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# The University of Georgia

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College of Veterinary Medicine  
Oncology Service  
(706) 542-3221

## Client Information: Cisplatin (Platinol®)

Today your dog was treated with cisplatin (brand name Platinol). This is a chemotherapeutic agent. Please follow the instructions below.

### **Special instructions for care**

Your dog received a drug today to try to decrease nausea and vomiting associated with cisplatin administration. This drug is a sedative, so your pet may appear sleepy for several hours once he/she arrives home.

Cisplatin is toxic to the kidneys, and IV fluids have been administered throughout the day today. Please try to take your dog out to urinate every 1-3 hours for the next several hours and allow free access to water. Cisplatin is mainly excreted in the urine, so exposure to urine should be avoided for 48 hours after administration. This drug is not excreted in the stool.

**For dogs:** We recommend that dogs urinate in a low-traffic area of the yard (i.e., distant corner where children do not play) for 48 hours after treatment with cisplatin. If your dog urinates in the house, wear gloves when cleaning up urine. Rinse the area with a dilute soap and water solution, and dispose of materials in an outdoor trash receptacle. Women who are pregnant, nursing, or trying to conceive, children, and immunosuppressed individuals should avoid contact with urine for 48 hours after treatment.

### ***CATS ARE NEVER TREATED WITH CISPLATIN.***

#### **Potential side effects**

**Many patients do not experience side effects with this drug, but potential side effects can occur. It is important that you monitor your pet for side effects. These side effects will usually resolve with appropriate treatment.**

#### **Gastrointestinal side effects**

Please monitor your pet for vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of appetite. These effects are usually seen during or immediately after treatment, but can be seen at a later time.

For loss of appetite, try feeding boiled chicken and rice. If your pet does not eat for greater than 24 hours or is lethargic, please call us for advice.

For vomiting: If your pet vomits once or twice, withhold food and water for 12 hours then reintroduce water. If your pet does not vomit after drinking water, you

can offer food. If there are more than 2 episodes of vomiting, if vomiting resumes with feeding, or if your pet is lethargic, call for advice.

For diarrhea: If stools are soft, feed bland food (boiled chicken and rice) for dogs. If the diarrhea is bloody, watery, persists for more than 24 hours, or if your pet is lethargic, call for advice.

**Myelosuppression (low white blood cell or platelet count)**

This can occur as early as 7 days after treatment and usually does not cause a problem. If the white blood cell count falls too low, your pet is susceptible to infection. These infections usually originate from your pet's own skin or intestinal tract. Signs of infection can include loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, weakness, and collapse. If your pet displays one of these signs, please call for advice. You can try to take your dog's temperature at home; if it is greater than 103 degrees, call for advice. If signs of infection are present, it is very likely that we will recommend a visit to the hospital for examination and treatment. If left untreated, infections can be fatal.

**Kidney failure**

Kidney failure can occur as a result of cisplatin treatment. It is uncommon for this to occur after the first dose, as it is usually a gradual process that increases in incidence with subsequent doses of the drug. We will carefully monitor your dog's kidney function during therapy and will discontinue your pet's cisplatin chemotherapy if there is any indication of a kidney problem. If you notice weight loss, decreased appetite, or increased water intake or urination (this is normal for the first 24 hours after administration due to administration of IV fluids during and after treatment) in your pet (especially if it is a dramatic change from normal), please let us know.

**NOTE: If your pet is showing any of the signs described above or if you have any concerns about your pet, please call us at (706) 542-3221. With appropriate care, most toxicity will resolve within a few days.**