

FLUOROURACIL

(5-FU, Efudex, 5-fluorouracil)

Type of Drug: Antimetabolite

How is it Given?

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

How Does it Work?

- Stops cells from making and repairing DNA so the cancer cells cannot grow and multiply

Common Side Effects:

- Low blood counts
- Nausea/Vomiting (mild)
- Mouth sores
- Taste changes
- Diarrhea

Less Common Side Effects:

- Blurred vision, gritty eyes
- Hair thinning
- Skin changes (darkening of skin, itchy rash)
- Skin sensitivity to sunlight
- Soreness and redness of palms of hands and soles of feet
- Tingling in hands and feet

Note:

- Use sunscreen and protective clothing when outdoors.