrazoxane. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breast feed during treatment.
- <u>Tell</u> doctors or dentists that you are being treated with dexrazoxane before you
  receive any treatment from them.

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
Pain or tenderness may occur where the needle was placed.	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.

## SEE YOUR DOCTOR OR GET EMERGENCY HELP IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:

- Signs of an infection such as fever (over 100°F or 38°C by an oral thermometer);
   chills; cough; pain or burning when you pass urine.
- 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.

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## SEE YOUR DOCTOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (DURING OFFICE HOURS) IF YOU HAVE:

- 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 DOCTOR 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 DOCTOR

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