

# Mitomycin

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This material will help you understand your medication, Mitomycin, and its common side effects.

## **What is Mitomycin? How does it work?**

Mitomycin is a type of chemotherapy drug. It works to slow or stop the growth of cancer cells. It is often used to reduce the size of a tumor so that it will be easier to remove through surgery. It is also sometimes used after the removal of a tumor to prevent it from coming back.

## **How is Mitomycin administered?**

Mitomycin is given as an eye drop that your doctor will prescribe. For most treatments, you will use the eye drops four times per day for one week. After that week, you will then take a week off and not use the eye drops. This allows for any healthy cells that may have been damaged from the eye drops to heal. You will then repeat this regimen (using the eye drops for one week, then taking one week off) 2-3 more times. At the end of each treatment cycle, you will see your eye doctor so that s/he can monitor your progress.

## **What are common side effects of this medication?**

Many people report side effects from Mitomycin. These usually include eye irritation, redness and watering during the treatment

week. Symptoms vary from person to person. These effects usually go away once you stop using the eye drops. Allergic reactions to this medication are also fairly common. If your eyelids become red, swollen, and itchy while using Mitomycin, you should tell your eye doctor. If you have any eye pain or any other symptoms that worry you, contact your eye doctor right away.

If you have any other questions about this medication, talk to your eye doctor or pharmacist.

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