



NEBRASKA CANCER SPECIALISTS

the Physicians of Oncology Hematology West

Xeloda ®

Generic name: Capecitabine

Drug type:

Xeloda is an anti-cancer/cytotoxic chemotherapy drug.

How Xeloda is given:

- Taken as a pill by mouth.
- Take after food (within 30 minutes of a meal) with water.
- Do not crush, chew or dissolve tablets.

Xeloda side effects:

Important things to remember about Xeloda side effects:

- 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 Xeloda:

- Low red blood cell count
- Fatigue
- Diarrhea
- Hand -foot syndrome (Palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia or PPE) -skin rash, swelling, redness, pain and/or peeling of the skin on the palms of hands and soles of feet. Usually mild, has started as early as 2 weeks after start of treatment.
- Nausea and vomiting
- Dermatitis
- Elevated liver function blood tests

These are less common side effects for patients receiving Xeloda:

- Poor appetite
- Abdominal pain
- Low white blood cell count
- Low platelet count
- Mouth sores
- Numbness or tingling of hands or feet
- Swelling of the feet and ankles
- Fever
- Constipation

- Eye irritation (watery eyes, inflammation of the eyelids, redness)
- Shortness of breath
- Headache
- Chest, back, muscle, joint, bone pain
- Dizziness
- Insomnia
- Dehydration
- Cough
- Blood clots.
- Excessive sleepiness, confusion, very rare seizures
- Loss of balance
- Nail changes, darkening of the skin
- Taste changes

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)

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:

- Nausea (interferes with ability to eat and unrelieved with prescribed medication)
- Vomiting (vomiting more than 4-5 times in a 24 hour period)
- Diarrhea (4-6 episodes in a 24-hour period)
- Unusual bleeding or bruising
- Black or tarry stools, or blood in your stools or urine
- Constipation
- Extreme fatigue (unable to carry on self-care activities)
- Mouth sores (painful redness, swelling or ulcers)
- Swelling, redness and/or pain in one leg or arm and not the other
- Yellowing of the skin or eyes
- Tingling or burning, redness, swelling of the palms of the hands or soles of feet
- Confusion, loss of balance, excessive sleepiness

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