



NEBRASKA CANCER SPECIALISTS

the Physicians of Oncology Hematology West

Temodar®

Generic Name: Temozolomide

Drug Type:

Temodar is an anti-cancer/cytotoxic chemotherapy drug.

How Temodar is given:

- Temodar is given in a capsule form by mouth.
- Take on an empty stomach (1 hour before or 2 hours after meals or at bedtime) to reduce stomach upset.
- Do not open, crush, or chew capsules; swallow capsules whole with full 8 ounces of water.

Side effects of Temodar:

Important things to remember about the side effects of Temodar:

- 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 Temodar:

- Nausea and vomiting
- Constipation
- Headache
- Fatigue

These are less common side effects of patients receiving Temodar:

- Low blood counts. Your white and red blood cells and platelets may temporarily decrease. This can put you at increased risk for infection, anemia and/or bleeding. This side effect is not common but can be severe. Your blood counts will be monitored routinely throughout treatment.

Delayed effects of Temodar:

- Swelling in the hands and feet
- Central neurotoxicity; dizziness, problems with balance, weakness to one side of body, seizures, or excessive sleepiness
- Diarrhea
- Weakness

- Skin rash
- Itching

When to contact your doctor or health care provider:

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)
- Shortness of breath, wheezing, difficulty breathing, closing up of the throat, swelling of facial features, hives (possible allergic reaction)

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

- Unusual bleeding or bruising
- Black or tarry stools, or blood in your stools or urine
- Constipation unrelieved by laxative use
- Diarrhea (4-6 episodes in a 24-hour period)
- Unusual bleeding or bruising
- Black or tarry stools, or blood in your stools or urine
- Extreme fatigue (unable to carry on self-care activities)
- Signs of infection such as redness or swelling, pain on swallowing, coughing up mucous, or painful urination
- Unable to eat or drink for 24 hours or have signs of dehydration: tiredness, thirst, dry mouth, dark and decrease amount of urine, or dizziness

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