

# **ETOPOSIDE**

## **(VP16, VePesid, Etopophos)**

**Type of Drug:** Plant Alkaloid

### **How is it Given?**

- Oral (by mouth)
- Intravenous (IV) – into a vein or central line

### **How Does it Work?**

- Interferes with the growth of cancer cells

### **Common Side Effects:**

- Low blood counts
- Nausea/Vomiting
- Hair Loss
- Loss of appetite
- Changes in taste (including a metallic taste)

### **Less Common Side Effects:**

- Constipation
- Mouth sores (at high doses)
- Skin changes (itchy rash, darkening of skin)
- Allergic reaction (dizziness, difficulty breathing)
- Abnormal liver function tests
- Low blood pressure

### **Note:**

- Immediately report any feelings of dizziness or shortness of breath during your infusion to your nurse or oncologist.