

PATIENT CARE SERVICES

Patient Information Mitomycin Instillations for the Bladder

What is Mitomycin™?

Mitomycin™ is a drug that is used to treat bladder cancer. It is a clear blue or purple liquid. It is put into the bladder through a small tube called a catheter.

What is Instillations?

Instillations is the medication being placed into the bladder through a small tube catheter.

Why is Mitomycin™ necessary?

Putting Mitomycin™ directly into the bladder is a simple way to treat superficial tumors in the bladder. This procedure is usually done as an outpatient.

How is Mitomycin™ given?

In the Operating Room, your Surgeon will insert a catheter into your urethra (the opening through which you pass urine). He/she will then instill the Mitomycin™ into your bladder through this catheter.

The catheter remains in your bladder for at least two hours.

- For the first hour the catheter will be clamped so that the drug remains in your bladder.
- During this hour the Nurse will ask you to remain on your back for the first 30 minutes. Then the Nurse will ask you to turn onto your right side for 15 minutes, and then to turn onto your left side for the next 15 minutes. (This allows the drug to spread throughout the bladder).
- For the second hour the catheter will be unclamped to allow the drug and any urine to flow into the drainage bag.
- After the second hour, the Nurse will remove the catheter.
- **Note:** The Nurse and Surgeon will wear protective gloves, mask & gown when handling the Mitomycin™ drug or any body fluids. This equipment protects the health care workers from being exposed to the drug.

What are the side effects?

- Mitomycin™ can irritate the bladder. You may find that you need to pass urine more often. You may find you have to get up during the night to void.
- Mitomycin™ can irritate your skin. This can occur if urine comes in contact with your skin especially during the first 8 hours after your treatment.



Queensway
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Discharge Instructions:

- You may experience bladder spasms, burning or a small amount of bleeding when you urinate for up to one week after the treatment.
- Drink plenty of liquids for at least 6 hours after the catheter is removed.
- Empty your bladder often as this helps to prevent bladder problems.
- Sit down when you pass urine (for at least 8 hours after treatment). With the toilet seat lid closed, flush the toilet twice after voiding.
- For 48 hours after receiving Mitomycin™, wash your hands and genitals well with soap and warm water after every voiding.
- Change any clothing that comes in contact with your urine. Wash clothes, bedding and toilet articles, which may have touched your urine, in hot soapy water.
- You may drink alcohol in small amounts (if you have had a general anesthetic you should avoid alcohol for at least 24 hours); it will not affect the effectiveness of Mitomycin™.
- Mitomycin™ may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. Therefore, it is best to use birth control while being treated with this medication.
- Do not breast feed during treatment.
- If you need to see any health care workers within 48 hours of having received Mitomycin™ **please inform** them that you have been treated with Mitomycin™. The health care worker may need to take precautions so they are not exposed to the drug.

Contact your Doctor if you have:

- Severe pain when you pass urine
- Frequent need to pass urine (more than usual)
- Blood in urine
- Abdominal pain
- Severe irritation of the skin of your genitalia
- Signs of infection (rare) such as:
 - Fever (over 100.4°F or 38°C)
 - Cough
 - Sore throat
 - Signs of bleeding problems (rare) such as black stools or pinpoint red spots on skin

Additional Instructions

