• **Streptozocin** (strept toe zoe’ sin) is a drug that is used to treat many types of cancer. It is a clear, pale yellow liquid that is injected into a vein.

• A **blood test** may be taken before each treatment. The dose and timing of your chemotherapy 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 may help prevent kidney problems.

• Other drugs such as phenytoin (DILANTIN®) may **interact** with streptozocin. Tell your doctor if you are taking this or 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 or stop taking any other drugs.

• The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of streptozocin.

• Streptozocin may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with streptozocin. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breast feed during treatment.

• **Tell** doctors, dentists, and other health professionals that you are being treated with streptozocin before you receive any treatment from them.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIDE EFFECTS</th>
<th>MANAGEMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Streptozocin <strong>burns</strong> if it leaks under the skin.</td>
<td>Tell your nurse or doctor <strong>immediately</strong> if you feel burning, stinging, or any other change while the drug is being given.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pain or tenderness</strong> may occur where the needle was placed.</td>
<td>Apply cool compresses or soak in cool water for 15-20 minutes several times a day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIDE EFFECTS</td>
<td>MANAGEMENT</td>
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| **Nausea and vomiting** may occur 1-4 hours after your treatment and may last for 24 hours. | You will be given a prescription for antinausea drug(s) to take before your chemotherapy treatment and/or at home. **It is easier to prevent nausea than treat it once it has occurred**, so follow directions closely.  
  - Drink plenty of fluids.  
  - Eat and drink often in small amounts.  
  - Try the ideas in *Food Choices to Help Control Nausea.*  |
| Streptozocin may rarely **decrease blood sugar.** | If you experience muscle weakness, headache, confusion, trembling, sweating, irritability, fast heartbeat, restlessness, or slurred speech:  
  - Drink something high in sugar such as pop or fruit juice or suck on a hard candy.  
  - Check your blood sugar regularly if you are diabetic.  
  - Call your doctor or get emergency help if symptoms continue.  |
| Streptozocin may rarely **increase blood sugar.** | Check your blood sugar regularly if you are diabetic.  |
| **Diarrhea** may rarely occur. | If diarrhea is a problem:  
  - Drink plenty of fluids.  
  - Eat and drink often in small amounts.  
  - Avoid high fibre foods as outlined in *Food Ideas to Help with Diarrhea During Chemotherapy.*  |
| Your **white blood cells** may decrease 7-14 days after your treatment. They usually return to normal 21 days after your last treatment. 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. | To help prevent infection:  
  - Wash your hands often and always after using the bathroom.  
  - Avoid crowds and people who are sick.  
  - Call your doctor **immediately** 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.  |
| **Hair loss** does not occur with streptozocin. | *Please ask your chemotherapy nurse or pharmacist for a copy.*  |
SEE YOUR DOCTOR OR GET EMERGENCY HELP IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:

- Repeated vomiting and cannot keep fluids or medications down.
- 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 low blood sugar that continue after drinking something high in sugar or sucking on a hard candy. Signs of low blood sugar include: muscle weakness, headache, confusion, trembling, sweating, irritability, fast heartbeat, restlessness, or slurred speech.

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

- Signs of anemia such as unusual tiredness or weakness.
- Signs of liver problems such as yellow eyes or skin, white or clay-coloured stools.
- Signs of kidney problems such as lower back or side pain, swelling of feet or lower legs, or absence of urine formation.

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

- Uncontrolled nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Excessive thirst or urine output.
- Easy bruising or minor bleeding.
- Redness, swelling, pain, or sores where the needle was placed.
- For diabetics: uncontrolled blood sugars.

REPORT ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS TO YOUR DOCTOR