

ORAL CHEMOTHERAPY EDUCATION



PASSION FOR PATIENTS
NCODA.ORG



MITOTANE

Name of your medication

Generic name — mitotane (MY-toh-tane)
Brand name — Lysodren™

Approved uses

Mitotane is used to treat adrenal cortical carcinoma.

Dose and schedule

Taking mitotane as instructed is important to allow your treatment to be as effective as possible, so here are some key points to remember.

- Your dose may vary, but the usual dose of mitotane is between 2,000 milligrams (2,000 mg) and 6,000 milligrams (6,000 mg) per day to be divided into three or four doses.
- Mitotane can be taken with or without food at the same times each day.
- Mitotane should be taken whole and not crushed, cut, or dissolved. If you are unable to swallow mitotane, talk to your care provider or pharmacist for possible options.
- If you miss a dose of mitotane, **do not** take an extra dose or two doses at one time. Simply take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Be sure to write down if you miss a dose and let your care provider know about any missed doses.

Storage and handling

Handle mitotane with care. Just like when chemotherapy is given into the vein, this drug can be toxic, and exposure of the drug to others should be limited.

- Store mitotane at room temperature (68°F–77°F) in a dry location away from light.
- Keep mitotane out of reach of children and pets.
- Leave mitotane in the provided packaging until it is ready to be taken.
- Whenever possible, give mitotane to yourself and follow the steps below. If a family member, friend, or caregiver needs to give mitotane to you, they also need to follow these steps:
 1. Wash hands with soap and water.
 2. Put on gloves to avoid touching the medication. (Gloves are not necessary if you give the drug to yourself.)
 3. Gently transfer the mitotane from its package to a small medicine or other disposable cup.
 4. Administer the medicine immediately by mouth with water.
 5. Remove gloves and do not use them for anything else.
 6. Throw gloves and medicine cup in household trash.
 7. Wash hands with soap and water.

ORAL CHEMOTHERAPY EDUCATION



PASSION FOR PATIENTS
NCODA.ORG



MITOTANE

- ❑ If a daily pill box or pill reminder is used, a separate one should be used for mitotane. **Do not** mix other medications into the box with mitotane. The person filling the box or reminder should wear gloves. (Gloves are not necessary if you are filling the box or reminder.) When empty, the box or reminder should be washed with soap and water before refilling. Be sure to wash hands with soap and water after the task is complete, whether or not gloves are worn.
- ❑ If you have any unused mitotane, **do not** throw it in the trash and **do not** flush it down the sink or toilet. Talk to your care provider or pharmacist about proper disposal of mitotane.
- ❑ If you are traveling, put your mitotane in a sealed plastic bag. Ask your pharmacist if any additional travel precautions are needed.

Handling body fluids and waste

Because mitotane remains in your body for several days after it is taken, some of the drug may be present in urine, stool, sweat, or vomit. Once you have started to take mitotane, it is important to follow the instructions below every day for as long as your treatment lasts. This will keep yourself, loved ones, and the environment as safe as possible.

- ❑ Pregnant women should avoid touching anything that may be soiled with body fluids from the patient.
- ❑ Toilet and septic systems
 - You may use the same toilet, septic tank, and/or sewer that you usually use. If you have a low-flow toilet, close the lid and flush twice to ensure all waste has been discarded.
 - If the toilet or toilet seat becomes soiled with urine, stool, or vomit, clean the surfaces before other people use the toilet.
 - Wash hands with soap and water after using the toilet.
- ❑ If you need a bedpan, be sure your caregiver knows to wear gloves to assist with cleanup and to wash the bedpan with soap and water every day.
- ❑ If you do not have good control of bladder or bowels, use a disposable pad with a plastic back, a diaper, or a sheet to absorb body waste.
- ❑ Wash any skin that has been exposed to body waste or mitotane with soap and water.
- ❑ Linens or clothing that are soiled with body fluids or body waste should be washed separately from other linens and clothing. If you do not have a washer, place the soiled linens in a plastic bag until they can be washed.
- ❑ Wash hands with soap and water after touching linens or clothing that may be soiled with body fluids.

Drug and food interactions

- ❑ Mitotane has many drug interactions. Inform your care providers of all prescription medications, over-the-counter medications, vitamins, and herbal products that you are taking.
- ❑ Talk with your care provider or pharmacist before taking new medications or supplements, or receiving any vaccines.

Serious side effects

- ❑ Adrenal crisis may develop if shock or severe trauma occurs, which impairs your body's response. Notify your provider of any planned surgeries.

If you experience ANY uncontrolled side effect, call your physician or healthcare center immediately:

(INSTITUTIONAL CONTACT INFO)

ORAL CHEMOTHERAPY EDUCATION



PASSION FOR PATIENTS
NCODA.ORG



MITOTANE

Side Effects of Mitotane

The common side effects that have been known to happen in more than 30% of patients taking mitotane are listed in the left side of this table. You **MAY NOT** experience these side effects. Options to help manage any side effects that do occur are included on the right side of this table. These should be discussed with your care provider. If you experience any side effect you cannot manage or that is not listed here, contact your care provider.

Possible Side Effect	Management
Nausea or vomiting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eat and drink slowly. • Drink 8–10 glasses of water or fluid each day unless your care provider has instructed you to limit your fluid intake. • Eat small, frequent meals throughout the day rather than a few large meals. • Eat bland foods; avoid spicy, fried, and greasy foods. • Avoid vigorous exercise immediately after eating. • Don't lie down immediately after eating. • Avoid strong odors. <p>Let your provider know if you experience nausea or vomiting. Your provider may prescribe medication to help with the nausea or vomiting.</p>
Decreased appetite or weight loss	<p>Talk to your care provider if you notice a decrease in weight while taking this medication. When you do not feel like eating, try the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eat small, frequent meals rather than three large meals each day. • Keep snacks nearby so you can eat when you feel hungry. • Drink liquid nutritional supplements. • Drink 8–10 glasses of water or fluid each day, especially if you are not eating, unless your care provider has instructed you to limit your fluid intake.
Diarrhea (loose and/or urgent bowel movements)	<p>Monitor how many bowel movements you have each day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink 8–10 glasses of water or fluid each day unless your care provider has instructed you to limit your fluid intake. • Eat small, frequent meals throughout the day rather than a few large meals. • Eat bland, low-fiber foods (e.g., bananas, applesauce, potatoes, chicken, rice, toast). • Avoid high-fiber foods (e.g., raw vegetables, raw fruits, whole grains). • Avoid foods that cause gas (e.g., broccoli, beans). • Avoid lactose-containing foods (e.g., yogurt, milk). • Avoid spicy, fried, and greasy foods. <p>Contact your provider if either of the following occurs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of bowel movements you have in a day increases by 4 or more. • You feel dizzy or lightheaded. <p>Your care provider may recommend an over-the-counter medication called loperamide (Imodium®) to help with your diarrhea, but talk to your care provider before starting this medication.</p>

ORAL CHEMOTHERAPY EDUCATION



PASSION FOR PATIENTS
NCODA.ORG



MITOTANE

Pregnancy, sexual activity, and contraception

- Women should not become pregnant and men should not get a partner pregnant while taking mitotane. Men and women of childbearing age and potential should use effective contraception during therapy and for as long as mitotane levels are detectable.
- Do not breastfeed while taking mitotane and while mitotane levels are detectable.
- Inform your care provider if you become pregnant.
- It is safe to hug and kiss. Special precautions may be needed for sexual activity while on mitotane, and you are encouraged to ask your care provider.

Obtaining medication

Talk with your care provider about the process for obtaining your mitotane.

_____ (PHARMACY OR SPECIALTY PHARMACY CONTACT INFO)

Additional resource

Product prescribing information: https://packageinserts.bms.com/pi/pi_lysdren.pdf

Updated — June 20, 2022

Additional instructions

Important notice: The Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC), Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association (HOPA), National Community Oncology Dispensing Association, Inc. (NCODA), and Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) have collaborated in gathering information for and developing this patient education guide. This guide represents a brief summary of the medication derived from information provided by the drug manufacturer and other resources. This guide does not cover all existing information related to the possible uses, directions, doses, precautions, warnings, interactions, adverse effects, or risks associated with this medication and should not substitute for the advice of a qualified healthcare professional. Provision of this guide is for informational purposes only and does not constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation, or favoring of this medication by ACCC, HOPA, NCODA, or ONS, who assume no liability for and cannot ensure the accuracy of the information presented. The collaborators are not making any representations with respect to the medications whatsoever, and any and all decisions, with respect to such medications, are at the sole risk of the individual consuming the medication. All decisions related to taking this medication should be made with the guidance and under the direction of a qualified healthcare professional.

Permission: Oral Chemotherapy Education (OCE) sheets are provided as a free educational resource for patients with cancer in need of concise, easy-to-understand information about oral cancer drugs. Healthcare providers are permitted to copy and distribute the sheets to patients as well as direct patients to the OCE website for information. However, commercial reproduction or reuse, as well as rebranding or reposting of any type, are strictly prohibited without permission of the copyright holder. Please email permission requests and licensing inquiries to Contact@NCODA.org.

Copyright © 2022 by Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association. All rights reserved.