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

Vincristine (Oncovin)

SIDE EFFECTS

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

- **Constipation** – May experience a decrease in the number of bowel movements. You may need to make some changes in your diet and/or medications to control and/or prevent this problem. Information will be provided at the time of treatment.
- **Temporary Numbness (feelings of pins and needles) in your Fingers and Toes** – This should be a temporary effect. However, please tell your doctor if this side effect occurs.
- **Mild Nausea** – Medication will be given to you to help control or prevent this.
- **Thinning or Loss of Hair** – This is a temporary side effect.
- **Abdominal Pain** – Please advise your MD as it needs to be evaluated if it persists.
- **Jaw Pain, Muscle Pain, or Bone Pain**
- **Lowered Blood Counts** – This is temporary and usually mild; occurs 7-10 days after treatment. During this time you are more susceptible to colds, infections, and bleeding. Blood tests may be done to monitor your blood counts.

PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Notify your doctor or oncology nurse immediately if you experience:

- Redness, pain, or swelling at site of injection.
- Constipation that persists more than two days beyond what is normal for you
- Numbness or tingling in fingers and toes that is so sever that it limits your ability to function normally (difficulty buttoning shirt or walking).
- Blood in stools or urine; bleeding gums; unusual bruising; nosebleeds that will not stop with pressure; red or purple spots on your body; or a cut that takes longer than usual to stop bleeding.
- 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.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Increase the amount of fiber in your diet and drink plenty of fluids
- Take stool softeners and laxatives as prescribed.
- This drug can cause damage to your tissue if it leaks out of the vein. **PLEASE TELL YOUR NURSE IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE NAY PAIN OR PROBLEM AT THE IV SITE.**
- **Birth Control Measures** are necessary during treatment and for 4 months after treatment
- **Before any dental procedure, be sure and tell your dentist you are taking this medication.**