

# TAKING THE MEDICATION

## OPDIVO® (nivolumab)

### HOW IT'S GIVEN:

- Opdivo is given through your vein via an intravenous (IV) line. The treatment takes 30 minutes.
- Opdivo is given every 2 or 4 weeks.
- Your oncologist will decide how many treatments you need.
- You will need to have blood tests before, during, and after treatment.
- It is important to keep appointments with your oncology team to receive your treatment. If you miss an appointment, call as soon as possible to reschedule and to receive instructions about what to do.

**Problems you may have while receiving the medications through the IV line:** Some people may have a bad reaction to the IV treatment itself. Tell your healthcare team member immediately if you have any of these symptoms during a treatment session:

- Chills or shaking
- Itching or rash
- Flushing (turning red)
- Difficulty breathing
- Dizziness
- Fever or feeling hot
- Feeling like you are going to pass out

**Common side effects of Opdivo:** Even small side effects could be serious and you should report them all to your oncologist's office. The most common side effects of taking Opdivo are:

- Pain in muscles, bones, and joints
- Diarrhea
- Cough
- Constipation
- Back pain
- Fever
- Rash
- Itchy skin
- Nausea
- Shortness of breath
- Lack of interest in food
- Upper respiratory infections (colds and flus)
- Weakness

### Report any changes in how you feel to your oncologist's office:

Even small changes in your health or the way you feel that don't seem like a big deal may be a sign of a serious side effect. Don't "tough it out" or try to manage it yourself if you think you are having a side effect—report it immediately! Getting it checked out early may prevent it from becoming a bigger problem.

**Avoid pregnancy:** Use birth control during therapy and for 3 months after your last treatment if you are of childbearing age. Tell your oncologist's office right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant or think you are pregnant while on Opdivo as it can cause harm to an unborn baby.

### IMPORTANT SIDE EFFECTS

Your oncology team may discuss some side effects of Opdivo that can lead to serious problems if they aren't taken care of right away. These sections give information about possible symptoms, what you should tell your oncology team, when you should get medical help immediately, and any steps you can take to help ease the symptoms.