Filgrastim (Neupogen®, G-CSF)
(“fil GRA stim”)

Pegfilgratim (Neulasta®, Peg G-CSF)
(“peg fil GRA stim”)

How drug is given: subcutaneously (injection under the skin)

Purpose: helps fight off the risk of infection by increasing the number of white blood cells in the body

Things that may occur during or within hours of treatment

1. Burning, itching, redness, or swelling at the injection site may occur. These reactions are usually mild and go away. Applying a cold pack to the area may help.

2. Flu-like symptoms such as fever and chills may occur 30 minutes to 2 hours after the injection. If these occur, your doctor may suggest taking Tylenol® to help control the symptoms. Please let your doctor or nurse know if Tylenol® is not effective, since other drugs may be given.

Things that may occur a few days to weeks later

1. Some patients may feel very tired, also known as fatigue. You may need to rest or take naps more often. Mild to moderate exercise can also be helpful in maintaining your energy.

2. Bone pain may occur because the drug is working inside your bones. Tylenol® or other pain relievers may help.

3. Store these medications in the refrigerator.

The above information includes some, but not necessarily all, of the possible side effects of this medication. The side effects in this teaching sheet may not be the same ones you experience. Your side effects may be different, depending on how often you receive treatment (your schedule) and how much you receive each time (your dosage). Side effects may also vary if you take other medications. Please talk with your doctor or nurse if you have questions about possible side effects you may experience. This document should not take the place of conversations with members of your health care team.

If you experience any significant change in your health during or after treatment, contact a member of your health care team right away.