

You may have a sore mouth. Keep your mouth clean. Brush your teeth gently with a soft toothbrush after eating and at bedtime. Using baking soda instead of toothpaste may help. Rinse your mouth with mouthwash made with 2 .5 ml (½ teaspoon) of baking soda or salt in 240 ml (1 cup) of warm water. Eating frozen yogurt and soft food may help.

You may get sensitive to light for a few days. Avoid direct sunlight. Wear a hat, sunglasses and lotion with UV protection when outside.

Mild to moderate vaginal bleeding is normal. Tampons or pads are both safe to use. You may pass some tissue, which is the lining of the uterus, not the pregnancy.

You will have regular appointments to see your doctor and have your blood checked after methotrexate treatment. The blood test, called a BHCG level, is done 4 to 7 days after treatment and then each week until the BHCG level is zero.

When should I contact my doctor?

Contact your doctor if you have:

- severe abdominal pain
- yellow eyes or skin
- lower back or side pain
- swelling of your feet or lower legs
- numbness or tingling in your hands or feet
- shortness of breath or dry cough
- nausea that is not controlled by Graval[®] medication

Methotrexate for Ectopic Pregnancy

What is an ectopic pregnancy?

An ectopic pregnancy happens when a woman's egg is fertilized outside of the uterus. A baby can only grow to full term inside the uterus. An ectopic pregnancy usually needs treatment by surgery or a medication called methotrexate.

How is Methotrexate given?

Methotrexate is given by a single-dose injection into a muscle. You will have blood taken for testing before you get the injection. Some women need to have a second injection if their blood tests do not go down at an appropriate rate.

What are the effects of Methotrexate?

As the medication begins to work, you may have pain in your abdomen 3 to 10 days after the injection. If the pain is severe, contact your doctor or go to the nearest emergency department.

✘ Do not drink any alcohol, have sexual intercourse or take any vitamins containing folic acid until your doctor tells you. These increase the chances of problems after treatment using methotrexate.

You may have nausea and vomiting for up to 24 hours. To avoid these problems, drink plenty of fluids and eat small amounts of food often. You can use a medication called Graval[®] to control nausea as well.

Turn over →