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

Procarbazine (Matulane)

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 will occur 2-4 weeks after starting this medication. You will be more susceptible to infection and bleeding. Frequent blood tests will be done to check your blood counts.
- **Nausea and Vomiting** – This can be mild to moderate. Taking the drug at bedtime may help lessen this effect. Medication will be provided to help control or prevent this also.
- **Nervous System Effects** – Some things that may occur are numbness in fingertips, muscle weakness, and difficulty walking. If you experience mood changes, depression, or sleepiness, you must notify your doctor or nurse immediately.
- **Skin Reactions** – You may experience a red rash or itching. Some areas of your skin may become darker. If itching is severe or bothersome, medication can be given to you.
- **Sore Mouth** – You may experience a dry, red and/or sore mouth. White ulcers or blisters may also occur.
- **Hair Loss** – This is uncommon, but may occur. If it does, it is temporary and hair will regrow.
- **Menstrual Changes**

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/shortness of breath, pain or burning with urination, a sore that is red and swollen
- 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
- Numbness in fingers; increased sleepiness; dizziness; confusion; headache; trouble walking; blurred vision; severe muscle pain or twitching
- Persistent nausea/vomiting; white ulcers or blisters in mouth or on your lips
- Certain drugs can react with Procarbazine. Check with your doctor or nurse before taking any medication while taking Procarbazine
- You must avoid the following foods: any alcoholic beverage, liver, pickled herring, avocados, tomatoes, broad bean pods, cheese, yogurt, figs, bananas, pineapple, lemons, caffeine, coffee, cola, chocolate

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.**