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

Mithramycin (Plicamycin, Mithracin)

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 and Vomiting** – This may occur within 6 hours of treatment and lasts 12-24 hours. You will be given medication to try and control or prevent this.
- **Loss of Appetite** – is common
- **Diarrhea**
- **Sore in Mouth**
- **Loss of Hair** – May occur, is temporary. Begins 3 weeks after treatment.
- **Lowered Blood Counts** – This is temporary and occurs 7-14 days after treatment. During this time you are more susceptible to colds, infections and bleeding. Your blood levels will be checked periodically.
- **Interference with Clotting of Blood** – Watch for and report new or unusual bleeding.
- **Irritation to Veins at Injection Site** – This medication is irritating to the vein it is given through. If it should leak outside of the vein, it can burn and damage the surrounding tissue. You will be closely monitored while receiving this medication. YOU MUST TELL THE NURSE IMMEDIATELY IF YOU EXPERIENCE ANY PAIN OR DISCOMFORT WHILE RECEIVING THIS DRUG.
- **Metallic Taste**

PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Notify your doctor or oncology nurse immediately if you experience:

- Redness, pain, or burning at the injection site
- Uncontrolled nausea and vomiting; inability to eat or drink for more than 24 hours
- Signs of Bleeding: Nosebleeds that will not stop with pressure; bleeding gums; blood in urine or stools, unusual bruising, red or purple spots on body
- 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, white patches in your mouth or on your tongue.
- Uncontrolled diarrhea
- Change in urine output

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

- **Birth Control Measures** – are necessary during and for 4 months after treatment due to potential harm to sperm/egg health.
- Leakage of this drug outside the vein can cause pain and skin damage similar to a serious burn. Tell your nurse/doctor IMMEDIATELY if you have any pain at the injection site.
- **Before any dental procedure, be sure to tell your dentist you are taking this medication.**