Ado-trastuzumab emtansine (Kadcyla®)
(“a-do-tras-TU-zoo-mab  em-TAN-seen”)

How drug is given: by vein (IV)

Purpose: to treat HER-2 positive, metastatic breast cancer

Things that may occur during or within hours of each treatment

- Facial flushing (warmth or redness of the face), itching, or a skin rash could occur. These symptoms are due to an allergic response. If you notice these symptoms, tell your cancer care team right away.

- If you feel any burning or tingling in the area of your IV, tell your nurse right away. If you develop any swelling or redness after you go home, please call your cancer care team.

Things that may occur a few days to weeks later

1. Mild to moderate nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain may occur. You may be given medicine to help with this.

2. 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 (38°C) or higher, chills, a cough, or any bleeding problems, tell your doctor or nurse right away.

3. Mild constipation may occur 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®) and/or laxatives such as senna (Senokot®) may be helpful. If these do not help within 48 hours, tell your cancer care team.

4. Loose stools or diarrhea may occur within a few days after the drug is started. You may take loperamide (Imodium A-D®) to help control diarrhea. You can buy this at most drug stores. Be sure to also drink more fluids (water, juice, sports drinks). If these do not help within 24 hours, call your cancer care team.
5. Some patients may feel very tired, also known as fatigue. You may need to rest or take naps more often. Mild to moderate exercise may also help you maintain your energy.

6. You may lose some feeling, or have tingling or burning in your hands and/or feet. This is called peripheral neuropathy. This may increase with continued treatment. Please tell your cancer care team if you have trouble buttoning your clothes. Peripheral neuropathy should get better over time, after the drug is stopped. Be careful handling sharp objects. Use handrails to avoid falls. Wear supportive shoes.

7. You may feel pain or weakness in your joints or muscles. If this bothers you, ask your doctor or nurse what type of drugs you may use to help with this pain.

8. You may get a headache. Please talk to your doctor or nurse about what you can take for this.

9. Some important minerals called electrolytes are found in your blood and body fluids. They can be affected by this medicine. Your cancer care team will check your blood work periodically to monitor your potassium, magnesium, and sodium levels.

10. You may have difficulty sleeping. Please talk to your doctor or nurse if you cannot sleep.

11. Some patients have experienced dry mouth or nosebleeds. If you have a nosebleed, sit with your head tipped slightly forward and apply pressure by lightly pinching the soft part of your nose between the thumb and forefinger for a full 10 minutes. Applying ice to the bridge of the nose can also help.

12. This drug may affect your heart. Your heart function will be followed. You should let your cancer care team know if you are coughing, having trouble breathing, have chest pain and/or swelling in the feet or ankles.

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

Fertility and Related Precautions:
- It is very important to use birth control if you are having sex since this drug may be harmful to an unborn baby.
- Women should not breastfeed while receiving this drug.
- If you are concerned about any of this, please talk with your cancer care team.

The information in this document includes some, but not necessarily all, of the possible side effects of this medication. The side effects listed 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 are taking other medications. Please speak 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.

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