Pralatrexate (Folotyn®)  
(“pral a TREX ate”)

**How drug is given:** by vein (IV)

**Purpose:** to kill cancer cells in relapsed or refractory peripheral T-cell lymphoma

**Things that may occur early in treatment**

1. Pralatrexate, as with many drugs, may cause an allergic reaction. If you have a rash, facial flushing (warmth or redness of the face), or itching during or after you get this drug, please tell your doctor or nurse right away.

2. You may have nausea, vomiting, and/or loss of appetite. You may be given medicine to help with this.

3. Mild constipation may occur within 1 to 2 weeks after treatment begins. Please increase your fluid intake and increase fiber in your diet by eating fresh fruits and vegetables. A daily stool softener, such as docusate (Colace®) or Miralax®, may be helpful. If these do not help within 48 hours, tell your doctor or nurse. Avoid bulk forming laxatives such as Metamucil®.

4. 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).

5. You may get a fever even when you do not have an infection. Your muscles may ache or be tired. These can be treated with acetaminophen (Tylenol®).

**Things that may occur later in treatment**

1. You may get mouth sores and/or a sore throat 7 to 10 days after this drug is given. A soft-bristle toothbrush should be used for brushing your teeth. You may have a burning feeling and redness inside the mouth or on the lips. It is important to keep your mouth clean. Use a **baking soda mouth rinse** 4 or 5 times a day.

   **Mouth Rinse Recipe:**
   Mix: 1 tsp salt or baking soda with 8 oz. glass of water
Other mouth rinses may be ordered by your doctor. Do not use mouth washes that have alcohol in them because they will dry out the mouth. If you cannot eat or swallow because of this, let your doctor or nurse know. Check with your doctor before having any dental work done.

2. Your body may not be able to rid of extra fluid. This is called edema. You may notice some swelling in your arms and legs.

3. Some patients may feel weak or 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. (You may also be less interested in doing your usual activities.) Talk with your doctor or nurse.

4. Your blood cell counts may drop. This is known as bone marrow suppression. This includes a decrease in your:
   - Red blood cells, which carry oxygen in your body to help give you energy
   - White blood cells, which fight infection in your body
   - Platelets, which help clot the blood to stop bleeding

This may happen 7 to 14 days after the drug is given and then blood counts should return to normal. If you have a fever of 100.5°F (39°C) or higher, chills, a cough, or any bleeding problems, tell your doctor or nurse right away.

Things that may occur after treatment ends (even months to years later)

- Fertility:
  - It is still very important to use birth control if you are having sex, because this drug could harm an unborn baby.
  - Men may become sterile and may want to think about sperm banking prior to chemotherapy.
  - For women, your period (menstrual cycle) may not be regular for a while or may stop completely and you may not be able to get pregnant. 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.