PATIENT CARE SERVICES

Patient Information Mitomycin Instillations for the Bladder

What is Mitomycin™?

Mitomycin™ is a medication 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 urinary catheter.

What is Instillations?

Instillations is the medication being placed into the bladder.

Why is Mitomycin™ necessary?

Inserting Mitomycin™ directly into the bladder is a method to treat bladder cancer. This procedure is usually done on an outpatient basis and you are often not required to stay overnight in hospital.

How is Mitomycin™ given?

In the Operating Room, your surgeon will insert a urinary catheter into your urethra (the opening through which you pass urine). The surgeon will then instill the Mitomycin™ into your bladder through the urinary catheter.

The urinary 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 as ordered by your surgeon. (This allows the medication to spread throughout the bladder).
* For the second hour the urinary catheter will be unclamped to allow the medication and urine to flow into the drainage bag. Saline irrigation will be given through the urinary catheter to flush out the medication.
* After the second hour, the nurse will remove the urinary catheter as ordered by the surgeon.

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Information is available in alternate formats upon request

* Note: The nurse and surgeon will wear personal protective equipment (which may include gloves, mask with visor and gown) when handling the Mitomycin™ medication and or any bodily fluids.

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 48 hours after your treatment.

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 urinary catheter is removed.
* Empty your bladder often as this helps to prevent bladder problems.
* Sit down when you pass urine (for at least 48 hours after treatment) to minimize urine spillage outside the toilet bowl. With the toilet seat lid closed, flush the toilet twice after voiding.
* For 48 hours after receiving Mitomycin™, make sure to wash your hands and genital area well with soap and warm water after going to the bathroom.
* Change clothing that is soiled 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 have negative effects if used during pregnancy. Therefore, it is best to use birth control while being treated with this medication.
* Do not breast feed during treatment.

**Call your surgeon immediately or go to the nearest Emergency Department if you have any of the following:**

* Severe pain when you pass urine or inability to pass urine at all
* Blood in urine which does not decrease with good fluid intake
* Abdominal pain
* Severe irritation of the skin of your genital area
* Signs and symptoms of infection such as:
* Elevated temperature (38ºC or 100.4ºF) fever and/or chills lasting more than 24 hours
* Productive cough

**Additional Instructions**

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