

BCG BLADDER TREATMENT

What you should know about TheraCys, BCG Live (Intravesical) but were afraid to ask...

Your doctor has recommended a special medication, called TheraCys, for your urinary bladder cancer. This new therapy is used to treat (or prevent the recurrence of) your type of bladder cancer.

- **YOUR TREATMENT:**

Once each week for 6 weeks, your doctor will instill TheraCys directly into your bladder. You will be asked not to urinate for two hours after each treatment. It is during that time, that TheraCys is working to eliminate your tumors or prevent them from recurring. Your doctor may ask you to return for additional treatments.

- **WHAT TO DO AFTER EACH TREATMENT:**

For approximately 2 hours after you receive TheraCys, you will be asked not to urinate. Your doctor will tell you when its alright to empty your bladder. Whenever you do urinate (for 6 hours after each treatment) be sure that you do the following:

- Men should sit, rather than stand, to urinate
- After each voiding, pour approximately 2 cups of undiluted liquid household bleach (for example, Clorox) in the toilet and let it stand for 15 minutes before flushing.

- **WHAT TO WATCH FOR:**

During the next 6 weeks of treatment, be sure to tell your doctor as soon as possible...

- If you have any unusual symptoms
- If any of the following symptoms occur:
 - Blood in the urine
 - Fever and chills
 - Fever, chills and rashes
 - Increase frequency of urination
 - Joint Pain
 - Nausea and vomiting
 - Painful urination
- If you develop a cough

COUGHING COULD BE A SIGN THAT YOU HAVE AN INFECTION THAT MUST BE TREATED IMMEDIATELY WITH AN ANTIBIOTIC.

- **WHAT DRUGS MAY INTERFERE WITH TheraCys:**

Drugs and therapy that suppress your immune system, including radiation, can interfere with how well your bladder tumors respond to TheraCys and may increase risk of bones and other infections. That is why it is important to make sure your doctor is aware of all drugs you are taking and to discuss these issues with him/her before beginning your TheraCys treatment.

- **WHAT TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR:**

- * During your office visits, be sure to ask your doctor about anything that is unclear to you.

- * Remember that there is no such thing as a “silly question” when it comes to your health. Your doctor will be more than happy to answer questions you have about your condition, treatment, and recovery.

- * While you are healing, it is important to listen to your body and to stop any activity when you feel tired.

Please call (516) 627-6188 for more information