

BLEOMYCIN (Blenoxane)

Type of Drug: Anti-tumor Antibiotic

How is it Given?

- Intravenous (IV) - into a vein or central line
- Intramuscular (IM)

How Does it Work?

- Interferes with the growth of cancer cells

Common Side Effects:

- Fever and chills
- Skin changes: darkening or thickening of skin, peeling of hands and soles of feet, itchy rash
- Nail changes: darkening or ridged nail beds
- Mouth sores
- Coughing or shortness of breath (after several treatments)
- Loss of appetite

Less Common Side Effects:

- Nausea/Vomiting
- Hair loss
- Lung changes (scarring and stiffening)
- Sensitivity of skin to sunlight
- Dizziness

Note:

- Since this medicine may cause lung problems, your lung function will be tested before starting this medicine and at certain times during and after treatment. These lung tests are called Pulmonary Function Tests (PFTs) and are explained in the *Tests, Tests, and More Tests* section.