



MY

SPIRIT

MY

STRENGTH

Staying strong in the fight against metastatic breast cancer

Understanding your treatment with IXEMPRA[®] (ixabepilone)

IXEMPRA is a prescription medicine used to treat locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer when certain other medicines have not worked or no longer work. IXEMPRA can be used alone or with another cancer medicine called Xeloda[®] (capecitabine).

Safety information

IXEMPRA should not be used with Xeloda if you have liver problems. If you have liver problems, taking these medicines together increases your chance of serious infection and death.

Please [click here](#) for Important Safety Information, including **boxed WARNING regarding liver disease**. Also [click here](#) for Full Prescribing Information.

IXEMPRA[®]
(ixabepilone) for injection,
for intravenous infusion

Take an active role in your care

This booklet will help you know what to expect from treatment with IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone). To get the most from your treatment with IXEMPRA:

- Stay in touch with your healthcare team.
- Let them know how you are feeling.
- Talk with them about any side effects you may have.
- Ask what you can do that may help you stay on treatment.



Information in this booklet does not take the place of instructions from your doctor. Always follow your doctor's advice about how and when to take IXEMPRA[®] (ixabepilone) and how to manage side effects.

Please [click here](#) for Important Safety Information, including **boxed WARNING regarding liver disease**. Also [click here](#) for Full Prescribing Information.

IXEMPRA[®]
(ixabepilone) for injection,
for intravenous infusion



6 | Patient
Information



15 | Serious
side effects



18 | Common
side effects



32 | Important Safety
Information



34 | Side effects
tracker



35 | Patient
support



36 | Resources



Patient Information

IXEMPRA® *Kit* (ixabepilone) for Injection, for intravenous infusion only

Read the Patient Information that comes with IXEMPRA before you start receiving it and before each injection. There may be new information. This leaflet does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or your treatment.

What is the most important information I should know about IXEMPRA?

Your healthcare provider should do blood tests to check your liver function:

- before you begin receiving IXEMPRA
- as needed while you are receiving IXEMPRA

If blood tests show that you have liver problems, do not receive injections of IXEMPRA along with the medicine capecitabine. Taking these two medicines together if you have liver problems increases your chance of serious problems. These include: serious infection and death due to a very low white blood cell count (neutropenia).

What is IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone)?

IXEMPRA is a cancer medicine. IXEMPRA is used alone or with another cancer medicine called capecitabine. IXEMPRA is used to treat breast cancer, when certain other medicines have not worked or no longer work.

Who should not receive IXEMPRA?

Do not receive injections of IXEMPRA if you:

- are allergic to a medicine, such as TAXOL®, that contains Cremophor® EL or polyoxyethylated castor oil.
- have low white blood cell or platelet counts. Your healthcare provider will check your blood counts.
- are also taking a cancer medicine called capecitabine and you have liver problems.

See “What is the most important information I should know about IXEMPRA?”



Patient Information (cont'd)

What should I tell my healthcare provider before receiving IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone)?

IXEMPRA may not be right for you. Before you receive IXEMPRA, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- have liver problems
- have heart problems or a history of heart problems
- have had an allergic reaction to IXEMPRA. You will receive medicines before each injection of IXEMPRA to decrease the chance of an allergic reaction. **See “How will I receive IXEMPRA?”**
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. You should not receive IXEMPRA during pregnancy because it may harm your unborn baby. Talk with your healthcare provider about how to prevent pregnancy while receiving IXEMPRA. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you become pregnant or think you are pregnant while receiving IXEMPRA.
- are breast-feeding. It is not known if IXEMPRA passes into breast milk. You and your healthcare provider should decide if you will receive IXEMPRA or breast-feed. You should not do both.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

IXEMPRA and certain other medicines may affect each other causing side effects. IXEMPRA may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how IXEMPRA works. Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of your medicines with you to show your healthcare provider.

How will I receive IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone)?

IXEMPRA is given by an injection directly into your vein (intravenous infusion). IXEMPRA is usually given once every three weeks. Each treatment with IXEMPRA will take about 3 hours.

Your healthcare provider will decide how much IXEMPRA you will receive and how often you will receive it.

To lower the chance of allergic reaction, you will receive other medicines about 1 hour before each treatment with IXEMPRA. **See “What are the possible side effects of IXEMPRA?”**

If you have an allergic reaction to IXEMPRA, you will receive a steroid medicine before future doses of IXEMPRA. You may also need to receive your doses of IXEMPRA more slowly.



Patient Information (cont'd)

What should I avoid while receiving IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone)?

IXEMPRA contains alcohol. If you are dizzy or drowsy, avoid activities that may be dangerous, such as driving or operating machinery.

Do not drink grapefruit juice while receiving IXEMPRA. Drinking grapefruit juice may cause you to have too much IXEMPRA in your blood and lead to side effects.

What are the possible side effects of IXEMPRA?

IXEMPRA may cause serious side effects including:

- **Numbness, tingling, or burning in the hands or feet can occur while receiving IXEMPRA (neuropathy).** These symptoms may be new or get worse while you are receiving IXEMPRA. These symptoms often occur early during treatment with IXEMPRA. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any of these symptoms. Your dose of IXEMPRA may need to be decreased, stopped until your symptoms get better, or totally stopped.
- **Low white blood cell count (neutropenia).** White blood cells help protect the body from infections caused by bacteria. If you get a fever or infection when your white blood cells are very low, you can become seriously ill and die. You may need treatment in the hospital with antibiotic medicines. Your healthcare provider will monitor your white blood cell count often with blood tests. Tell your healthcare provider right away or go to the nearest hospital emergency room if you have a fever (temperature above 100.5° F) or other sign of infection, such as chills, cough, burning or pain when you urinate, any time between treatments with IXEMPRA.

-
- **Allergic Reactions.** Severe allergic reactions can occur with IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) and may cause death in rare cases. Allergic reactions are most likely to occur while IXEMPRA is being injected into your vein. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction:
 - itching, hives (raised itchy welts), rash
 - flushed face
 - sudden swelling of face, throat or tongue
 - chest tightness, trouble breathing
 - feel dizzy or faint
 - feel your heart beating (palpitations)
 - **Harm to an unborn child. See “What should I tell my healthcare provider before receiving IXEMPRA?”**
 - **Heart problems.** IXEMPRA might cause decreased blood flow to the heart, problems with heart function, and abnormal heart beat. This is seen more often in patients who also take capecitabine. **Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms:**
 - chest pain,
 - difficulty breathing,
 - feel your heart beating (palpitations), or
 - unusual weight gain.



Patient Information (cont'd)

The most common side effects with IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) used alone or with capecitabine may include:

- tiredness
- loss of appetite
- disorders of toenails and fingernails
- hair loss
- fever
- decreased red blood cells (anemia)
- joint and muscle pain
- headache
- decreased platelets (thrombocytopenia)
- nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, and abdominal pain
- sores on the lip, in the mouth and esophagus
- tender, red palms and soles of feet (hand-foot syndrome) that looks like a sunburn; the skin may become dry and peel. There may also be numbness and tingling.

Tell your healthcare provider about any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all of the side effects of IXEMPRA. Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for more information if you have questions or concerns.

General information about IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone)

The patient information on pages 6-13 summarizes the most important information about IXEMPRA. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information Leaflet. If you would like more information about IXEMPRA, talk with your healthcare provider. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about IXEMPRA that is written for health professionals. For more information about IXEMPRA, call 1-888-IXEMPRA (1-888-493-6772).

Know when to talk to your healthcare team

You may find it helpful to learn more about the possible side effects of IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) listed in this booklet. Remember, each person is different. You may not have all of the side effects listed on the following pages. Or you may have other side effects not listed here. And how long certain side effects last may be different for you than for someone else taking the same medicine.

Tell your doctor or nurse about any side effects that bother you. Also talk with your healthcare provider about the tips in this booklet. If you have side effects, your doctor may lower your dose. He or she may stop your treatment with IXEMPRA for a while or completely. If you have any questions, contact your doctor or nurse.

See pages 15-31 about possible side effects and helpful tips.

See page 34 for a tool you can use to keep track of your side effects and share with your doctor or nurse.



Serious side effects

Peripheral neuropathy (tingling, numbness, or burning in the hands or feet, or being very sensitive to touch)

Peripheral neuropathy (PN) is an unpleasant feeling in the hands or feet caused by nerve damage. You might have numbness, tingling, burning, or shooting pain. Or you might be very sensitive to touch. This can lead to problems like weakness, poor balance, and trouble walking.

These symptoms often appear early in treatment and may get worse. Tell your healthcare provider as soon as you notice these symptoms. Tell him or her if it has become hard to do daily tasks. Some examples are tying your shoes, buttoning your shirt, or washing dishes.

Your dose of IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) may need to be lowered or stopped until these symptoms get better. Or you may need to stop taking IXEMPRA permanently. Be sure to follow your healthcare provider's advice on ways to manage PN.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 67% of women who received IXEMPRA and Xeloda had PN.
- In another trial, 63% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had PN.



Tips to try

- Wear shoes with rubber soles inside and outside your home.
- Wear gloves when you work in the garden, cook, or wash dishes.
- Before you take a bath or shower, test the water with a thermometer or have someone test it for you.
- Be careful when you handle sharp objects, like scissors and knives.
- Remove small rugs, and use no-slip mats and handrails.



Serious side effects (cont'd)

Neutropenia (low white blood cell count)

When you have a low white blood cell count, your body cannot fight infections very well. This means you have a greater chance of getting sick. Signs of infection can include fever (temperature over 100.5°F), chills, and cough. It can also include burning or pain when you urinate. If you get an infection when your white blood cells are very low, you could become very ill and die. You may need treatment in the hospital with antibiotic medicines.

Your healthcare provider will check your white blood cell count often with blood tests. Tell your doctor or nurse right away or go to the nearest emergency room if you have signs of infection. Do not receive any vaccine without first talking with your healthcare team. Some vaccines contain live viruses that may make you sick.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 68% of women who received IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) and Xeloda had a very low white blood cell count.
- 11% of women who received Xeloda alone had a very low white blood cell count.
- In another trial, 54% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had a very low white blood cell count.



Tips to try

- Stay away from people who are sick—people with colds, flu, measles, or chicken pox.
- Be careful not to nick or cut yourself.
- Use an electric shaver, and be careful using scissors, needles, or knives.
- Clean cuts right away using warm water, soap, and an antiseptic.

Allergic reactions

Some people who receive IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) have an allergic reaction to it. These reactions may be severe in some cases and may cause death in rare cases. A healthcare provider will monitor you while you are receiving a dose of IXEMPRA.

You should know that:

- You will receive other medicines by injection about 1 hour before each treatment with IXEMPRA.
- These medicines help lower your chance of having an allergic reaction to IXEMPRA.
- If you do have an allergic reaction, it will likely happen while IXEMPRA is being injected into your vein.

Watch for these common symptoms of an allergic reaction:

- Itching, hives (raised, itchy welts), or rash
- Flushed (red) face
- Sudden swelling of your face, throat, or tongue
- A tight feeling in your chest or trouble breathing
- Feeling dizzy or like you might faint
- Feeling your heart beat rapidly (palpitations)

Let your doctor or nurse know right away if you have symptoms of an allergic reaction during treatment. Once you are home after treatment, call your healthcare provider if an allergic reaction begins. If you have an allergic reaction, you will receive another medicine (a steroid) before each future dose of IXEMPRA. You may also receive the dose more slowly.



Common side effects

Fatigue (tiredness)

Tiredness is quite common with cancer. It is different from the tiredness you may have from everyday life. Rest does not make cancer tiredness go away. You may feel exhausted by doing even a small amount of activity. Treatment with IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) may also cause tiredness.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 60% of women who received IXEMPRA and Xeloda had tiredness.
- 29% of women who received Xeloda alone had tiredness.
- In another trial, 56% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had tiredness.



Tips to try

- Tiredness may be caused by more than one problem. Talk with your healthcare providers. They may suggest different things to help. These include exercise, managing stress, treating sleep problems, and improving your diet.
- Try to pace yourself. Save your energy for things that are the most important to you. Let others help with shopping, cooking, and driving.
- Distract yourself by listening to music, reading a book, or visiting with friends.
- Ask your healthcare provider about exercise. Research shows that the right amount, type, and time of exercise may help lessen tiredness. It may also help you sleep better.
- Take short walks. For some people, being active can help more than resting. Your healthcare provider may suggest other ways to be more active.
- Sleep at least 8 hours per night, even if you are not used to it. Your body may need more sleep than it did before you started chemotherapy.
- Keep track of how you feel. This may help you plan your activities for the day.

Loss of appetite/change in taste

IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) may affect your appetite. You may not feel like eating for different reasons. Some reasons may include a changed sense of taste or smell, nausea, pain, or depression.



Clinical trials

Loss of appetite

- In one trial, 34% of women who received IXEMPRA and Xeloda had a loss of appetite.
- 15% of women who received Xeloda alone had a loss of appetite.
- In another trial, 19% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had a loss of appetite.

Change in taste

- In one trial, 12% of women who received IXEMPRA and Xeloda had a change in taste.
- 4% of women who received Xeloda alone had a change in taste.
- In another trial, 6% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had a change in taste.



Tips to try

- Eat frequent small meals or snacks, instead of 3 big meals.
- Eat foods and drinks high in calories and protein when you do feel like eating. Some examples include chicken, ice cream, peanut butter, and milk shakes. If you have diarrhea or constipation, you may need to be careful about the foods you eat. Talk with your healthcare provider about what you should eat.
- Take a short walk before meals to increase your appetite.
- Have liquid meals, such as smoothies, juices, soups, or nutritional drinks.



Common side effects (cont'd)

Problems with your toenails and fingernails

With IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone), nails may turn dark or yellow or get brittle and crack. Nails sometimes fall off.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 24% of women who received IXEMPRA and Xeloda had problems with nails.
- 10% of women who received Xeloda alone had problems with nails.
- In another trial, 9% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had problems with nails.



Tips to try

- Wear gloves when washing dishes, gardening, or cleaning the house.
- Use a nail strengthener. For brittle or cracked nails, use products that you apply to your nails to make them stronger.

Hair loss

IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) may damage the cells that cause hair to grow. Hair loss can occur anywhere on your body.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 31% of women who received IXEMPRA and Xeloda had hair loss.
- 3% of women who received Xeloda alone had hair loss.
- In another trial, 48% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had hair loss.



Tips to try

- Consider cutting your hair. This may help you adjust to the physical and emotional changes that happen with hair loss.
- Consider buying a wig while you still have some hair so you can match the color and style to your own hair. Check to see if your insurance covers the cost of a wig (it may be called a hair prosthesis).



Common side effects (cont'd)

Fever

Call your doctor or nurse right away if your temperature is 100.5°F or higher. This may be a sign of infection. When your white blood cells are very low, you could become very ill and die. You may need treatment in the hospital with antibiotic medicines. Your healthcare provider will check your white blood cell count often with blood tests.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 10% of women who received IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) and Xeloda had fever.
- 4% of women who received Xeloda alone had fever.
- In another trial, 8% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had fever.



Tips to try

- Drink lots of liquids, such as soup, juice, or water, or eat ice pops.
- If you feel warm or cold, take your temperature every 2 to 3 hours and record the readings.
- Share this information with your doctor or nurse.
- Place a cold compress on your forehead if you feel hot.

Anemia (low red blood cell count)

With fewer red blood cells, your body may not get enough oxygen. This can make you tired. You may also have shortness of breath and feel dizzy. These are common symptoms of a low red blood cell count. They also may be symptoms of a serious side effect. If you have any of these symptoms, call your healthcare provider right away.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 10% of women who received IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) and Xeloda had a very low level of red blood cells.
- 5% of women who received Xeloda alone had a very low level of red blood cells.
- In another trial, 8% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had a very low level of red blood cells.



Tips to try

- Stand up slowly after lying down. This may prevent you from feeling dizzy or faint.
- Get enough rest. Try to sleep for at least 8 hours every night.
- Eat the right foods. You need enough calories to keep your weight up. You also need enough protein to help your body heal. Let your dietitian or healthcare provider help you plan a healthy menu.



Common side effects (cont'd)

Myalgia/arthralgia (muscle and joint pain)

IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) may cause problems with your muscles and joints, such as weakness, tiredness, or pain. You may have pain in a small or large area of your body. The pain may be mild or severe, dull or sharp, constant or fleeting. It may be hard for you to do the things you are used to doing.

Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have pain.

- Describe the pain in detail. Where is the pain? Is it all over your body or just in one part? How strong is the pain, and how long does it last?
- Your healthcare team may offer ways to help manage pain. Be sure to let your doctor or nurse know if the pain changes during your treatment with IXEMPRA.
- You may want to keep a pain journal to share with your healthcare providers. The more they know about your pain, the better they can manage it.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 39% of women who received IXEMPRA and Xeloda had muscle and joint pain.
- 5% of women who received Xeloda alone had muscle and joint pain.
- In another trial, 49% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had muscle and joint pain.



Tips to try

- Place a warm compress on sore muscles.
- Take warm baths to help soothe aching muscles. Be sure the water is not too hot.
- Use heat packs or a heating pad. Be sure the heating pad is not too hot. Do not put a heating pad on bare skin. Do not fall asleep with a heating pad on.
- Distract yourself. Try deep breathing, yoga, meditation, watching TV, or listening to music. Visit with family and friends, or find other ways to relax. This can help lessen muscle tension, anxiety, and pain.

Headaches

IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) may cause headaches.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 8% of women who received IXEMPRA and Xeloda had headaches.
- 3% of women who received Xeloda alone had headaches.
- In another trial, 11% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had headaches.



Tips to try

- Practice relaxation exercises to help make you less tense. Try deep breathing, or picture a peaceful place.
- Distract yourself with music. Listen to music that is slow and quiet.



Common side effects (cont'd)

Thrombocytopenia (low platelets)

Platelets help your blood clot when you bleed. When you don't have enough platelets, you may get nosebleeds, a rash of tiny red dots, or purple bruises even when you haven't bumped into anything.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 8% of women who received IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) and Xeloda had a very low level of platelets.
- 4% of women who received Xeloda alone had a very low level of platelets.
- In another trial, 7% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had a very low level of platelets.



Tips to try

- Blow your nose gently.
- Apply light pressure on any cuts until the bleeding stops.
- Use a very soft toothbrush. Before you brush, run hot water over the bristles to make them softer.
- Avoid flossing and using toothpicks. Talk with your healthcare provider about ways to care for your mouth and teeth during treatment.
- Use an electric shaver. Do not use a razor.
- Be careful when you're active. Choose activities that have less chance for injury.

Nausea and vomiting

With IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone), you may feel nauseous (sick to your stomach) or vomit. You may also get dry heaves, which is when your body tries to vomit but can't because your stomach is empty. Nausea and vomiting can happen during your treatment, right after you receive it, or many hours or days later.

Know whom and when you should call if you have nausea and vomiting. Your healthcare provider may suggest ways to help control nausea caused by your treatment. When nausea is controlled, you are less likely to vomit. Your doctor or nurse can suggest how to control or stop nausea.



Clinical trials

Nausea

- In one trial, 53% of women who received IXEMPRA and Xeloda had nausea.
- 40% of women who received Xeloda alone had nausea.
- In another trial, 42% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had nausea.

Vomiting

- In one trial, 39% of women who received IXEMPRA and Xeloda had vomiting.
- 24% of women who received Xeloda alone had vomiting.
- In another trial, 29% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had vomiting.



Tips to try

- Eat 5 or 6 small meals and snacks each day, instead of 3 large meals.
- Try to avoid cooking or being around foods with strong smells, like coffee, fish, onions, and garlic.
- Suck on ice chips, or try taking small bites of ice pops or fruit ices.
- Try deep breathing, meditate, or think about peaceful scenes.
- Eat when it is right for you. Some people may feel better eating before treatment. Other people feel better having treatment on an empty stomach. Decide what works best for you.
- Eat a diet of bland, easy-to-digest foods. These could include clear broth, cranberry juice, broiled or baked chicken without the skin, instant oatmeal, white toast, saltine crackers, noodles, gelatin, canned fruit, and sherbet or sorbet.



Common side effects (cont'd)

Diarrhea

Diarrhea may develop when IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) harms the healthy cells that line the intestines. Tell your healthcare provider if your diarrhea lasts more than 24 hours or if you have pain or cramping.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 44% of women who received IXEMPRA and Xeloda had diarrhea.
- 39% of women who received Xeloda alone had diarrhea.
- In another trial, 22% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had diarrhea.



Tips to try

- Drink at least 8 cups of liquid every day to stay hydrated.
- Choose water, clear broth, or sports drinks. Have your drinks at room temperature.
- Eat low-fiber foods. High-fiber foods can make diarrhea worse.
- Try eating skinless chicken or turkey, eggs, cottage cheese, white rice, potatoes without the skin, bananas, clear juice, canned fruit, gelatin, saltine crackers, and sherbet or sorbet.
- Eat foods high in sodium and potassium to replace what you may lose with diarrhea. Examples are bananas, oranges, peach or apricot nectar, and boiled or mashed potatoes.
- Avoid alcohol, caffeine (coffee, tea, cola, chocolate), and milk products. Also avoid spicy, greasy, or fried foods.
- Avoid grapefruit juice while you are receiving IXEMPRA. Drinking grapefruit juice may cause you to have too much IXEMPRA in your blood. This could lead to side effects.

Constipation

IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) may cause constipation. You may have gas, cramping, or a bloated and nauseous feeling. Talk with your doctor or nurse if you are having fewer bowel movements than normal. Your healthcare provider may suggest ways to deal with constipation.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 22% of women who received IXEMPRA and Xeloda had constipation.
- 6% of women who received Xeloda alone had constipation.
- In another trial, 16% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had constipation.



Tips to try

- Drink at least 8 cups of water or other fluids every day. Drinks that may help with constipation include warm or hot coffee or tea and prune juice.
- Avoid grapefruit juice while you are receiving IXEMPRA. Drinking grapefruit juice may cause you to have too much IXEMPRA in your blood. This could lead to side effects.
- Eat high-fiber foods to help soften your stools. Choose foods such as raw or cooked vegetables, cooked dried beans and peas, whole-grain breads and cereals, brown or wild rice, dried fruit, nuts, and popcorn.
- Try to be active every day. Ask your doctor or nurse about the type and amount of activity that is right for you. He or she can suggest chair or bed exercises, if needed.



Common side effects (cont'd)

Stomatitis/mucositis (sores on the lips, in the mouth, and in the esophagus)

Treatment with IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) can damage the fast-growing cells lining the lips, mouth, and esophagus. This may cause you to have open red sores and be more sensitive to heat and cold.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 31% of women who received IXEMPRA and Xeloda had sores on the lips, in the mouth, and in the esophagus.
- 20% of women who received Xeloda alone had sores on the lips, in the mouth, and in the esophagus.
- In another trial, 29% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had sores on the lips, in the mouth, and in the esophagus.



Tips to try

- Puree cooked foods in a blender to make them easier to eat.
- Clean your teeth with cotton swabs if brushing with a toothbrush is too painful.
- Choose foods you can eat cold or at room temperature if hot foods hurt your mouth or throat.
- Avoid eating foods that may hurt your mouth. Examples are sharp, crunchy foods, spicy foods, citrus fruit or juices (such as orange, lemon, and grapefruit), high-sugar foods and drinks, alcoholic drinks, and tobacco products.
- Gently floss every day. Avoid any areas that hurt or bleed.
- Suck on ice chips or ice pops to help soothe mouth pain.

Hand-foot syndrome (tender, red hands and feet)

The palms of your hands and the soles of your feet may look sunburned and be painful. In severe cases, the skin may blister and become dry and peel. The skin may also be numb and tingle. These all may be signs of tender, red hands and feet.



Clinical trials

- In one trial, 64% of women who received IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) and Xeloda had tender, red hands and feet.
- 63% of women who received Xeloda alone had tender, red hands and feet.
- In another trial, 8% of women who received IXEMPRA alone had tender, red hands and feet.



Tips to try

- Stay out of the sun as much as possible.
- Apply sunscreen of at least SPF 30 at least 1 to 2 hours before you go outside. Wear protective clothing and a hat when you are outside.
- Put gel inserts in your shoes if your feet are sensitive.
- Avoid wearing shoes that fit too tightly.
- Bathe in lukewarm water instead of hot water.
- Use a mild soap or body wash that does not have perfume, alcohol, or dye.
- Use a moisturizer often, but apply it gently to avoid rubbing the skin.
- Choose a lotion or cream that does not contain perfumes or alcohol.



Important Safety Information about IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone)

Your healthcare provider should do blood tests to check how well your liver is working before you begin treatment with IXEMPRA and as needed during treatment. If blood tests show that you have liver problems, do not receive injections of IXEMPRA along with capecitabine. If you have liver problems, taking these medicines together could increase your chance of serious infection and death due to a very low white blood cell count (neutropenia).

You should not have your injection of IXEMPRA if you:

- Are allergic to medicines that contain Cremophor® EL* (polyoxyethylated castor oil)
- Have a low white blood cell count or a low platelet count

Before you receive treatment with IXEMPRA, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including any of the following:

- Liver problems
- Heart problems or a history of heart problems
- An allergic reaction to IXEMPRA. (To lower the chance of an allergic reaction, you will receive other medicines about 1 hour before each dose of IXEMPRA)
- Diabetes
- Numbness, tingling, or burning in the hands or feet (neuropathy)

You should also tell your healthcare provider if you:

- Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. IXEMPRA may harm your unborn baby
- Are breast-feeding. It is not known if IXEMPRA passes into breast milk
- Take any medicines, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements, including St John's wort. IXEMPRA and certain other medicines may affect each other and cause side effects

While you are on treatment with IXEMPRA, you should avoid:

- Activities that may be dangerous, such as driving or operating machinery because IXEMPRA contains alcohol and may cause dizziness and drowsiness (feeling tired)
- Drinking grapefruit juice. Grapefruit juice may cause you to have too much IXEMPRA in your blood, and this can lead to side effects

IXEMPRA may cause serious side effects. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following while taking IXEMPRA:

- **Numbness, tingling, or burning in the hands or feet (neuropathy).** When they do happen, these symptoms often appear early in treatment and may be new or get worse. Your dose of IXEMPRA may need to be decreased, stopped until your symptoms get better, or stopped totally

- **Low white blood cell count (neutropenia).** White blood cells help protect the body from infections caused by bacteria. Symptoms of neutropenia include fever (temperature over 100.5 degrees), chills, cough, and burning or pain when you urinate. If you get a fever or an infection when your white blood cell count is very low, you can become seriously ill and die. You may need treatment in the hospital with antibiotic medicines
- **Allergic reactions.** Signs of an allergic reaction include itching; hives; rash; flushed face; sudden swelling of the face, throat, or tongue; tightness in the chest; trouble breathing; feeling dizzy or faint; feeling your heart beating (palpitations). Allergic reactions are most likely to occur while IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone) is being injected. Severe allergic reactions can occur with IXEMPRA and may cause death in rare cases
- **Heart Problems.** Chest pain, difficulty breathing, palpitations, or unusual weight gain. These can be caused by decreased blood flow to the heart, problems with heart function, and abnormal heartbeat

The most common side effects of IXEMPRA, when used alone or with capecitabine, may include:

- Tiredness
- Loss of appetite
- Problems with your toenails and fingernails
- Hair loss
- Fever
- Decreased red blood cell count (anemia)
- Joint and muscle pain
- Headache
- Decreased platelet count (thrombocytopenia)
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, and abdominal pain
- Sores on the lip, in the mouth, and in the esophagus
- Tender, red skin on the palms of the hands and the soles of the feet (hand-foot syndrome). It may look like a sunburn. The skin may also become dry and peel or may feel numb and tingly

If you have any questions about your health or your medicines, talk with your healthcare provider.

*Cremophor is a registered trademark of BASF AG.



Tracking your side effects

Use this side effects tracker to record side effects you have and when you have them. Print and complete this tracker for each cycle to track your side effects. Share it with your doctor at each office visit.

Day 1	Day 8	Day 15
Day 2	Day 9	Day 16
Day 3	Day 10	Day 17
Day 4	Day 11	Day 18
Day 5	Day 12	Day 19
Day 6	Day 13	Day 20
Day 7	Day 14	Day 21



Patient support



R-PHARM  US

ACCESS + SUPPORT™

Committed to patients. Committed to care.

R-Pharm US Access and Support program

This program offers the services below that may help you get and pay for treatment with IXEMPRA® (ixabepilone):

- Help with co-pays
- Patient assistance program (PAP)
- Figuring out what benefits you have
- Sending a request for insurance
- Claims appeals

For more information, call the Support Center at **1-855-991-7277**, 8 AM to 8 PM ET, Monday through Friday or visit rpharm-us.enrollsource.com.

@ Resources

Living Beyond Breast Cancer. Provides programs and services to help people whose lives have been impacted by breast cancer by providing information, community, and support that you can trust, is easy for you to access, and is respectful of you and your situation. lbbc.org

Metastatic Breast Cancer Network (MBCN). A national, independent, nonprofit, all-volunteer, patient-led advocacy organization dedicated to the unique concerns of the women and men living with metastatic breast cancer, also known as stage IV, or advanced, breast cancer. mbcn.org

National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). A not-for-profit alliance of 27 of the world's leading cancer centers dedicated to improving the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of care provided to patients with cancer. nccn.com

Look Good Feel Better. Dedicated to improving the self-esteem and quality of life of people undergoing treatment for cancer. The group's aim is to improve their self-image and appearance through complimentary group, individual, and self-help beauty sessions that create a sense of support, confidence, courage, and community. lookgoodfeelbetter.org

Susan G. Komen. Provides a wealth of safe, accurate, current, and evidence-based breast cancer information that has been developed with experts in breast cancer. If you want to know more on anything from understanding a diagnosis to treatments to types of assistance and support, you'll find it here. komen.org

OncoLink. OncoLink was the first cancer information website on the Internet, started in 1994, and remains one of the largest. This award-winning site is maintained by a group of oncology healthcare professionals who understand the needs of patients, caregivers, and healthcare professionals. oncolink.org

Breastcancer.org. This community and its discussion boards have registered members from around the world. You can register to become a member, or you can simply browse the stories, support, and information that is offered. breastcancer.org

Inspire. A safe and secure place for patients and caregivers to support and connect with one another through online health and wellness support communities. Join many others who understand what you're going through and are making important decisions about their health. inspire.com

CaringBridge. No more repeating the story over and over. Connect with all of your family and friends at once, giving you time to focus on what matters. By creating a free CaringBridge website, people in a time of need can share updates, photos, and videos, connecting with friends and family who care and want to help. caringbridge.org

METAvivor. A volunteer-led, nonprofit organization that funds vital research to help improve the longevity and quality of life for metastatic breast cancer (mBC) patients, rallying public attention to the urgent needs of the mBC community, helping patients find strength through support and purpose, and making every dollar count to extend and improve quality of life for mBC patients. metavivor.com

CancerCare. Provides telephone, online, and face-to-face counseling, support groups, education, publications, and financial and co-payment assistance. Professional oncology social workers offer personalized care, and all services are free of charge. cancercares.org

Cancer Support Community. Emotional and educational services for all people affected by cancer. This website has a range of information, tools, and support to help you cope with the impact of cancer. cancersupportcommunity.org

Visit IXEMPRA.com to learn more.

R-PHARM  US

The R-Pharm US Access and Support logo is a trademark and IXEMPRA® is a registered trademark of R-Pharm US Operating LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of R-Pharm US LLC.

Xeloda is a registered trademark of Hoffmann-La Roche, Inc.

Taxol is a registered trademark of Bristol-Myers Squibb.

Cremophor is a registered trademark of BASF AG.

© 2016, R-PHARM US. All rights reserved. IXE-00080-e 06/16

IXEMPRA[®]
(ixabepilone) for injection,
for intravenous infusion