

Carboplatin is a chemotherapy drug that is given as a treatment for some types of cancer. It is most commonly used for ovarian and lung cancer, but may be used in the treatment of many other types of cancer.

Carboplatin is usually given by infusion into a vein (intravenous, IV) usually in the back of the hand or through a fine plastic tube inserted under the skin into a vein near the collarbone (central line), or into a fine tube inserted into a vein in the crook of your arm (a PICC line). The infusion takes about 60 minutes. The amount of Carboplatin you receive depends on many factors, including your height and weight, your general health or other health problems, and how your body responds to it. Your doctor will determine your dose and schedule.

Chemotherapy is usually given as a course of several sessions (or cycles) of treatment over a few months. The length of your treatment and the number of cycles you have will depend on the type of cancer for which you are being treated. Carboplatin is commonly given alongside other chemotherapy drugs as part of a combination regimen.

Each person's reaction to chemotherapy is different. Some people have very few side effects, while others may experience more. Most people do not experience all of the side effects listed. Side effects are often predictable in terms of their onset and duration, and are almost always reversible and will go away after treatment is complete.

The following side effects are common for patients taking Carboplatin:

Low blood counts (including red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets); nausea and vomiting, usually occurring within 24 hours of treatment; taste changes, hair loss; feeling tired or weak.

Less common side effects include lowered resistance to infection; bruising or bleeding; numbness or tingling in the hands or feet (peripheral neuropathy).

Call your health care provider immediately if you experience any of the following symptoms:

Fever of 100.5 degrees or higher, or chills; difficulty breathing, chest pain.

If you notice any effects which you think may be due to the drug, please discuss them with your doctor, chemotherapy nurse, or pharmacist.