

# iMedix: Your Personal Health Advisor.

## Xeloda

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## Description

Side Effects Nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, constipation, tiredness, weakness, headache, dizziness, trouble sleeping, or changes in taste may occur. Nausea and vomiting can be severe. In some cases, your doctor may prescribe medication to prevent or relieve nausea and vomiting. Eating several small meals, not eating before treatment, or limiting activity may help lessen some of these effects. If any of these effects last or get worse, tell your doctor or pharmacist promptly. Diarrhea is a common side effect of this medication. Drink plenty of fluids unless directed otherwise. Your doctor may also prescribe medication (such as loperamide) to help lessen diarrhea. Vomiting or diarrhea that doesn't stop may result in dehydration. Contact your doctor promptly if you notice any symptoms of dehydration, such as unusual decreased urination, unusual dry mouth/thirst, or dizziness/lightheadedness. Temporary hair loss may occur. Normal hair growth should return after treatment has ended. Also, temporary nail changes may occur. People using this medication may have serious side effects. However, you have been prescribed this drug because your doctor has judged that the benefit to you is greater than the risk of side effects. Careful monitoring by your doctor may decrease your risk. Tell your doctor right away if you have any serious side effects, including: severe nausea/vomiting (vomiting 2 or more times per day, unable to eat or keep food/fluids in your stomach), painful redness/swelling/sores in mouth or on your tongue, easy bruising/bleeding, mental/mood changes (such as depression), unusual tiredness, swelling of the ankles/feet, vision changes, signs of kidney problems (such as change in the amount of urine), yellowing eyes/skin, dark urine. Capecitabine may make you develop a skin problem called hand-foot syndrome. To help prevent this, protect your hands and feet from heat or increased pressure. Avoid activities such as using hot dishwater, taking tub baths, jogging, long walks, or using garden or household tools such as screwdrivers. Symptoms may include pain, swelling, redness, blisters, or numbness of the hands/feet. Your doctor may prescribe medication (such as balm) to help with symptoms. If symptoms affect your usual activities, get medical help right away. This medication may lower your ability to fight infections. This may make you more likely to get a serious (rarely fatal) infection or make any infection you have worse. Tell your doctor right away if you have any signs of infections (such as sore throat that doesn't go away, fever, chills, cough). Get medical help right away if you have any very serious side effects, including: chest/jaw/left arm pain, unusual sweating, fainting, slow/fast/irregular heartbeat. A very serious allergic reaction to this drug is rare. However, get medical help right away if you notice any symptoms of a serious allergic reaction, such as: rash/blisters/peeling, itching/swelling (especially of the face/tongue/throat), severe dizziness, trouble breathing. This is not a complete list of possible side

effects. If you notice other side effects not listed above, contact your doctor or pharmacist. What is the usual dose of Xeloda for colorectal cancer? The typical administration of Xeloda for colorectal cancer is 1250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> orally twice a day for two weeks, followed by a one-week rest period. This cycle is repeated for metastatic colorectal carcinoma or as adjuvant treatment in Dukes' C colon cancer. What is the recommended dose of Xeloda for breast cancer? For metastatic breast cancer, in combination with docetaxel, the recommended dose is the same as for colorectal cancer. Xeloda is used as monotherapy for patients resistant to certain other chemotherapies. How should Xeloda be taken? Xeloda tablets should be swallowed whole with water within 30 minutes after a meal. What should be done if a dose is missed? Take the missed dose of Xeloda as soon as possible, but skip it if the next scheduled dose is almost due. Do not double the dose. What should be done in case of an overdose? In case of overdose, seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line. Are there any restrictions while taking Xeloda? Follow your doctor's instructions regarding any dietary or activity restrictions while taking Xeloda. What are the significant side effects of Xeloda? Significant side effects can include severe diarrhea, skin reactions, jaundice, dehydration symptoms, and "hand and foot syndrome." Immediate medical attention is required for severe side effects. How to use Xeloda Read the Patient Information Leaflet if available from your pharmacist before you start taking capecitabine and each time you get a refill. If you have any questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist. Take this medication by mouth as directed by your doctor, usually twice daily (about 12 hours apart). Your doctor may direct you to take this medication in a treatment cycle. Carefully follow your doctor's instructions. Swallow the tablets whole with water within 30 minutes after a meal. Do not crush, chew, or split the tablets. If you have trouble swallowing the tablets whole, ask your health care professional for advice. The dosage is based on your medical condition, body size, and response to treatment. Do not increase your dose or use this drug more often or for longer than prescribed. Your condition will not improve any faster, and your risk of side effects will increase. If you vomit after taking a dose, do not take another dose at that time. Take your next dose at the regular time. Since this drug can be absorbed through the skin and lungs and may harm an unborn baby, women who are pregnant or who may become pregnant should not handle this medication or breathe the dust from the tablets. Precautions Before taking capecitabine, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are allergic to it; or to 5-fluorouracil; or if you have any other allergies. This product may contain inactive ingredients, which can cause allergic reactions or other problems. Talk to your pharmacist for more details. Before using this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist your medical history, especially of: a certain enzyme deficiency (dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase – DPD), blood disorders (such as bone marrow suppression), heart problems (such as heart failure, coronary artery disease), kidney disease, liver problems. Capecitabine can make you more likely to get infections or may make current infections worse. Stay away from anyone who has an infection that may easily spread (such as chickenpox, COVID-19, measles, flu). Talk to your doctor if you have been exposed to an infection or for more details. Tell your health care professional that you are using capecitabine before having any immunizations/vaccinations. Avoid contact with people who have recently received live vaccines (such as flu vaccine inhaled through the nose). To lower the chance of getting cut, bruised, or injured, use caution with sharp objects like razors and nail cutters, and avoid activities such as contact sports. This drug may make you dizzy. Alcohol or marijuana (cannabis) can make you more dizzy. Do not drive, use machinery, or do anything that needs alertness until you can do it safely. Limit alcoholic beverages. Talk to your doctor if you are using marijuana (cannabis). Before having surgery, tell your doctor or dentist about all the products you use (including prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and herbal products). Older adults may be more sensitive to the side effects of this medication, especially nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and hand-foot syndrome. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. You should not become pregnant while using capecitabine. Capecitabine may harm an unborn baby. Your doctor should order a pregnancy test before you start this medication. Women using this medication should ask about reliable forms of birth control during treatment and for 6 months after the last dose. Men using this medication should ask about reliable forms of birth control during treatment and for 3 months after the last dose. If you or your partner becomes pregnant, talk to your doctor right away about the risks and benefits of this medication. Since this drug can be absorbed through the skin and lungs and may harm an unborn baby, women who are pregnant or who may become pregnant should not handle this medication or breathe the dust from the tablets. It is unknown if this drug passes into breast milk. Because of the possible risk to the infant, breast-feeding while using this drug is not recommended during treatment and for 1 week after the last dose. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding.

Consult your pharmacist or physician. Overdose If someone has overdosed and has serious symptoms such as passing out or trouble breathing, call 911. Otherwise, call a poison control center right away. US residents can call their local poison control center at 1-800-222-1222. Canada residents can call a provincial poison control center. Do not share this medication with others. Lab and/or medical tests (such as bilirubin, complete blood counts, kidney/liver function) should be done while you are taking this medication. Keep all medical and lab appointments. If you miss a dose, skip the missed dose. Take your next dose at the regular time and check with your doctor. Do not double the dose to catch up. Store in a tightly closed container at room temperature away from light and moisture. Do not store in the bathroom. Keep all medications away from children and pets. Do not flush medications down the toilet or pour them into a drain unless instructed to do so. Properly discard this product when it is expired or no longer needed. Consult your pharmacist or local waste disposal company. Interactions Drug interactions may change how your medications work or increase your risk for serious side effects. This document does not contain all possible drug interactions. Keep a list of all the products you use (such as prescription/nonprescription drugs and herbal products) and share it with your doctor and pharmacist. Do not start, stop, or change the dosage of any medicines without your doctor's approval. A product that may interact with this drug is: allopurinol. Capecitabine is very similar to fluorouracil. Do not use medications containing fluorouracil while using capecitabine.

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## Side Effects

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## Uses

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## Interactions

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## Other Details

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