

Flutamide (Eulexin)

About This Drug

Flutamide is used to treat cancer. It is given orally (by mouth).

Possible Side Effects

- Hot flashes or sudden skin flushing may happen. You may also feel warm or red.
- Nausea and vomiting (throwing up)
- Diarrhea (loose bowel movements)
- Swelling of your breasts
- Decreased sex drive
- Impotence (erectile dysfunction)
- Rash

Note: Each of the side effects above was reported in 5% or greater of patients treated with flutamide. Not all possible side effects are included above.

Warnings and Precautions

- Changes in your liver function, which can cause liver failure and be life-threatening
- Swelling of your breasts and/or breast pain
- Increased risk of aniline exposure if you have history of glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency, hemoglobin M disease, or smoking.

Note: Some of the side effects above are very rare. If you have concerns and/or questions, please discuss them with your medical team.

How to Take Your Medication

- You can take the medicine with or without food.
- **Missed dose:** If you vomit or miss a dose, take your next dose at the regular time, and contact your physician. Do not take 2 doses at the same time and do not double up on the next dose.
- **Handling:** Wash your hands after handling your medicine, your caretakers should not handle your medicine with bare hands and should wear latex gloves.

- This drug may be present in the saliva, tears, sweat, urine, stool, vomit, semen, and vaginal secretions. Talk to your doctor and/or your nurse about the necessary precautions to take during this time.
- **Storage:** Store this medicine in the original container at room temperature. Protect from moisture.
- **Disposal of unused medicine:** Do not flush any expired and/or unused medicine down the toilet or drain unless you are specifically instructed to do so on the medication label. Some facilities have take-back programs and/or other options. If you do not have a take-back program in your area, then please discuss with your nurse or your doctor how to dispose of unused medicine.

Treating Side Effects

- Drink plenty of fluids (a minimum of eight glasses per day is recommended).
- If you throw up or have loose bowel movements, you should drink more fluids so that you do not become dehydrated (lack of water in the body from losing too much fluid).
- To help with nausea and vomiting, eat small, frequent meals instead of three large meals a day. Choose foods and drinks that are at room temperature. Ask your nurse or doctor about other helpful tips and medicine that is available to help stop or lessen these symptoms.
- If you have diarrhea, eat low-fiber foods that are high in protein and calories and avoid foods that can irritate your digestive tracts or lead to cramping.
- Ask your nurse or doctor about medicine that can lessen or stop your diarrhea.
- If you get a rash do not put anything on it unless your doctor or nurse says you may. Keep the area around the rash clean and dry. Ask your doctor for medicine if your rash bothers you.

Food and Drug Interactions

- There are no known interactions of flutamide with food.
- Check with your doctor or pharmacist about all other prescription medicines and over-the-counter medicines and dietary supplements (vitamins, minerals, herbs and others) you are taking before starting this medicine as there are known drug interactions with flutamide. Also, check with your doctor or pharmacist before starting any new prescription or over-the-counter medicines, or dietary supplements to make sure that there are no interactions.
- There are known interactions of flutamide with blood thinning medicine such as warfarin. Ask your doctor what precautions you should take.

When to Call the Doctor

Call your doctor or nurse if you have any of these symptoms and/or any new or unusual symptoms:

- Hot flashes
- Diarrhea, 4 times in one day or diarrhea with lack of strength or a feeling of being dizzy
- Nausea that stops you from eating or drinking and/or is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Throwing up more than 3 times a day
- Signs of possible liver problems: dark urine, pale bowel movements, bad stomach pain, feeling very tired and weak, unusual itching, or yellowing of the eyes or skin



- Swelling and/or pain in your breasts
- Impotence and/or decreased sex drive
- A new rash or a rash that is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Signs of aniline exposure such as confusion, headache, feeling dizzy, ringing in the ear and/or extreme tiredness/feeling sleepy

Reproduction Warnings

- **Pregnancy warning:** This drug can have harmful effects on the unborn baby. Flutamide is not indicated for use in women.
- **Breastfeeding warning:** It is not known if this drug passes into breast milk. Flutamide is not indicated for use in women.
- **Fertility warning:** In men, this drug may affect your ability to have children in the future. Talk with your doctor or nurse if you plan to have children. Ask for information on sperm banking.

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