

What You Need to Know About Your Radium Treatments

You will be **given** Xofigo (radium Ra 223 dichloride) because you and your oncologist have agreed it is the best treatment for you at this time. It is important you read the booklet “A Patient Guide to Xofigo Treatment for Advanced Prostate Cancer” before you read this handout. This handout will tell you when to call your nurse at the cancer centre or when to go to the Emergency Department. There is a sample schedule of your appointments on the back of this handout.

Call to talk to your nurse at the cancer centre if you have any of these symptoms:

- Increased tiredness
- Severe nausea (you have nausea for more than 24 hours and you are not able to eat or drink)
- Vomiting several times a day for more than 24 hours
- 6 to 8 loose or watery stools in 24 to 48 hours
- Very thirsty and your mouth is very dry
- Dark yellow urine or it burns when you urinate

If you have a problem or concern about a symptom or side effect from your cancer treatment:

1. Call your primary nurse at the cancer centre from Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4 pm, (except on holidays). Use the phone number your primary nurse gave you.
2. Contact CareChart Digital Health from Monday to Friday, 5 pm to 8:30 am and anytime on weekends and holidays for symptom management support.

Talk to a nurse using one of these options:

- Call the after-hours telephone line at 1-877-681-3057.
- Request a video call by going to www.carechart.ca.
- Use the CareChart Digital Health App. This App is available to download for iOS or Android devices.

Please go to the Emergency Department at the hospital closest to you if you have any of these symptoms:

- A fever above 38.3° C/100.9°F at any time or above 38.0° C/100.4°F for more than an hour
- Chills, sweats or you feel shaky
- Shortness of breath (you have difficulty breathing)
- Unusual bruising or bleeding that won't stop

Tell the doctor or nurse in the Emergency Department that you are being treated with this medication. Give this handout to them.

Call 911 or go to the Emergency Department at the hospital closest to you for a medical emergency. Talk to a member of your healthcare team if you have questions or do not understand any information in this handout.

A sample of your schedule

This 4 week schedule will be repeated for each of your radium treatments.

| Week | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---------------|--|---------|-----------|--|--------|
| Week 1 | <p>On Monday or Tuesday morning, you can expect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have your bloodwork done • See the oncologist in the cancer centre to plan for your next treatment <p>Your next treatment appointment will appear on your appointment list and on your calendar on MyChart™.</p> | | | | |
| Week 2 | | | | <p>1 hour before your radium treatment, you will have your bloodwork done in the cancer centre.</p> <p>You will have your radium treatment in the Nuclear Medicine department of the hospital.</p> | |
| Week 3 | | | | | |
| Week 4 | | | | | |

Last reviewed: April 2025