

In a comprehensive treatment of breast and prostate cancer, when the disease has spread to the bones and is causing pain,  $^{153}\text{Sm}$ -lexidronam is used, which builds up in the tissue around the tumours and causes the destruction of tumour cells.

During treatment, the patient will stay in the hospital for 1–2 days, where he or she can use a private room with a toilet, sink and shower, as well as a TV, cable and non-cable Internet, telephone, refrigerator, microwave and hair dryer.

$^{153}\text{Sm}$ -lexidronam is indicated for the treatment of painful bone metastases.

**Contraindications for treatment** include:

- pregnancy;
- breastfeeding;
- hypersensitivity to the active substance;
- chemotherapy or radiotherapy in the previous 6 weeks.

**Possible side effects:**

- pain may get worse within the first 72 hours;
- temporary tiredness.

**Inform your doctor and research staff if:**

- you are pregnant;
- you are breastfeeding;
- you have experienced claustrophobia or the fear of enclosed spaces.

**Preparation for treatment**

During the pre-treatment consultation, you will be informed about the details of the treatment procedure, the course of treatment, the expected benefits and the possible side effects. Also, you will be given individual pre- and post-treatment guidance.

Breastfeeding should be stopped immediately before treatment.

Since pregnancy is contraindicated, a pregnancy test will be performed, if necessary, before the procedure. After treatment, avoid conceiving a child for at least six months.

At the planning stage, blood tests will be collected to assess the haematopoietic function and the condition of the kidneys, and a scintigraphy of the whole body will be performed.

**Administration of treatment**

On the day of treatment, the details of the procedure, the course of treatment and radiation safety requirements will be explained again, and your medical history and blood samples will be collected. You must sign a consent form before proceeding with the procedure.

You are not allowed to eat **4 hours** before and **1 hour** after the procedure.

It is advisable to drink plenty of fluids (2–3 litres) prior to and following administration of the medicinal product to protect the kidneys and to allow the unbound medicinal product to be cleared faster from the body.

The medicinal product is administered by slow intravenous injection.

The day following the administration of the medicinal product, a scintigraphy of the whole body will be performed to assess the distribution of the medicinal product in the body.

If necessary, the procedure will be repeated at 2-month intervals.

**After the procedure:**

- drink plenty of fluids so that the unbound medicinal product may be cleared faster from the body, and empty your bladder often to reduce the radiation burden on the bladder;
- frequent hand washing and careful personal hygiene are recommended;
- for a month, avoid close contact with people around you, especially infants and toddlers, as well as pregnant and breastfeeding women;
- stop breastfeeding;
- use effective contraception for at least six months to avoid conceiving a child;
- after treatment, you will receive medical follow-up and you will be asked to rate your pain on a visual analogue scale;
- if necessary, you will be given additional advice on radiation safety.

For further explanations, please call 617 1221 or 617 1216 or 617 1085.

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