

Radiotherapy department

Your medication:

Temozolomide with Radiotherapy

Please read this information sheet in conjunction with the leaflet 'Temozolomide with Concurrent Radiotherapy to the Brain followed by Temozolomide Monotherapy' which you have already received.

This information sheet is intended to provide additional information on how to take the tablets we have prescribed for you.

Temozolomide (chemotherapy):

- You need to take your chemotherapy capsules every day, including the weekends. You need to take them on an empty stomach.
- The chemotherapy capsules may come in several containers Please ensure you check through all the boxes/bottles to ensure you take the correct dose.

How to take:

- For the first 5 days, take 1 ondansetron anti-sickness tablet as soon as you get up.
- Do not eat anything.
- Half an hour to one hour later, take your chemotherapy capsules.
- Capsules should be swallowed whole, with a glass of water.
- You can eat 1 hour after you have taken the chemotherapy.
- Your total daily Temozolomide dose may be made up of several Temozolomide capsules of different strengths. If you are unsure about how to take your capsules, or have any other problems or questions, please ask a member of your clinical team.

Supportive medication

Co-trimoxazole (antibiotic, also called septrin):

This medication reduces the chance of you developing a certain type of chest infection whilst you are taking the chemotherapy.

- Your dose is made up of: 2 x 480 mg tablets.
- It is important to take these tablets every Monday, Wednesday and Friday throughout your course of treatment, even if you are feeling well.
- You can take these tablets at any time of the day with food.



Ondansetron (strong anti-sickness):

This tablet is to prevent you from feeling sick whilst taking the chemotherapy.

Nausea caused by the chemotherapy usually happens within the first week and then goes away.

- Take one of these tablets every day for the first 5 days, half an hour before your chemotherapy capsules.
- Some people find that ondansetron makes them constipated. Please inform a member of the team if this happens as you may need laxatives.
- If you continue to feel sick and metoclopramide does not help, ondansetron can be continued. Please discuss this with your clinical team, who can prescribe an extra supply.

Metoclopramide (back-up anti-sickness):

This can be used in combination with ondansetron if you are still feeling nauseous, or it can be used before temozolomide each day after your Ondansetron is finished. It does not cause constipation.

Other medications:

Your doctor may have prescribed other medications such as steroids (dexamethasone), anti-epileptics, stomach protecting drugs or painkillers. These should be taken as prescribed in the usual way.

It is usually fine to continue to take any other medications you have been prescribed that are not related to your brain tumour, such as blood pressure tablets. Please check with your clinical team if you are unsure.

Contacts

Charlotte Smith and Amy Davies, Specialist radiographers - **0161 918 7235**

Clinical nurse specialist, Elizabeth Molloy - **0161 446 8441**

The Christie Hotline - **0161 446 3658**

Consultant secretaries:

Dr McBain - **0161 918 7008**

Dr Borst and Dr Milanovic - **0161 446 3362**

Dr Colaco, Dr Whitfield and Dr Kennedy - **0161 918 7197**

If you need information in a different format, such as easy read, large print, BSL, braille, email, SMS text or other communication support, please tell your ward or clinic nurse.

The Christie is committed to producing high quality, evidence based information for patients. Our patient information adheres to the principles and quality statements of the Information Standard. If you would like to have details about the sources used please contact **the-christie.patient.information@nhs.net**

For information and advice visit the cancer information centres at Withington, Oldham or Salford. Opening times can vary, please check before making a special journey.



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urgent support and specialist advice
The Christie Hotline: 0161 446 3658
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