

Side Effects**What You Should Do****Prevention****More Common:**

- Blood in urine; fever, chills; frequent urge to urinate, painful urination; joint pain; nausea
- Burning during first urination after treatment
- Flu-like illness a few hours after treatment (fever, headache, aching muscles and joints)

- Contact your doctor or nurse as soon as possible.
- Contact your doctor or nurse if it continues.
- Take acetaminophen tablets for fever and pain.

- This is a temporary problem and it is to be expected. Get plenty of rest and continue to drink plenty of fluids.

Rare:

- Skin rash (limbs and trunk)
- Unusual cough
- Yellow eyes or skin, itchy feeling
- Difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, wheezing or other signs of allergic reaction during treatment

- Contact your doctor or nurse as soon as possible.
- Contact your doctor or nurse.
- Go directly to the local Emergency Department and contact your doctor or nurse.

- Your doctor will monitor blood tests for the liver functions.

Precautions:

- Tell your doctor or nurse if you are pregnant or breast feeding.
- Tell your doctor or nurse if you have ever had unusual or allergic reactions to BCG or TB (tuberculosis) vaccinations.
- Tell your doctor or nurse if you have any other medical problems especially fever, immunity problems (or if you are receiving drugs which lessen your response to infection, such as prednisone or dexamethasone) or urinary tract infection.
- The solution must be held in your bladder for up to two hours. During the first hour, you may have to change position, lying down for 15 minutes on your stomach, back and each side. When you do empty your bladder, you should be sitting down on the toilet. Tell your doctor or nurse if you think this may be a problem.
- It is important to drink extra fluids for several hours after treatment and to empty your bladder frequently to help avoid bladder problems. You should sit to empty your bladder each time for the next 8 hours. Wash your hands and genitals after each time you empty your bladder.
- BCG contains live bacteria. All urine passed within the first three days after treatment must be disinfected with about one cup of bleach (undiluted). Add bleach to the urine in the toilet and let this sit for 15 minutes before flushing. Wash your hands carefully after each trip to the toilet.
- DO NOT have any vaccinations or TB skin test without checking with your doctor or nurse. BCG may cause a positive TB test, without tuberculosis.

This information sheet does not contain all known information about this drug
For more information on this medication, please call your doctor, pharmacist or nurse

(Phone Number for your Doctor or Nurse)

Or call the Canadian Cancer Society's
Cancer Information Service at
1-888-939-3333
or at
www.cancer.ca

Collaborative Project of:
Systemic Therapy Program, Cancer Care Nova Scotia
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MEDICATION INFO SHEET

BCG BLADDER INSTILLATION (Bacillus Calmette-Guerin)

Other names for this medication:

ImmuCyst BCG Therapeutic® Oncotice® Pacis® (Brand Names)

Appearance:

Cloudy solution for instillation into the urinary bladder.

Why this medication is used:

BCG instillation is used to treat bladder cancer.

How do you take this medication:

BCG is instilled directly into the urinary bladder, through a catheter inserted by your nurse. You will hold this solution in your bladder for one or two hours, or as instructed by your doctor or nurse.

Do not drink liquids for two hours before your treatment, so your bladder is empty.