

MEDICATION INFORMATION LEAFLET FOR **THIOTEPA**



This leaflet should be used in conjunction with the complete consumer medicine information (CMI) which is available from any pharmacy.

This leaflet contains information about Thiotepa including details of known side effects. It does not include every possible side effect.

The type and severity of side effects experienced differs for each child. Some side effects are minor and easily treated at home. However, others may be more serious and require prompt medical assessment. Side effects from treatment are routinely monitored with blood tests and clinical examination. If you have any questions about side effects during treatment, please speak to your doctor. Also, if your child experiences any problems or side effects during treatment, please contact your doctor, clinical nurse consultant/coordinator or pharmacy staff for advice.

USE

- Chemotherapy used as part of conditioning (preparation) for a bone marrow transplant

OTHER NAMES

- Thioplex®
- Tespa

PRESENTATION

- A clear, colourless liquid
- Diluted in a bag of fluid

ADMINISTRATION

Administration will always be in a hospital setting

- Intravenous infusion

SIDE EFFECTS *Continued overleaf*

Common

IMMEDIATE (within 1-2 days of receiving drug)	DELAYED (within 1-2 weeks of receiving drug)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nausea or vomiting• Skin irritation• Fatigue• Generalised weakness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decrease in blood count• Mucositis (inflammation or ulceration of the mouth and gut) or mouth ulcers• Infertility (late effect)

Less common

- Hair loss
- Diarrhoea
- Abdominal pain
- Loss of appetite
- Skin rash
- Darkening of the skin
- Headaches
- Dizziness or feeling sleepy
- Eye irritation or soreness
- Blurred vision
- Altered liver enzymes

SIDE EFFECTS (CONT.)

Rare

- Allergic reactions which may be life-threatening. Symptoms of a severe reaction may include skin rash or hives, swelling or tingling of the lips and face, difficulty breathing and low blood pressure which may lead to collapse. Seek medical attention **immediately** if any of the above symptoms occur.
- Difficulty with urination
- New leukaemia or tumour (very rare)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Thiotepa can cause skin irritation. In higher doses used in bone marrow transplant, Thiotepa is excreted in the sweat and can irritate and damage the skin. This can occur anywhere on the body, particularly the groin, armpits and skin creases.
- While receiving Thiotepa, and for 24 hours after the last dose of Thiotepa has finished:
 - Take a bath or shower every 6 hours. Use only water to wash the skin. Pat the skin to dry, avoid rubbing. Pay particular attention to the groin, armpits and skin creases. If helping with bathing or showering, wear gloves.
 - Wear loose fitting clothes. Clothes and bed linen should be changed every time a bath or shower is taken. If helping with changing clothes or bed linen, wear gloves.
 - If nappies are worn, change the nappy every 2 hours. If nappies are not soiled or wet, they should still be changed. Clean the bottom with warm water and a washcloth, do not use baby wipes. Wear gloves when changing nappies.
- Parents/caregivers should wear a long sleeved gown when long periods of direct contact with patient's skin may occur.
- Do not apply moisturizers, lotions, creams, deodorants or antiperspirants to the skin. They can trap the sweat and Thiotepa in the skin, and cause further irritation and damage.
- Avoid applying tapes and dressings. The central line dressing may be left in place. The nurse will change the central line dressing before commencing Thiotepa and once the last dose of Thiotepa is finished.
- Ask your doctor or pharmacist before using any other medicine including over-the-counter medicines and complementary medicines.
- Avoid excessive exposure to sunlight and use a high SPF sunscreen.
- Keep ALL medication out of the reach of children.

CONTACT

For further information, or to discuss any concerns you may have about your child's medication, please feel free to contact the Children's Cancer Centre of your child's treating hospital:

- The Royal Children's Hospital Oncology Pharmacy (03) 9345 6290
- Monash Children's Hospital Cancer Centre (03) 8572 3456 or Pharmacist desk (03) 8572 3464

Disclaimer: This information has been prepared by the Paediatric Integrated Cancer Service, with input from the Children's Cancer Centre Pharmacy Departments at The Royal Children's Hospital and Monash Children's Hospital. This information is for educational purposes only and should not be seen as a substitute for advice from your doctor or other professional healthcare provider. If you have specific questions about the content of this information, or any other medical matter, it is recommended that you consult your doctor, pharmacist or other professional healthcare provider. This information is considered to be true and correct at the date of publication, however changes in circumstances after the time of publication may impact on the accuracy of this information.