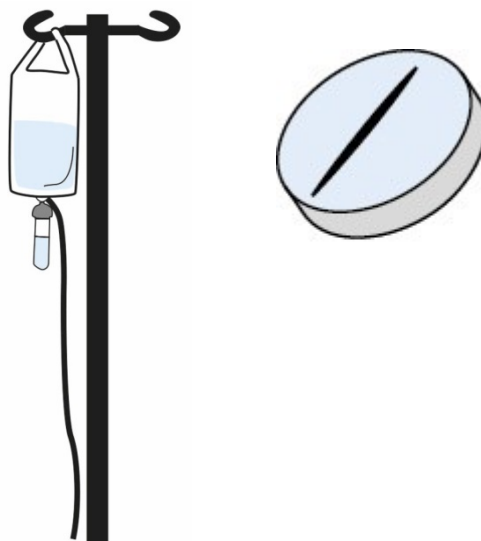


## What I should know about chemotherapy (Ce que je dois savoir sur les chimiothérapies)

**Chemotherapy drugs mainly attach the tumour's cancerous cells, but can also attack certain healthy cells in your body** such as bone marrow\* cells which manufacture blood cells (white cells, red cells and platelets), digestive tract cells and cells which form hair, reproductive tract cells, etc.



This chemotherapy toxicity towards healthy cells explains **the side effects**: a fall in white blood cell, red cell or platelet count, nausea, vomiting, inflammation of the mouth or mouth ulcers, diarrhoea or constipation, temporary hair loss, fatigue, etc.

**Although chemotherapy side effects are common, they are not systematic, vary in intensity and are generally temporary. They also vary from one chemotherapy course to the next.**

A great deal of progress has been made to improve the comfort of people treated with chemotherapy. Certain side effects may be limited, or even avoided, with appropriate care and medical treatment.

**The doctor's recommendations concerning these side effects are intended to improve your quality of life. It is important to follow them.**

The efficacy of chemotherapy on the tumour and the way in which you support the drugs will be assessed during regular follow-up visits. **You should know that according to this assessment, in some cases, the doctor may decide to delay the chemotherapy session and/or change the doses.**

*\*Bone marrow is the tissue found inside bones and is the site of production of red blood cells, white cells and platelets.*

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