Paclitaxel

MYLAN Pharma

6 mg/mL

30 mg / 5 mL | 100 mg / 16,7 mL | 300 mg / 50 mL

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine.

Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or your pharmacist.
This medicine has been prescribed for you. Do not pass it on to others.
It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.
If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or your pharmacist.

In this leaflet:

1. What Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma is and what it is used for?
2. Before you use Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma
3. How to use Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma?
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma?
6. Further information

Benta S.A.L.
Dbayeh - Lebanon

Under license from
Mylan S.A.S.
117 Allée des Parcs
69800 SAINT-PRIEST - FRANCE

1. What Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma is and what it is used for?

Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion prevents growth of certain cancer cells, especially in certain types of ovary, breast, and lung cancer and Kaposi´s sarcoma.
Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion is used to treat:
Ovarian cancer
Either as initial therapy in combination with the platinum-containing medicine, cisplatin, or as a second-line treatment when other platinum-containing treatments have not worked.
Breast cancer
As adjuvant therapy following treatment with anthracycline and cyclophosphamide (AC).
As initial therapy either in combination with a medicine belonging to the group known as anthracyclines in patients for whom anthracyclines therapy is suitable, or with a medicine called trastuzumab.
On its own in patients who have not responded to standard treatments using anthracyclines, or for whom such treatment should not be used.
Non-small cell lung cancer
In combination with cisplatin, in patients who are not candidates for potentially curative surgery and/or radiotherapy.
AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma
Where other treatments i.e. liposomal anthracyclines have not worked.

2. Before you take Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma

Do not use Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion
• if you are hypersensitive (allergic) to paclitaxel or any of the other ingredients especially macrogolglycerol ricinoleate in Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma,
• if you are pregnant or breast-feeding,
• if your white blood cell count is too low (neutrophils). This is measured by health care personnel,
• if you have Kaposi's sarcoma and concurrent, serious, uncontrolled infections.

Take special care with Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion
• if hypersensitivity (allergic) reactions occur,
• if you have heart disease or impaired hepatic function,
• because this medicinal product contains alcohol and macrogolglycerol ricinoleate (see section «Important information about some of the ingredients of Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion»),
• if you have had neurological problems in hands or in feet (peripheral neuropathy),
• when you have changes in your blood count,
• when Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion is given to you in combination with radiotherapy of the lung,
• when diarrhoea occurs during or shortly after treatment with paclitaxel,
• if you have Kaposi's sarcoma and severe inflammation of the mucous membrane occurs.

Taking other medicines
Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion should be given:
• before cisplatin when used in combination,
• 24 hours after doxorubicin.

Caution should be exercised if you are receiving
• medicines which have an influence on the metabolism of paclitaxel (CYP2C8/3A4 substrates/inhibitors) e.g. erythromycin, carbamazepine, phenytoin, fluoxetine, gemfibrozil and phenobarbital,
• protease inhibitors (medicine for the treatment of AIDS).

Please tell your doctor or your pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding
Avoid becoming pregnant while you are given Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion. If pregnancy occurs inform your doctor immediately.
Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion must not be used when you are pregnant or breast-feeding.
You have to interrupt breast feeding while you are being treated with Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion.
Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking any medicine.

Fertility
Women and men with childbearing potential should use effective contraceptive measures during treatment and a few months after.

Driving and using machines
There is no reason why you cannot continue driving between courses of Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion but you should remember that this medicine contains some alcohol and it may be unwise to drive immediately after a course of treatment. As in all cases, you should not drive if you feel dizzy or light-headed.
Discuss with your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you are unsure about anything.

Important information about some of the ingredients of Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion.
Since this medicinal product contains 50 % (volume) ethanol (alcohol), that is up to 20 g per dose, corresponding to 520 mL of beer per dose or 210 mL of wine per dose. This amount may be hazardous to patients suffering from alcoholism. This should also be taken into consideration with high risk patients as well as those with hepatic disorder or epilepsy.
The amount of ethanol in this medicinal product may change the effects of other medicinal products. This medicinal product also contains macrogolglycerol ricinoleate, which can cause severe hypersensitivity (allergic) reactions.

List of excipients that cause well-known effects:
macrogolglycerol ricinoleate, ethanol (395 mg/mL).

3. how to use Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma?

Your doctor has decided which dose and how many doses you will be given.
Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion will be given under supervision of a doctor, who can give you more information.
The dose will depend on the type and the degree of difficulty of the cancer and on your height and weight from which the doctor will work out your body surface area.
Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion is given into a vein (intravenous use) from an intravenous drip over 3 hours. Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion is usually given every 3 weeks (2 weeks in patients with Kaposi's sarcoma).
You will be pre-medicated with several different medicinal products (dexamethasone and diphenhydramine or chlorphenamine and cimetidine or ranitidine) before every treatment with Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion.
Pre-medication is necessary to decrease the risk of severe hypersensitive reactions (see section 4 «Possible side effects, uncommon»).

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.
The most frequent side effects are hair loss and blood disorders (decreased blood cell count). Your hair grows back and blood count is normalised after you have finished your paclitaxel treatment.
Very common (occurs in more than 1 in 10 of the users)
• Bone marrow suppression, which can lead to decreased blood cell count, often results in infections (with reported cases of fatal outcome), and anaemia (low red blood cell count) • Bleeding • Milder hypersensitivity reactions, like flushing and rash • Affecting nerves to the hands and or feet (peripheral neuropathy), which is characterised by sense of touch relating illusions, numbness and/or pain • Low blood pressure • Feeling of tiredness (nausea), vomiting, diarrhoea • Hair loss • Muscle or joint pain • Soreness of mucous membrane.
Common (occurs in more than 1 in 100 of the users)
• Slow heart beat (pulse) • Transient milder changes in nails and skin • Reactions at the site of injection [(local swelling, pain, flushing of the skin, tissue hardening, sometimes cellulitis, skin fibrosis (thickening and scarring of the skin) and skin necrosis (death of skin cells)] • Increased amount of liver enzymes.
Uncommon (occurs in less than 1 in 100 of the users)
• State of shock as a result of blood poisoning • Treatment demanding difficult hypersensitivity reactions with decrease in blood pressure, facial swelling, respiratory distress and urticaria chills, back pain, chest pain, fast heart beat, pain in digestive tract, pain in limbs, sweating and increased blood pressure • Serious heart problems like heart muscle degeneration, fast heart beat or ceased impulse conduction between heart's atrium and ventricle • Dizziness • Heart attack • Increased blood pressure • Blood clots (emboli) • Inflammation in vein in connection with blood clots (emboli) • Increased amount of bilirubin in blood (a degradation product of bile).
Rare (occurs in less than 1 in 1000 of the users)
• Inflammation of the abdominal cavity • Decreased white blood cell count and fever • Serious allergic reaction (anaphylactic reaction) • Influence on nerves which support muscles, which results in muscle weakness in arms and legs • Shortage of breath, collection of fluids into lungs • Blockage of the bowel, intestinal perforation, inflammation in colon or pancreas • Itching, rash/flushing of the skin • Weakness, fever, dehydration, swelling due to accumulation of fluid in the body tissue (oedema), general feeling of being unwell • Inflammation of the lung and other lung disorders, respiratory failure, blood poisoning, increase in blood creatinine.
Very rare (occurs in less than 1 in 10 000 of the users)
• Acute leukaemia (blood cancer) or similar condition (myelodysplastic syndrome) • Life threatening allergic reaction (anaphylactic shock) • Loss of appetite • Confusion • Influence to so called autonomic nervous system (with intestinal paralysis and decrease in blood pressure while body position changes), epileptic seizures, cramps, influence to brain, dizziness, headache, difficulty coordinating movement • Influence on visual nerve and/or visual disturbances in patients who received larger doses than recommended • Hearing and/or balance effects, ear singing/ear ringing (tinnitus) • Changes in heart rhythm (flutter of the heart), fast heart beat • Shock condition due to decreased blood pressure • Cough • Mesentric thrombosis (blood clot in the bowel) • Inflammation in oesophagus, in colon, constipation • Collection of fluid in the belly • Necrosis (death of liver cells) in the liver, influence to brain because of impaired liverfunction (both with reported cases of fatal outcome) • Severe skin reactions with inflammation, like Steven-Johnson syndrome or epidermic necrolysis, skin inflammation with peeling of the skin, nettle rash, disintegration of nails (it is advised to protect hands and feet against sunshine during the treatment time).
If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

5. How to store Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma?

Keep out of the reach and sight of children.
Do not use this medicinal product after the expiry date which is stated on the carton after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
Do not store above 25 °C.
Keep the vial in the outer carton in order to protect from light.
Do not refrigerate or freeze.
Do not use if you notice a cloudy solution or an insoluble precipitate.
Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste.
Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required.
These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Further information

What Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion contains?
• The active substance is: paclitaxel.
• The other ingredients are: anhydrous ethanol, macrogolglycerol ricinoleate and anhydrous citric acid.
What Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion looks like and contents of the pack
Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion is a clear, colourless to slightly yellow, viscous solution.
It is available in vials with 5 mL, 16.7 mL and 50 mL.
Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

This leaflet was last approved in: *04/2012*

The following information is intended for medical or healthcare professionals only

Instructions for use: *ANTINEOPLASTIC AGENT*

Handling of Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion

As with all antineoplastic agents, caution should be exercised when handling Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion. Dilution should be carried out under aseptic conditions by trained personnel in a designated area. Precautions should be taken to avoid contact with the skin and mucous membranes. Following topical exposure, tingling, burning and erythema have been observed. Upon inhalation, dyspnoea, chest pain, burning throat and nausea have been reported.

Protection instructions for preparation of solution for infusion of Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion

1. *Protective chamber should be used and protective gloves as well as protective gown should be worn. If there is no protective chamber available mouth cover and goggles should be used.*

2. *Opened containers, like injection vials and infusion bottles and used canules, syringes, catheters, tubes, and residuals of cytotoxic agents should be considered as hazardous waste and undergo disposal according to local guidelines for the handling of HAZARDOUS WASTE.*

3. *Follow the instructions below in case of spillage:*

- *protective clothing should be worn*
- *broken glass should be collected and placed in the container for HAZARDOUS WASTE*
- *contaminated surfaces should be flushed properly with copious amounts of cold water*
- *the flushed surfaces should then be wiped thoroughly and the materials used for wiping should be disposed as HAZARDOUS WASTE*

4. *In the event of contact of Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL,* concentrate for solution for infusion *with the skin, the area should be rinsed with plenty of running water and then washed with soap and water. In case of contact with mucous membranes, wash the contacted area thoroughly with water. If you have any discomfort, contact a doctor.*

5. *In case of contact of Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL,*concentrate for solution for infusion *with eyes, wash them thouroughly with plenty of cold water. Contact an ophthalmologist immediately.*

Preparation of infusion solution:

So called «closed system», e.g. the Chemo-Dispensing Pin device or similar devices, should not be used for withdrawal of the doses from injection vial since they can cause the vial stopper to collapse, resulting in loss of sterile integrity.

Prior to infusion, Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion must be diluted, using aseptic techniques. The following solutions for infusion can be used for dilution: 0.9% Sodium Chloride solution for infusion, or 5% Glucose solution for infusion, or 5% Glucose and 0.9% Sodium Chloride solution for infusion, or 5% Dextrose in Ringer's solution for infusion, to a final concentration of 0.3 to 1.2 mg/mL.

*The diluted solution is supersaturated with regards to paclitaxel (*there have been rare reports of precipitation in connection with 24-hour period of infusion), therefore excessive agitation or vibration should be avoided.

Upon preparation, solutions may show haziness, which is attributed to the formulation vehicle, and is not removed by filtration. In order to reduce the precipitation risk the diluted infusion of Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion should be used as soon as possible after dilution.

Infusion technique

*Infusion solution of Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion should be administered as intravenous infusion. Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion should be administered through an in-line filter with a microporous membrane ≤ 0.22 µm. (*No significant losses in potency have been noted following simulated delivery of the solution through IV tubing containing an «in-line» filter.*)*

The infusion sets should be flushed thoroughly before use. During infusion, the appearance of the solution should be regurlarly inspected and the infusion should be stopped if precipitation is present.

Stability and storage conditions

Unopened vials of Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion should be stored at 25 °C. Store in the outer carton to protect from light. Following multiple needle entries and product withdrawal paclitaxel maintain chemical and physical in-use stability for 28 days at 25 °C. The microbiological in-use stability of Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion is 28 days at 25 °C. Other in-use storage times and conditions are the responsibility of the user.

If unopened vials are refrigerated or frozen, a precipitate may form that redissolves with little or no agitation upon reaching room temperature. Product quality is not affected. If the solution remains cloudy or if an insoluble precipitate is noted, the vial should be discarded.

Diluted infusion solutions are chemically and physically stable for 72 hours at 25 °C. From a microbiological point of view, the dilution should be used immediately, unless the method of dilution precludes the risk of microbial contamination. If not used immediately, in-use storage times and conditions prior to use are the responsibility of the user. The diluted solutions should not be stored refrigerated. After dilution the solution is only meant for disposable use.

Incompatibilities

*To minimise patient exposure to plasticizer DEHP (*di-2-ethylhexyl phtalate*), which may be leached from plasticised PVC infusion bags, sets, or other medical intruments, diluted paclitaxel solutions should be stored in non-PVC bottles (*glass, polypropene*) or plastic bags (*polypropene, polyolefin*) and administered through polyethylene-lined administration sets. Use of filter devices (*e.g. IVEX-2*) which incorporate short inlet and/or outlet plasticised PVC tubing has not resulted in significant leaching of DEHP.*

Disposal

All items used for preparation, administration or otherwise coming into contact with Paclitaxel Mylan Pharma 6 mg/mL, concentrate for solution for infusion should undergo disposal according tolocal guidelines for the handling of cytotoxic compounds.

This is a medicament

- A medicament is a product which affects your health, and its consumption contrary to instructions is dangerous for you
- Follow strictly the doctor's prescription, the method of use, and the instructions of the pharmacist who sold the medicament
- The doctor and the pharmacist are experts in medicine, its benefits and risks
- Do not by yourself interrupt the period of treatment prescribed for you
- Do not repeat the same prescription without consulting your doctor
- Medicament: keep out of reach of children

Council of Arab Health Ministers
Union of Arab Pharmacists