French Hospital Medical Center.
A Dignity Health Member

If you have any questions, please consult your physician or call Hearst Cancer Resource Center at 805.542.6234. For emergency, call 911.

PATIENT EDUCATION

Mercaptopurine (6-Mercaptopurine, 6 MP)

SIDE EFFECTS

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

- **Lowered Blood Counts** – This is temporary and may occur 1 week after taking this drug. You will be more susceptible to colds, infections, and bleeding. Frequent blood tests will be done to monitor your blood counts.
- **Occasional and Mild Nausea** – Medication will be provided to help prevent or control this.
- **Mouth Sores**
- **Diarrhea**
- **Fever/Headache**
- **Skin Rash/Dry Skin/Darkening of the Skin** – Avoid long, hot baths
- **Kidney Problems** – Blood and urine counts of kidney function will be monitored on a regular basis.
- **Yellowing of Eyes or Skin**
- **Decreased Appetite**
- **Weakness**

PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Notify your doctor or oncology 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, white patches in your mouth or on your tongue.
- Signs of Bleeding: Nosebleeds that will not stop with pressure; blood in urine or stool; bleeding gums; unusual bruising; red or purple spots on your body; or a cut that takes longer than usual to stop bleeding.
- Uncontrolled nausea/vomiting or diarrhea or inability to eat or drink for 24 hours
- Skin rash
- Yellow skin or eyes

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 and tell your dentist you are taking this medication.**