Mastocytosis - After Treatment

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After Treatment

ON THIS PAGE: You will read about your medical care after treatment for mastocytosis is finished and why this follow-up care is important. To see other pages in this guide, use the colored boxes on the right side of your screen, or click ?Next? at the bottom.

After treatment for mastocytosis ends, talk with your doctor about developing a follow-up care plan. This plan may include regular physical examinations and/or medical tests to monitor your recovery for the coming months and years. Follow-up visits will include blood tests and possibly scans or other imaging studies. Normally, follow-up visits are most frequent in the first three years after treatment, but patients are encouraged to have lifelong, follow-up care.

If you have received treatment for a mastocytosis-related cancer, ASCO offers cancer treatment summary forms [2] to help keep track of the cancer treatment you received and develop a survivorship care plan once treatment is completed.

People who received ultraviolet (UV) rays for the treatment of cutaneous mastocytosis should be aware of an increased risk of skin cancer [3] in the future. Follow-up physical examinations and skin evaluations are important in the early diagnosis and prevention of this condition.

Chemotherapy may cause several long-term side effects:

- People who have received certain drugs may develop lung damage.
- Heart damage in the form of a weakened heart muscle may occur in people who have received a higher dose of doxorubicin (Adriamycin) or radiation therapy to the chest.
- Infertility (inability to have children) or premature (early) menopause can occur in people who have received high-dose cyclophosphamide (Cytoxan, Neosar) or other chemotherapy. Learn more about fertility and cancer treatment [4].
- Secondary cancers (cancers that develop as a result of the treatment for another type of cancer), including leukemia, are more common in people who received chemotherapy.

People recovering from mastocytosis are encouraged to follow established guidelines for good health, such as maintaining a healthy weight, eating a balanced diet, and having recommended cancer screening tests. Talk with your doctor to develop a plan that is best for your needs. Moderate physical activity can help rebuild your strength and energy level. Your doctor can help you create an appropriate exercise plan based upon your needs, physical abilities, and fitness level. Learn more about the next steps to take in survivorship [5], including making positive lifestyle changes [6].

To continue reading this guide, choose ?Next? (below, right) for a list of questions you may want to ask your doctor. Or, use the colored boxes located on the right side of your screen to visit any section.

Links:
[1] http://www.cancer.net/about-us
[2] http://www.cancer.net/node/25394
[3] http://www.cancer.net/node/19618
[4] http://www.cancer.net/node/25268
[5] http://www.cancer.net/node/22
[6] http://www.cancer.net/node/24583