



## Pamidronate (Aredia®)

("pa-mi-DROE-nate")

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

**Purpose:** To prevent bone fractures. It also decreases high amounts of calcium in the blood.

### Things that may occur during or within hours of treatment

1. You may have redness or burning where the drug is being given in your vein.
2. You may have a fever, flu-like symptoms, or headache, but these are often mild (more likely to occur with the first dose).
3. Mild to moderate nausea, vomiting, and loss of appetite may occur. You may be given medicine to help with this.
4. You may feel pain or weakness in your bones, joints or muscles. If this bothers you, ask your cancer care team what type of drugs you may use to help with this pain.
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 help you maintain your energy.
6. Rarely, a breakdown of the bone in the jaw (called osteonecrosis) may occur. Please tell your dentist that you are taking this drug before you have any dental work done.

*The above information 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 about your treatment and side effects you may experience during and after treatment. 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: