**Mitotane (Lysodren®)**

(“MYE toe tane”)

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**How this drug is given:** By mouth

**Purpose:** To lower the level of certain hormones to help stop the growth of cancer cells in adrenocortical cancer and other cancers.

**How to take the drug by mouth**

- Take with or without food.

- Take this medication by mouth with a full glass of water.

- Swallow each tablet whole; do not crush or chew them. If you are unable to swallow the tablet, the pharmacist will give you specific instructions.

- Please wear gloves when handling this medication and wash hands after removing your gloves.

- If you miss a dose, take as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular dosing schedule. **Do not double doses.**

- Take at the same time each day as directed.

- Wash hands after taking the medication. Avoid handling crushed or broken tablets.

**Storage**

- Store this medication at room temperature, away from excess heat and moisture. Keep this medication in its original container, out of reach of children and pets.

**Things that may occur during treatment**

1. Loose stools or diarrhea may occur. You may take loperamide (Imodium A-D®) to help control diarrhea. You may buy this at most drug stores. It is also important to drink more fluids (water, juice, sports drinks). If these do not help, tell your doctor or nurse.

2. Mild to moderate nausea, vomiting, and loss of appetite may occur. Drugs to help with this may be given to you.
3. 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.

4. Mood changes including depression and dizziness may occur. Do not operate heavy machinery or drive a vehicle. If you experience any of these symptoms, please let your doctor or nurse know.

5. Mitotane may affect the normal function of your adrenal gland. Steroid therapy may be needed to help with this. It is important to inform your doctor or nurse if any injury, illness, or if an infection occurs.

6. Fertility and Related Precautions:
   • It is very important to use birth control if you are having sex, because this drug could be harmful to an unborn baby.
   • Women should not breast-feed while receiving this drug.
   • If you are concerned about any of this, please talk with your doctor or nurse.

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.

Managing your oral chemotherapy schedule at home can be challenging. To help you with this, consider using tools to help you keep track of your schedule and any side effects you may have. You can find these tools online at www.dana-farber.org/OralChemoDiary.

THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS OR NOTES FOR THE PATIENT AND FAMILY: