



NEBRASKA CANCER SPECIALISTS

the Physicians of Oncology Hematology West

Cathflo Activase®

Generic name: altepase

Drug type: Cathflo is a medication used to help restore function to central lines. It is often used on patients whose central line is not giving a blood return.

Occasionally, central lines become blocked by small pieces of fibrin. Fibrin is a component of the blood that helps it to clot. Blocked central lines can cause treatment delays and even lead to catheter replacement.

How this drug is given:

- Cathflo is given by an injection into your central line, only a small amount, 2ml is given.

Important things to know about Cathflo:

- Only enough Cathflo to fill your catheter will be given to you
- The nurse will periodically check your line for blood return by drawing back on the syringe, which may take 30-120 minutes.
- When blood comes out of your catheter, the Cathflo is withdrawn from the line.
- Only a small amount of Cathflo actually goes into your system, and it is not harmful
- A second dose is sometimes required.

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