



BC Cancer Agency

For the Patient: Leucovorin

Other names: calcium folinate, citrovorum factor, folinic acid, LEDERLE LEUCOVORIN®, 5-formyl tetrahydrofolate

- Leucovorin (loo-koe-VOR-in) is a drug that is used to “rescue” normal cells (but not cancer cells) from the effects of an anti-cancer drug called methotrexate. This helps prevent harmful side effects. It is a tablet that you take by mouth.
- Tell your doctor if you have ever had an unusual or **allergic reaction** to leucovorin before taking leucovorin.
- It is important to **take** leucovorin exactly as directed by your doctor. Make sure you understand the directions.
- You may **take** leucovorin with food or on an empty stomach.
- If you **vomit** the dose of leucovorin within 30 minutes of taking, take another dose immediately and call your cancer doctor.
- If you **miss a dose** of leucovorin, take it as soon as you can and call your cancer doctor.
- Other drugs may **interact** with leucovorin. Tell your doctor if you are taking any other drugs as you may need extra blood tests or your dose may need to be changed. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before you start taking any new drugs.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of leucovorin.
- **Store** leucovorin tablets out of the reach of children, at room temperature, away from heat, light, and moisture.

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
Nausea does not occur with leucovorin.	
Hair loss does not occur with leucovorin.	

