

MELPHALAN

(Phenylalanine Mustard, L-Pam, Alkeran)

Type of Drug: Alkylating Agent

How is it Given?

- Oral (by mouth, tablets)
- 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
- Mouth sores (at high doses)
- Hair loss (at high doses)
- Diarrhea (at high doses)

Less Common Side Effects:

- Lung changes (difficulty breathing)
- Darkening of the skin and itching
- Allergic reaction (rash, shortness of breath, low blood pressure)

Note:

- Immediately report any shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.