

PHARMACY

Drug Information

Carfilzomib (Kyprolis®) Injection



What is Carfilzomib (Kyprolis)?

- Carfilzomib is used to treat relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma. It may be used alone or in combination with other anti-myeloma drugs such as Lenalidomide or Dexamethasone.

How is Carfilzomib Administered?

- Carfilzomib is usually administered as a 10 to 30 minute-injection into your vein (intravenous).
- Intravenous hydration would be required prior to the first cycle of Carfilzomib especially in patients at high risk of tumor lysis syndrome (where the tumor cells breakdown and release vast amounts of uric acid potentially causing renal impairment) or renal toxicity.

Can Carfilzomib Be Administered / Taken With Other Medications?

- Please inform your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking other medications, including Traditional Chinese Medicines, Jamu medicines or supplements.

What Are The Important Side Effects Of Carfilzomib?

- Allergic reactions
Carfilzomib may rarely cause an allergic reaction while it's being given. Signs of a reaction can include a rash, flushing or shortness of breath, swelling of your face or lips, feeling dizzy, having abdominal, back or chest pain or feeling unwell.
- Pain along the vein
Carfilzomib may cause pain along the vein. If you feel pain, tell your nurse straight away so that the infusion site can be checked. They may give the drug more slowly or flush it through with more fluids to reduce pain.

- Medications prescribed by your doctor should be beneficial for your condition even though they may result in some inevitable side effects.

Side Effect	Management
Risk of infection can occur as Carfilzomib can reduce the number of white blood cells in your blood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce risk of infection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wash your hands after toileting. - Avoid crowds and people who are sick. - Avoid raw food. • Please proceed to the A&E department immediately if you experience signs of infection such as fever with a temperature of 38°C and above, chills and shivering. Avoid taking Paracetamol (Panadol®) to relieve fever. Be aware that taking Paracetamol may mask fever and hence delay treatment of infection.
Bruising or bleeding can occur as Carfilzomib can reduce the number of platelets in your blood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce risk of bleeding problems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not pick your nose. - Brush your teeth gently with a soft toothbrush. - Be aware that bleeding may take a longer time to stop. • Please proceed to the A&E department immediately if you experience any severe bleeding (eg, passing a large amount of fresh blood in urine or stools, or passing black sticky stools) or significant bruising.
Nausea or vomiting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take small, frequent meals. • Avoid smells that precipitate nausea. • Take medicines for nausea or vomiting prescribed by your doctor. • Avoid tight-fitting clothes around the waist.

Side Effect	Management
Numbness and tingling sensation in the hands or feet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform your doctor if you have trouble buttoning up shirts or you are unable to pick up objects.
Headaches, confusion, fits, loss of vision, high blood pressure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please proceed to the A & E department immediately if you experience such symptoms as these could be signs of a neurological condition.
Very high blood pressure, severe chest pain, severe headache, confusion, blurred vision, nausea and vomiting, or severe anxiety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These may be signs of a hypertensive crisis. Please proceed to the A & E department immediately if you experience such symptoms.
Lung problems (Pneumonitis, inflammation of the lung)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please proceed to the A&E department immediately if you experience difficulty in breathing, shortness of breath, chest pain and/or new or worsening cough
Signs of a blood clot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please proceed to the A & E department immediately if you experience tenderness or hardness over a vein, calf swelling and tenderness, sudden onset of cough, chest pain, or shortness of breath.
Changes in the way the liver works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please proceed to the A & E department immediately if you experience any yellowing of eye white and skin or tea-coloured urine, pale stools or severe abdominal pain.

Side Effect	Management
Changes in the way the heart works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may require tests to check how well your heart is working before, during and sometimes after treatment. Please proceed to the A & E department immediately if you experience shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, tightness in chest, chest pain, fast or irregular heart beat or sudden swelling of legs.

If you develop rashes, facial swelling or shortness of breath after taking the medication, you could be allergic to the medication. Please seek medical attention immediately.

Are There Any Special Precautions That I Need To Take?

- It is important to inform your doctor if you intend to conceive or breastfeed while taking this medication.
- You must not become pregnant during treatment with Carfilzomib and must use an effective method of contraception. Females should take appropriate contraceptive measures during and at least 1 month after cessation of treatment. Males must use an effective method of contraception during and up to 3 months after cessation of treatment. If pregnancy occurs during your treatment, you must inform your doctor immediately.
- You should not breast-feed during treatment.
- No fertility studies have been conducted on Carfilzomib. You should discuss with your doctor regarding fertility preservation prior to starting treatment.

What Else can I do to Help My Condition?

- Exercise
Light exercise is recommended as it helps to improve mobility, balance and even emotional well-being. Avoid strenuous exercise, and rest when you are feeling tired.

- Stay positive
Understand your condition and take an active role in managing it. Do not be afraid to talk about it with your doctor/ pharmacist/ family members. Repressed feelings can be harmful to your immediate well-being and long-term health.
- Adequate hydration
Maintain adequate hydration with 2 to 3 liters (8 to 12 cups) of fluids per day unless informed by your doctor to restrict fluids. This will decrease your chances of getting constipation and also prevent dehydration.
- Medical and dental treatment
If you need to go into hospital for any reason other than cancer, always inform the doctors and nurses that you are having chemotherapy. Talk to your cancer doctor if you think you need dental treatment. Always inform your dentist that you are having chemotherapy

If you have any problem with your treatment, please contact your doctor, pharmacist or nurse clinician.

You can also find useful information with regards to your medication on this website:

<https://www.macmillan.org.uk/information-and-support>



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