



NEBRASKA CANCER SPECIALISTS

the Physicians of Oncology Hematology West

Hexalen ®

Generic name: Altretamine

Drug type: Hexalen is an anti-cancer/cytotoxic chemotherapy drug.

How this drug is given:

- Altretamine is taken by mouth in capsule form.
- Altretamine should be taken after meals.

Side effects:

Important things to remember about the side effects of altretamine:

- Most people do not experience all of the side effects listed.
- Side effects are almost always reversible and will usually go away after treatment is complete.
- There are many options to help minimize or prevent side effects.

The following side effects are common for patients receiving altretamine:

- Nausea and vomiting
- Loss of appetite
- Diarrhea
- Low blood counts. Your white and red blood cells and platelets may temporarily decrease, putting you at increased risk for infection, anemia and or bleeding.

These are less common side effects for patients receiving altretamine:

- Peripheral neuropathy: (numbness and/or tingling of the fingers and/or toes)
- Stomach cramping
- Dizziness, sleepiness or weakness
- Depression, agitation, mood changes

When to contact your doctor or health care professional:

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

- 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:

- Nausea (interferes with ability to eat and unrelieved with prescribed medication)
- Vomiting (vomiting more than 4-5 times in a 24 hour period)
- Unusual bleeding or bruising
- Black or tarry stools, or blood in your stools or urine
- Diarrhea (4-6 episodes in a 24-hour period)
- Extreme fatigue (unable to carry on self-care activities)
- Excessive sleepiness or confusion

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