



Provincial Health Services Authority

For the Patient: Carfilzomib
Other names: KYPROLIS®

- Carfilzomib (kar filz' oh mib) is a drug that is used to treat some types of cancer. 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 carfilzomib before receiving carfilzomib.
- **Blood tests** may be taken regularly during treatment. The dose and timing of your treatment may be changed based on the test results and/or other side effects.
- Your doctor may tell you to **drink** extra fluids so that you will pass more urine. This will help prevent kidney problems.
- Other drugs may **interact** with carfilzomib. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before you start or stop taking any other drugs.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of carfilzomib.
- Carfilzomib may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with carfilzomib and for a time after treatment ends. For female patients, continue birth control for **one month** after treatment. For male patients, continue birth control for **three months** after treatment. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breastfeed during treatment.
- **Tell** doctors, dentists, and other health professionals that you are being treated with carfilzomib before you receive any treatment from them.

Changes in blood counts

Carfilzomib may cause temporary changes in your blood counts. Your doctor will be following these changes carefully by performing blood tests. Adjustment of your treatment may be needed in certain circumstances.

| BLOOD COUNTS | MANAGEMENT |
|--|---|
| <p>Normal white blood cells protect your body by fighting bacteria (germs) that cause infection. When they are low, you are at greater risk of having an infection.</p> | <p>To help prevent infection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash your hands often and always after using the bathroom. • Avoid crowds and people who are sick. • Call your doctor <i>immediately</i> at the first sign of an infection such as fever (over 100°F or 38°C by an oral thermometer), chills, cough, or burning when you pass urine. |
| <p>Normal platelets help your blood to clot normally after an injury (e.g., cut). When the platelet count is low, you may be more likely to bruise or bleed.</p> | <p>To help prevent bleeding problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try not to bruise, cut, or burn yourself. • Clean your nose by blowing gently. Do not pick your nose. • Avoid constipation. • Brush your teeth gently with a soft toothbrush as your gums may bleed more easily. <p>Some medications such as ASA (e.g., ASPIRIN®) or ibuprofen (e.g., ADVIL®) may increase your risk of bleeding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not stop taking any medication that has been prescribed by your doctor (e.g., ASA for your heart). • For minor pain, try acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) first, but occasional use of ibuprofen may be acceptable. |

Side effects are listed in the following table in the order in which they may occur. Tips to help manage the side effects are included.

| SIDE EFFECTS | MANAGEMENT |
|---|---|
| <p>Allergic reactions may sometimes occur. Signs of an allergic reaction may include flushing, rash, itching, dizziness, swelling or breathing problems. This can occur immediately or up to 24 hours after receiving carfilzomib.</p> | <p>Tell your nurse if this happens while you are receiving carfilzomib or contact your oncologist <i>immediately</i> if this happens after you leave the clinic.</p> |
| <p>Pain or tenderness may occur where the needle was placed.</p> | <p>Apply cool compresses or soak in cool water for 15-20 minutes several times a day.</p> |

| SIDE EFFECTS | MANAGEMENT |
|---|--|
| Nausea and vomiting may occur after your treatment. Most people have little or no nausea. | You may be given a prescription for antinausea drug(s) to take before your treatment. It is easier to prevent nausea than treat it once it has occurred , so follow directions closely. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink plenty of fluids. • Eat and drink often in small amounts. • Try the ideas in <i>Food Choices to Help Control Nausea</i>.* |
| Fever sometimes occurs shortly after treatment with carfilzomib. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours, to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day. • Fever (over 100°F or 38°C by an oral thermometer) which occurs more than a few days after treatment may be a sign of an infection. Report this to your doctor immediately. |
| Diarrhea may sometimes occur. | If diarrhea is a problem: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink plenty of fluids. • Eat and drink often in small amounts. • Avoid high fibre foods as outlined in <i>Food Ideas to Help Manage Diarrhea</i>.* |
| Constipation may sometimes occur. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise if you can. • Drink plenty of fluids. • Try ideas in <i>Suggestions for Dealing with Constipation</i>.* |
| Headache may sometimes occur. | Take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours if needed, to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day. |
| Muscle, joint, or back pain may sometimes occur. | You may take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day for mild to moderate pain. Tell your doctor if the pain interferes with your activity. |
| Swelling of hands, feet, or lower legs may sometimes occur if your body retains extra fluid. | If swelling is a problem: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevate your feet when sitting. • Avoid tight clothing. |
| You may sometimes have trouble sleeping . | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to your doctor if you continue to have trouble sleeping. • This will return to normal when you stop taking carfilzomib. |

| SIDE EFFECTS | MANAGEMENT |
|---|---|
| Tiredness and lack of energy may commonly occur. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not drive a car or operate machinery if you are feeling tired. • Try the ideas in <i>Your Bank to Energy Savings: Helping People with Cancer Handle Fatigue</i>.* |
| Increased calcium in the blood may sometimes occur. | To help prevent high calcium: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep active. • Drink plenty of fluids. |
| Blood clots may rarely occur. This is more likely to happen if you have had blood clots before. Signs to watch for include tenderness or hardness over a vein, calf tenderness, sudden onset of cough, chest pain, or shortness of breath. | To help prevent blood clots: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep active. • Drink plenty of fluids. • Avoid tight clothing. • Do not sit with your legs crossed at the knees. |
| Numbness or tingling of the fingers or toes may sometimes occur. This will slowly return to normal once your treatments are over. This may take several months. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be careful when handling items that are sharp, hot, or cold. • Tell your doctor at your next visit, especially if you have trouble with buttons, writing, or picking up small objects. |
| Sugar control may rarely be affected in diabetics. | Check your blood sugar regularly if you are diabetic. |
| Hair loss does not occur with carfilzomib. | |

***Please ask your chemotherapy nurse or pharmacist for a copy**

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

- Signs of an **allergic reaction** soon after a treatment including dizziness, fast heartbeat, face swelling, or breathing problems.
- Signs of an **infection** such as fever (over 100°F or 38°C by an oral thermometer), shaking chills; severe sore throat, productive cough (coughing up thick or green sputum); cloudy or foul smelling urine; painful, tender, or swollen red skin wounds or sores.
- Signs of **bleeding problems** such as black, tarry stools; blood in urine; pinpoint red spots on skin; extensive bruising.
- Signs of a **blood clot** such as tenderness or hardness over a vein, calf swelling and tenderness, sudden onset of cough, chest pain, or shortness of breath.
- Signs of **heart or lung problems** such as fast or uneven heartbeat, chest pain, chest pressure, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty in breathing, swelling of feet or lower legs, or fainting.
- **Seizures** or **loss of consciousness** with or without **confusion, headache, or changes in eyesight.**

