Cisplatin
(Platinol, CDDP)
For the Treatment of Cancer

Description
Cisplatin is chemotherapy for the treatment of cancer.

How It Is Given
It is infused into vein (IV), often with extra fluids, over about an hour.

Common Side Effects
- Nausea and vomiting, loss of appetite and taste changes.
- Reduced blood counts may occur in 2 to 4 weeks.
- Numbness, tingling, and reduced feeling in fingers and toes.
- May affect magnesium and potassium levels. These levels will be checked through blood tests.
- Hair loss
- Tired

Less Common Side Effects
- Kidney changes may occur, but can be reduced by giving large amounts of fluids and diuretics.
- Hearing loss, ringing in ears
- Very rarely, sweating, difficulty breathing, and rapid heartbeat may occur.

Call Your Health Care Provider If You Develop
- Ringing in your ears or a change in hearing
- Nausea and vomiting not controlled with medicine
- Trouble urinating or blood in your urine or decreased urine output
- Trouble breathing, shortness of breath
- Rapid heartbeat
- Fever of 100.5 or higher
- Diarrhea-4-6 episodes in a 24 hour period of time

Special Concerns
- Always tell your health care provider that you are taking Cisplatin. Certain antibiotics (aminoglycosides) can interact with your chemotherapy and should be avoided.
- More lab tests may be needed.
- Drink at least 3 quarts of fluid (about 12 glasses) during the day of the injection and for the next 2 days. Popsicles®, pudding, Jello®, soup, ice cream, sherbet all help keep you hydrated.
- Empty bladder often and before going to bed.

Reproduced with permission from the 1989-2011 United States Pharmacopeial Convention, Inc.