

Mitomycin Bladder Instillation/Treatment

Mitomycin is a liquid medicine used to treat cancer. The medicine is put into your bladder through a narrow tube called a catheter. Treatment is once a week for 6 weeks or as ordered by your doctor.

Before the Treatment

Do not drink fluids for 4 hours before and 2 hours after you have your treatment. This will help you hold the medicine in your bladder.

When you arrive at the hospital, go to the main outpatient lab to have your blood drawn on the 1st, 3rd, and 6th bladder instillation treatments. You may have your blood labs drawn up to 3 days before your treatment.

After your blood is drawn, you should go to Registration. Then, check in at the Urology Clinic. We will give you a cup to provide a urine sample. Be sure there is a sticker with your name on the cup.

The nurse will go over your lab and urine results. Then, the nurse will send the medicine orders to the pharmacy where the drug will be mixed.

Expect to spend about 2 ½ hours at the hospital. The treatment itself takes about 10 minutes.

During the Treatment

A nurse will put a catheter through your urethra (urine channel) and into your bladder.

The nurse will pour the medicine into the catheter. It will flow into your bladder.

In most cases, the catheter will be removed from the bladder after the treatment is done. You may go home after the catheter is taken out.

You should hold the medicine in your bladder for 2 hours for best results.

You may move from side to side and back to front every 15 minutes while the medicine is in your bladder.

After the Treatment

Now that you have held the medicine in your bladder for 2 hours, there are things you must do.

- Sit on the toilet and urinate. Empty your bladder as much as you can.
- Close the toilet seat lid. Flush the toilet 2 times right after you empty your bladder.
- Wash your hands and genital area very well with soap and water.
- Keep sitting, flushing, and washing every time you empty your bladder during the first 6 hours after the treatment.
- After you empty your bladder the first time, you should drink plenty of fluids for the rest of the day to help flush the medicine out of your bladder.

Side Effects

- Burning when you empty your bladder, most often the first time you urinate after the treatment.
- Feeling that you need to empty your bladder often and quickly.
- Decreased white blood count.
- Decreased platelets.

Rare Side Effects

- Nausea and vomiting
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Allergic reaction such as skin rash, hives, tightness in the throat
- Hair loss

If you have any of these rare side effects, call the clinic or go to the Emergency Room.

Who to Call

UW Health Urology
608-263-4757

East Madison Hospital Urology
608-440-6464

One South Park Medical Center Urology
608-287-2900

After hours, weekends, and holidays, the clinic number is answered by the paging operator. Ask for the Urology Doctor on call. Leave your name and phone number with the area code. The doctor will call you back.

Toll-free 1-844-607-4800.

If you are a patient receiving care at UnityPoint – Meriter, Swedish American or a health system outside of UW Health, please use the phone numbers provided in your discharge instructions for any questions or concerns.

Your health care team may have given you this information as part of your care. If so, please use it and call if you have any questions. If this information was not given to you as part of your care, please check with your doctor. This is not medical advice. This is not to be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. Because each person's health needs are different, you should talk with your doctor or others on your health care team when using this information. If you have an emergency, please call 911. Copyright © 5/2023 University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#6939