



## **Chemotherapy: Denosumab (Prolia®)**

Pronounced: "den-OH-sue-mab"

**How drug is given:** Subcutaneously (injection under the skin)

**Purpose:** To help prevent bone breakdown in patients receiving specific hormonal therapies.

This medication is part of a Risk Evaluation Mitigation Strategy (REMS) program. FDA-approved medication guides are required for all educational purposes. Please use the following link to access this required medication guide.

Please print out the document at this Web address (hold CTRL and click):

[https://www.proliahcp.com/-/media/Themes/Amgen/ProliaHcp-com/ProliaHcp-com/PDFs/REMS/Prolia\\_REMS\\_Patient\\_Brochure.pdf](https://www.proliahcp.com/-/media/Themes/Amgen/ProliaHcp-com/ProliaHcp-com/PDFs/REMS/Prolia_REMS_Patient_Brochure.pdf)

## **Things that may occur during treatment**

- 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 calcium.
- Your body may not be able to get rid of extra fluid. This is called edema. You may notice some swelling in your arms or legs
- Severe jaw bone problems may happen when taking this medication. Your cancer care team should examine your mouth before you start denosumab. Your cancer care team may tell you to see your dentist before you start this medication. Ask your cancer care team or dentist about good mouth care if you have any questions.

## **Sexual health and fertility concerns**

If you are concerned about any of this, please talk with your cancer care team. It is not safe to take this medicine during pregnancy. It could harm an unborn baby.

### **Women**

- To keep from getting pregnant, use a barrier form of effective birth control and keep using it for at least 5 months after you stop treatment.
- Barrier methods of birth control prevent the sperm from reaching the egg. Discuss with your cancer team which type of barrier method is best for you. Some barrier methods are cervical caps, female/male condoms, and diaphragms with spermicides. Some are available over the counter; others must be prescribed.
- Women should not breast-feed while receiving this medicine.

*The information in this document includes some, but not necessarily all, of the possible side effects of this medication. The side effects listed here 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 cancer care team if you have questions*

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*about possible side effects you may experience. This document should not take the place of conversations with members of your cancer care team.*

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