Arroyo Grande Community Hospital
A Dignity Health Member

If you have any questions, **please consult your physician or call AGCH Coastal Cancer Care at 805.481.7245. For emergency, call 911.**

PATIENT EDUCATION

Daunorubicin (Daunomycin, Cerubidine)

SIDE EFFECTS

It is important for the patient to follow all prescription instructions carefully. You may experience some, all, or none of the following:

- **Nausea/Vomiting –** Fairly common occurring 1-3 hours after treatment and may last for up to 24 hours. You will be given medication before and after your treatment to try and control or prevent this.
- **Discolored Urine –** Urine may be pink/red for up to 48 hours after the drug is given.
- **Loss of Hair –** Complete hair loss usually occurs 2 or more weeks after treatment begins. Hair will usually grow back when treatment is completed**.**
- **Lowered Blood Counts –** This usually occurs 1-2 weeks after treatment. During this time you are more susceptible to colds, infections, and bleeding. You will have blood tests done to check your blood counts.
- **Mouth Sores –** May get worse as treatment continues.
- **Heart Muscle Damage –** This may occur. Studies are usually done before the drug is given, at certain times throughout treatment, and after finishing treatment to assess your heart function.
- **Sensitivity to Sun –** Do not stay in the sun for long periods of time because your skin is more sensitive to the sun; it may burn more easily than normal. Use a sunscreen whenever you are in the sun.

PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Notify your doctor or nurse immediately if you experience:

- Signs of Infection: Chills or fever above 100.5°F, new or significant cough or shortness of breath, pain or burning with urination, a sore that is red and swollen.
- Signs of Bleeding: Nosebleed that will not stop with pressure, bleeding gums, blood in urine or stool, unusual bruising, red or purple spots on body.
- Any shortness of breath or ankle swelling.
- Persistent nausea/vomiting or unable to eat or drink for 24 hours.
- Develop redness, pain, or swelling at the injection site.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

- **Birth Control Measures** – are necessary during and for 4 months after treatment due to potential harm to sperm/egg health.
- **Before any dental procedure, be sure to tell your dentist you are taking this medication.**
- **This drug may e very irritating to the tissue if it leaks out of the vein. TELL YOUR NURSE IMMEDIATELY IF YOU FEEL ANY BURNING, STINGING, OR PAIN WHILE THE DRUG IS BEING GIVEN.**