

Palonosetron

About This Medicine

Palonosetron is a medicine used before chemotherapy to prevent nausea and vomiting (throwing up) during chemotherapy. It is given in the vein (IV).

Possible Side Effects

- Constipation (unable to move bowels)
- Headache

Note: Each of the side effects above was reported in 5% or greater of patients treated with palonosetron. 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

- Allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis, are rare but may happen in some patients. Signs of allergic reaction to this medicine may be swelling of the face, feeling like your tongue or throat are swelling, trouble breathing, rash, itching, fever, chills, feeling dizzy, and/or feeling that your heart is beating in a fast or not normal way. **If this happens, do not take another dose of this medicine. You should get urgent medical treatment.**
- This medicine can increase the serotonin level in your body which can cause serotonin syndrome, especially when used in combination with other medications that can increase serotonin. This condition can be harmful to your brain and nerve cells and can be life-threatening.

Note: Some of the side effects above are very rare. If you have concerns and/or questions, please discuss them with your medical team.

Treating Side Effects

- Drink enough fluids to keep your urine pale yellow.
- If you are not able to move your bowels, check with your doctor or nurse before you use enemas, laxatives, or suppositories.
- Ask your doctor or nurse about medicines that are available to help stop or lessen constipation.



- Keeping your pain under control is important to your well-being. Please tell your doctor or nurse if you are experiencing pain.
- While you are getting this medicine, please tell your nurse right away if you get a rash, swelling or bruising or your skin gets red, warm, itchy or painful at the site of your infusion.

Food and Medicine Interactions

- There are no known interactions of palonosetron with food.
- Check with your doctor or pharmacist about all other prescription medicines and over-the-counter medicines and dietary supplements (vitamins, minerals, herbs, and others) you are taking before starting this medicine as there are known medicine interactions with palonosetron. 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:

- Headache that does not go away
- No bowel movement in 3 days or when you feel uncomfortable
- Signs of serotonin syndrome: irritability, confusion, feeling that your heart is beating in a fast or not normal way, muscle stiffness, twitching muscles, fever, chills, sweating, vomiting, diarrhea and/or seizure.
- Signs of allergic reaction: swelling of the face, feeling like your tongue or throat are swelling, trouble breathing, rash, itching, fever, chills, feeling dizzy, and/or feeling that your heart is beating in a fast or not normal way. **If this happens, call 911 for emergency care.**
- If you think you may be pregnant

Reproduction Warnings

- **Pregnancy warning:** It is not known if this medicine may harm an unborn baby. For this reason, be sure to talk with your doctor if you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant while receiving this medicine.
- **Breastfeeding warning:** It is not known if this medicine passes into breast milk. For this reason, women should talk to their doctor about the risks and benefits of breastfeeding during treatment with this medicine because this medicine may enter the breast milk and cause harm to a breastfeeding baby.
- **Fertility warning:** Fertility studies have not been done with this medicine. Talk with your doctor or nurse if you plan to have children.

New February 2024

