

Radium 223 dichloride (Xofigo)

About This Drug

Radium 223 dichloride is a radioactive drug used to decrease bone complications of 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 and vomiting (throwing up)
- Diarrhea (loose bowel movements)
- Swelling of your legs, ankles and/or feet

Note: Each of the side effects above was reported in 10% or greater of patients treated with radium 223 dichloride. 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 drugs in combination. Please discuss any concerns or questions with your medical team.

Warnings and Precautions

- Severe bone marrow suppression, which can be life-threatening
- Increased risk of fractures and death when radium 223 dichloride is used in combination with abiraterone acetate and prednisone/prednisolone.

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

Important Information

- Stay well hydrated during your treatment.
- You may continue your normal daily activities with friends and family members after your injection.
- It is important that you follow good hygiene practices during treatment and for at least 1 week after treatment to minimize radiation exposure from your bodily fluids to others.



- It is recommended that you flush the toilet several times after each use and wash your hands after using the bathroom.
- Clothing soiled with urine, blood, or fecal matter should be washed promptly and separately from other clothing. Household members and caregivers should use gloves when handling bodily fluids to avoid contamination.

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 plenty of fluids (a minimum of eight glasses per day is recommended).
- 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).
- 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.
- Ask your nurse or doctor about medicine that can lessen or stop your diarrhea.
- To help with nausea and vomiting, 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.

Food and Drug Interactions

- There are no known interactions of radium 223 dichloride with food.
- This drug 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 that interferes with your daily activities
- Feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- Easy bleeding or bruising
- Diarrhea, 4 times a day or diarrhea with lack of strength or a feeling of being dizzy
- Nausea that stops you from eating or drinking and/or is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Throwing up more than 3 times a day
- Weight gain of 5 pounds in one week (fluid retention)
- Swelling of your legs, ankles and/or feet
- Decreased or very dark urine
- Difficulty urinating
- If you think you may have impregnated your partner

Reproduction Warnings

- **Pregnancy warning:** Radium 223 dichloride is not indicated for use in women. This drug can have harmful effects on the unborn baby. Men with female partners of childbearing potential should use a condom during your cancer treatment and for 6 months after stopping treatment and their female partners of childbearing potential should use effective methods of birth control during and for 6 months after stopping treatment. Let your doctor know right away if you think you may have impregnated your partner.
- **Breastfeeding warning:** Radium 223 dichloride is not indicated for use in women. It is not known if this drug passes into breast milk.
- **Fertility warning:** In men, this drug may affect your ability to have children in the future. Talk with your doctor or nurse if you plan to have children. Ask for information on sperm banking.

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