



NEBRASKA CANCER SPECIALISTS

the Physicians of Oncology Hematology West

Campath®

Generic name: Alemtuzumab

Drug type:

Campath is a monoclonal antibody.

How Campath is given:

- Campath is administered by infusion into a vein (intravenous, IV) or as an injection under the skin subcutaneous (SubQ)
- Premedications may be given just before the infusion to reduce the occurrence of infusion-related symptoms.

Side effects of Campath:

Important things to remember about the side effects of Campath:

- You will not get all of the side effects mentioned below.
- Side effects are almost always reversible and will usually go away after therapy is complete.
- Side effects are quite manageable. There are many options to minimize or prevent them

Infusion/Injection-related side effects (symptoms which may occur during the actual treatment) include:

- Occur within the first 30-60 minutes after the start of the treatment and most commonly during the first week of treatment. Symptoms include: fever and chills, nausea and vomiting, itching, skin rash, fatigue headache, diarrhea, shortness of breath, and/or low blood pressure.
- Premedication is given to reduce the incidence of these reactions, and the treatment is started with a test dose that is gradually increased as tolerated.

The following are common side effects for patients receiving Campath:

- Low blood counts; white and red blood cells and platelets may temporarily decrease in number
- Nausea and vomiting
- Infection

These are less common side effects for patients receiving Campath:

- Cough
- Bronchitis
- Muscle pain
- Poor appetite
- Sweating
- Headache
- Numbness in the hands or feet
- Mouth sores
- Weakness
- Swelling of the hands or feet
- Sore throat
- Dizziness
- High blood pressure
- Abdominal pain
- Chest pain
- Heartburn
- Back pain

When to contact your doctor or health care provider:

Contact your health care provider ***immediately***, day or night, if you should experience the following:

- Fever of 101° F or higher, chills (possible signs of infection)

The following symptoms require medical attention, but are not an emergency. Contact your health care provider ***within 24 hours*** after noticing any of the following:

- Vomiting (more than 4-5 episodes within a 24-hour period)
- Nausea that interferes with eating and is not relieved by medications prescribed by your doctor
- Diarrhea (4 to 6 stools within a 24-hour period)
- Unusual bleeding or bruising
- Black or tarry stool or blood in your stools or urine
- Extreme fatigue (unable to perform self care activities)
- Pain, redness or swelling at the injection site

Always inform your health care provider if you experience any unusual symptoms.