Dostarlimab-Karboplatin-Paklitaxel

for Gynecological cancer

Regimen schedule

Next course of treatment, day 22

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Dostarlimab	X																				
Paklitaxel	X																				
Karboplatin	X																				

About your treatment

Each course is 21 days. Day 1, you get an IV. There is then a break of 20 days before a new course of treatment starts. During treatment, your blood tests and any side effects will be monitored

Side effects - symptoms and tips

The side effects we list here are the most common and important. They can vary greatly from person to person, and even from time to time. Side effects may determine your dose or require you to stop taking the medicine.

Tell your doctor or nurse if you have any side effects. Often the symptoms can be prevented or alleviated.

Fatigue

Fatigue is common in connection with cancer and its treatment. The severity of the symptoms and their duration vary from person to person. You may continue to feel tired long after treatment has ended. This type of extreme exhaustion is known as fatigue—a tiredness that does not always improve with rest or sleep. Many describe fatigue as a total lack of energy, and it can occur even without physical exertion. Your ability to remember, concentrate, and solve problems may be impaired. Fatigue is sometimes associated with feelings of resignation, stress, anxiety, and depression. Tip: Try to stay active. Physical activity often helps alleviate tiredness and fatigue. Find a balance between activity, rest, and sleep that works for you.

Hair loss

Usually you will lose your hair 2-4 weeks after the first treatment. The hair will start to grow back about 3-4 weeks after you have finished all the cytostatic treatment. Sometimes the hair colour changes, and straight hair can become curly. But over time, the hair usually returns to its former state. Sometimes, you may even lose eyebrows and eyelashes, but they also grow back.

Numbness and tingling - sensory disturbances

You may experience numbness and tingling in your hands and feet, and your fine motor skills may become worse. For example, you may have difficulty buttoning buttons or walking. The symptoms usually go away, but not completely in everyone. Tell your doctor or nurse if you have numbness or tingling in your hands and feet. Physical activity can prevent neuropathy and can relieve symptoms and improve motor skills and balance. Try to find the exercise that suits you. Cardio and strength training can be good for preventive purposes. If neuropathy has occurred, improved muscle strength, balance training and yoga can also have an effect by affecting function for the better.

Skin and nails

Skin often becomes dry and more sensitive to the sun. Nails can become brittle.

Tips: When washing your skin, be gentle and use mild soap. Lubricate with moisturiser. Wear covering clothing to protect against the sun, and sunscreen on parts of your body that you can't cover. Wear gloves for work that is dirty or abrasive for your hands. If your nails are bothering you, you can use nail polish and brush your cuticles with oil or apply a moisturiser.

Nausea and taste changes

You may feel unwell from the treatment. You will therefore be given anti-nausea medication in conjunction with the treatment. The medicines may cause constipation. You can get different varieties depending on how you feel. The taste of food and drink may be altered by the treatment.

Tips: Sometimes it feels better to eat lighter food and small portions. For example, try skim milk, yoghurt, omelettes, sandwiches and hot or cold soups. Drinking a little extra between meals can reduce nausea.

Problems with stomach and intestines

Diarrhoea and nausea are common, but you may also become constipated.

You can also get inflammation of the intestines (colitis). It can cause severe diarrhoea, stomach pain, blood in your stools or dark and smelly stools.

Dry cough and difficulty breathing

New symptoms of dry cough, shortness of breath and difficulty breathing may be due to a special inflammation of the lungs and airways (pneumonitis).

Infection susceptibility

You will be susceptible to infection after treatment. This is because the level of white blood cells drops. Before each treatment, blood samples are taken to see if the blood cells have recovered. If the values are too low, the treatment must be postponed.

Tips: Try to avoid close contact with people who have a cold or stomach illness, for example. Wash your hands often with soap and water. Hand sanitizer can be useful.

Problems with mouth and mucous membranes

The mucous membranes of your nose, mouth, eyes and abdomen may be affected by your treatment. For example, you may have nosebleeds and a runny nose. In the mouth, you may experience dryness, redness, burning and sores. You can also get fungus, which turns the lining of your mouth red or gives it a white coating. Eyes may become dry and watery. The mucous membranes in the lower abdomen can also become dry.

Tip: If you have a dry mouth, use saliva stimulants available in pharmacies. Rinsing your mouth with Vichy water can prevent fungus. Be attentive to oral hygiene, and use a soft toothbrush and mild toothpaste. Be careful with floss and toothpicks. Inform your dentist of your cancer treatment when you visit. Avoid contact lenses if you have eye problems. Women can use oestrogen cream, emollient cream or oil to treat dry mucous membranes in the lower abdomen.

Pain in muscles and bones

Pain, tenderness and weakness in the muscles are common.

Tips: Can be relieved with common painkillers.

Hormone changes

You may experience headaches, fatigue, depression, hot flashes, heart palpitations, decreased sexual desire and behavioural changes. You may also experience visual disturbances, such as blurred vision and double vision, and pain behind the eyes. Symptoms may be due to inflammation of the thyroid, adrenal or pituitary glands.

Swollen legs and feet

Swollen legs and feet are common.

Tips: You can use support stockings. Put your feet up on a footstool or rest for a while in bed. Apply a moisturiser to protect your skin, and watch out for sores.

Eye problems

You may get red eyes with stinging and pain. You may also experience blurred vision, dry eyes and become more sensitive to light.

Tip: If your eyes sting and feel dry, use lubricating eye drops available from pharmacies.

Contact your clinic immediately at:

Acute

- Call 112 in case of persistent acute chest pain, pressure on the chest or difficulty breathing/shortness of breath

Contact your reception immediately at:

- • Fever (temp above 38 degrees) or at a temperature below 36 degrees
- • Sudden deterioration regardless of symptoms
- • Urinary tract infection symptoms or cold symptoms before treatment
- • Severe nausea or burning in the mouth that makes it difficult for you to eat and drink
- • Nosebleeds or other bleeding you cannot stop or bruising over large parts of the body
- • Increased number of stools/diarrhea with or without stomach pain, bloody or black stools
- • New onset dry cough and shortness of breath
- • Severe itching, blisters, oozing sores and peeling skin.
- • If you or your relatives feel that you are changed, confused or that consciousness is affected.
- • Headache, unusual fatigue, pain behind the eyes and visual disturbances.

Common advice

Cancer drugs are usually excreted in the urine up to 7 days after treatment. Therefore, you should avoid splashing urine. Sit down when you pee. When finished, close the toilet lid and flush 2 times. It is important not to get pregnant or make someone pregnant while you are being treated with cancer drugs, as the drugs can affect the foetus. Therefore, use safe contraceptives. Sometimes double protection is needed, as side effects such as diarrhoea or the direct effect of cancer drugs may mean that the contraceptive pill is not enough protection on its own. If you are a man, use a condom during sexual intercourse within 72 hours of treatment, as cytostatic drugs are also excreted through the seminal fluid.

General information about cancer

Useful information about cancer is available from both 1177 Vårdguiden and Cancerfonden:

www.1177.se

www.cancerfonden.se