UPMC | HILLMAN CANCER CENTER

Daratumumab (Darzalex)

About This Medicine

Daratumumab is used to treat cancer. It is given in the vein (IV).

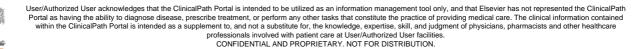
Possible Side Effects

- Bone marrow suppression. This is a decrease in the number of white blood cells, red blood cells, and platelets. This may raise your risk of infection, make you tired and weak, and raise your risk of bleeding.
- Nausea
- Diarrhea (loose bowel movements)
- Constipation (not able to move bowels)
- Fever
- While you are getting this medicine in your vein (IV), you may have a reaction to the medicine. Sometimes you may be given medicine to stop or lessen these side effects. Your nurse will check you closely for these signs: fever or shaking chills, flushing, facial swelling, feeling dizzy, headache, blurred vision or other changes in eyesight, trouble breathing, rash, itching, chest tightness, or chest pain. These reactions may happen after your infusion. If this happens, call 911 for emergency care.
- Tiredness and weakness
- Swelling of your legs, ankles and/or feet
- Effects on the nerves are called peripheral neuropathy. You may feel numbness, tingling, or pain in your hands and feet. It may be hard for you to button your clothes, open jars, or walk as usual. The effect on the nerves may get worse with more doses of the medicine. These effects get better in some people after the medicine is stopped but it does not get better in all people.
- Cough and trouble breathing
- Upper respiratory tract infection

Note: Each of the side effects above was reported in 20% or greater of patients treated with daratumumab. All possible side effects are not included. Your side effects may be different depending on your cancer diagnosis, condition, or if you are receiving other medicines in combination. Please discuss any concerns or questions with your medical team.

Warnings and Precautions

• Severe reaction to the medicine, which can be life-threatening.



• This medicine can affect the results of blood tests that match your blood type during your treatment and for up to 6 months after your treatment. Your blood type will be tested before treatment. Be sure to tell all healthcare providers you are taking this medicine before receiving blood transfusions, and for 6 months after your last dose.

Important Information

- Reactivation of the hepatitis B virus if you have ever been exposed to the virus. This can affect your liver function and cause liver failure and be life-threatening.
- Cytotoxic medicines leave the body through urine and stool, but they can also be present in other body fluids such as blood, vomit, semen, and vaginal fluids. Take precautions to prevent others from coming in contact with your medicine or your body fluids. Follow safety precautions during your treatment and for as long as directed by your health care provider after your treatment. If you take a cytotoxic pill each day, follow these precautions every day.
- This medicine contains sorbitol, a source of fructose. Talk to your doctor if you have hereditary fructose intolerance (HFI) and cannot break down fructose.

Treating Side Effects

- Manage tiredness by pacing your activities for the day.
- Be sure to include periods of rest between energy-draining activities.
- To decrease the risk of infection, wash your hands regularly.
- Avoid close contact with people who have a cold, the flu, or other infections.
- Take your temperature as your doctor or nurse tells you, and whenever you feel like you may have a fever.
- To help decrease the risk of bleeding, use a soft toothbrush. Check with your nurse before using dental floss.
- Be very careful when using knives or tools.
- Use an electric shaver instead of a razor.
- Drink enough fluids to keep your urine pale yellow.
- If you throw up or have diarrhea, you should drink more fluids so that you do not become dehydrated (lack of water in the body from losing too much fluid).
- To help with nausea, eat small, frequent meals instead of three large meals a day. Choose foods and drinks that are at room temperature. Ask your nurse or doctor about other helpful tips and medicine that is available to help stop or lessen these symptoms.
- If you have diarrhea, eat low-fiber foods that are high in protein and calories and avoid foods that can irritate your digestive tracts or lead to cramping.
- If you are not able to move your bowels, check with your doctor or nurse before you use enemas, laxatives, or suppositories.
- Ask your nurse or doctor about medicine that can lessen or stop your diarrhea and/or constipation.
- If you have numbness and tingling in your hands and feet, be careful when cooking, walking, and handling sharp objects and hot liquids.



• Infusion reactions may rarely occur after your infusion. If this happens, call 911 for emergency care.

Food and Medicine Interactions

- There are no known interactions of daratumumab with food.
- This medicine may interact with other medicines. Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all the prescription and over-the-counter medicines and dietary supplements (vitamins, minerals, herbs, and others) that you are taking at this time. Also, check with your doctor or pharmacist before starting any new prescription or over-the-counter medicines, or dietary supplements to make sure that there are no interactions.

When to Call the Doctor

Call your doctor or nurse if you have any of these symptoms and/or any new or unusual symptoms:

- Fever of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher
- Chills
- Tiredness and/or weakness that interferes with your daily activities
- Feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- Easy bleeding or bruising
- Cough that is bothersome and/or coughing up yellow, green, or bloody mucus
- Wheezing and/or trouble breathing
- Nausea that stops you from eating or drinking and/or is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Throwing up more than 3 times a day
- No bowel movement in 3 days or when you feel uncomfortable
- Diarrhea, 4 times in one day or diarrhea with lack of strength or a feeling of being dizzy
- Weight gain of 5 pounds in one week (fluid retention)
- Swelling of your legs, ankles and/or feet
- Signs of possible liver problems: dark urine, pale bowel movements, pain in your abdomen, feeling very tired and weak, unusual itching, or yellowing of the eyes or skin
- Signs of infusion reaction: fever or shaking chills, flushing, facial swelling, feeling dizzy, headache, trouble breathing, blurred vision or other changes in eyesight, rash, itching, chest tightness, or chest pain. If this happens, call 911 for emergency care.
- Numbness, tingling, or pain in your hands and feet
- If you think you may be pregnant

Reproduction Warnings

• **Pregnancy warning**: This medicine may have harmful effects on the unborn baby. Women of childbearing potential should use effective methods of birth control during your cancer treatment and for 3 months after stopping treatment. Let your doctor know right away if you think you may



be pregnant. When receiving daratumumab in combination with other agents, please refer to the medicine guide of those agents for more specific information.

- **Breastfeeding warning**: It is not known if this medicine passes into breast milk. Women should not breastfeed during treatment because this medicine could enter the breast milk and cause harm to a breastfeeding baby. When receiving daratumumab in combination with other agents, please refer to the medicine guide of those agents for more specific information.
- Fertility warning: Fertility studies have not been done with this medicine. Talk with your doctor or nurse if you plan to have children. Ask for information on sperm or egg banking.

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