

## Pamidronate Infusion

You will have a pamidronate infusion once a day for three days. On the first day of your infusion, you need to start taking 500 mg of elemental calcium. You need to take this for 10 days. (Elemental calcium can be bought over the counter. If you have any questions, ask your local pharmacist for assistance.) Results of your lab work will be available in two to three weeks.

After a pamidronate infusion you might experience the following:

- Fever and flu-like symptoms. These sometimes happen 48 hours after your treatment, but usually go away on their own. Take acetaminophen (Tylenol) as needed to lessen the symptoms.
- Nausea. This is rare and should go away in three to four days.
- Headache. Take acetaminophen (Tylenol) to relieve mild to moderate pain.
- Drowsiness and/or dizziness. These effects are rare, but might occur for a few days after treatment. Children might require supervision if they are dizzy.
- Pain, redness or tenderness where the needle was placed. This might not happen until a few days after the treatment. Apply warm compresses or soak in warm water for 15 to 20 minutes several times a day.

Call Telehealth Nursing at 651-229-3890 if you experience:

- Muscle cramps
- Swelling of the feet or legs
- Lower back or side pain
- Shortness of breath

### **Caring for the IV (Intravenous) Catheter**

The IV (intravenous) catheter that is placed during your first pamidronate infusion will stay in until you're done with infusions on your third day.

At home, each night before bed, and again each morning, you need to clean the catheter. We will send these supplies home with you:

- Two pairs of gloves
- Two alcohol wipes
- Two normal saline syringes

Follow these instructions:

1. Wash your hands and put on gloves.
2. Use an alcohol wipe to clean the top of the IV hub for 15 seconds.
3. Slide blue clamp open.
4. Screw normal saline syringe onto hub and push plunger to administer 2 ml normal saline. Remove saline syringe.
5. Slide blue clamp closed.

If you can't find your supplies call Telehealth Nursing at 651-229-3890.

[Make An Appointment](#) **651-290-8707**

This information is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice of your health care providers. If you have any questions, talk with your doctor or others on your health care team.

If you are a Gillette patient with urgent questions or concerns, please contact Telehealth Nursing at [651-229-3890](#).