



Trabectedin (Yondelis®)

("tra-BEK-te-din")

InfuSystem, 24 hours a day: 800-315-3287

Sarcoma doctor at Dana-Farber: 617-632-3352

How drug is given: through a port in the chest over 24 hours.

Purpose: This medication is used to treat certain types of soft tissue sarcomas.

Things that may occur during or within hours of treatment

- You may have nausea, vomiting, and/or loss of appetite. Nausea and vomiting may begin soon after the drug is given and may last more than 24 hours. You may be given medicine to help with this.
- Care is taken to prevent this drug from leaking into nearby tissue. If the drug leaks, this is called an extravasation and it can cause harm.

Things that may occur a few days to weeks later

1. **Redness, blisters or bruising around the area of the port** may occur one or two weeks after you get this drug. Call your cancer care team immediately if you experience any of these symptoms.
2. 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 help you maintain your energy.
3. Mild constipation may occur after treatment begins. Please increase your fluid intake and get more fiber in your diet by eating fresh fruits and vegetables. A daily stool softener, such as docusate (Colace®), and/or laxatives, such as senna (Senakot®), may be helpful. If these do not help within 48 hours, tell your cancer care team. Does not use bulk-forming laxatives such as Metamucil® without first talking with your cancer care team.
4. Your liver may be affected by this medicine. Blood tests will be taken to monitor your liver function.
5. Your blood cell counts may drop. This is known as bone marrow suppression. This includes a decrease in:
 - 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 bleedingThis 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, **call your cancer care team right away**.

6. Your kidneys could be hurt by this drug and not work as well.
7. The palms of your hands or the soles of your feet may become red and painful. This is called hand-foot syndrome. Tingling and peeling of the skin may occur. Avoid tight fitting shoes. Use thick (moisturizing) creams on hands and feet.
8. You may feel stiffness, pain, or weakness in your muscles. Rarely, this can lead to rhabdomyolysis (pronounced “rab-doe-my-o-lie-sis”), a condition that can cause severe muscle damage. Your cancer team will use blood tests to monitor your muscle proteins.

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

Fertility:

- Use birth control if you are having sex during treatment and for 3 months after stopping, because this drug could harm an unborn baby.
- Men can become sterile and may want to think about sperm banking prior to chemotherapy. For males with partners that could become pregnant, effective birth control should be used for 5 months after stopping this treatment.
- 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 cancer care team.

The above information includes some, but not necessarily all, of the possible side effects of this medication. 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. 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:



Special Instructions for Trabectedin (Yondelis®)

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Caring for your needle and dressing

- Check your dressing every 2-3 hours while the drug is infusing.
- Keep the pump close to your body and upper chest at all times.
- Check for proper placement of the needle in the port: Place 2 fingers on the needle and press into the chest. You should feel resistance.
- Transparent tape used on your dressing must be tight, secure, and dry.
- The area around your port should not be newly tender or swollen.
- Check for bleeding or wetness at the site and/or under the dressing.
- Keep your physical activity to a minimum during the infusion.
- On the side of your body with the port, do not lift anything heavier than a quart of milk.
- Avoid reaching over your head or other excessive arm activities, like golf or gardening.

Sleeping

- Set an alarm at night to ensure the drug is infusing while you sleep.
- Sleep on your back, or in a recliner.
- Keep the pump close by your side or under your pillow.

Bathing

- Avoid showering or using a bathtub while this medication is infusing.

Warning signs to watch for

If you have any of the following symptoms, **shut off the pump, clamp the infusion, and call your cancer care team right away:**

- Redness
- Tenderness
- Swelling
- Leaking
- Bleeding
- Needle movement

Sometimes, **redness, blisters, or bruising** may occur one or two weeks after treatment. Call your cancer care team immediately if this happens.



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Four steps for troubleshooting

If you have problems with your pump, follow these steps:

1. **Shut off the pump and clamp the tubing.**
2. **Call InfuSystem at 800-315-3287.** Dana-Farber has made arrangements with InfuSystem to provide support to patients who are using a CADD pump. When you call this number, tell the nurse that the drug **Trabectedin (Yondelis®)** is in your CADD pump.
3. **Page your sarcoma doctor at Dana-Farber: 617-632-3352.** Tell the doctor what is happening. The doctor will probably tell you to go to the nearest emergency room for evaluation of the site.
4. **If you need to go to the emergency room, show the staff the sticker attached to your pump.** This drug is known to cause tissue injury.

Do not restart the pump without specific instructions from your nurse at Dana-Farber or the nurse on the phone from InfuSystem.

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