

Lyophilized powder, for Concentrate for Solution for Infusion: 500 & 100 mg/vial

Read this entire leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have further question, ask your doctor or your pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.

In this leaflet:

1. What Pemexed® is and what it is used for?
2. Before you take Pemexed®
3. How to take Pemexed®?
4. Possible side effects
5. Storing Pemexed®
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Pemexed® is and what it is used for?

Pemexed® is a folate analog metabolic inhibitor that exerts its action by disrupting folate-dependent metabolic processes essential for cell replication.

Pemexed® is used for:

- Treatment of unresectable malignant pleural mesothelioma which has not previously been treated with chemotherapy (in combination with cisplatin)
- First-line treatment of locally advanced or metastatic nonsquamous non-small cell lung cancer (in combination with cisplatin)
- Second-line treatment of locally advanced or metastatic nonsquamous non-small cell lung cancer (monotherapy)
- Maintenance treatment in locally advanced or metastatic nonsquamous non-small cell lung cancer that has not progressed immediately following platinum-based chemotherapy (monotherapy).

2. Before you take Pemexed®

Do not take Pemexed®:

- If you are allergic (hypersensitive) to the active ingredient and any other ingredient in Pemexed® solution.
- If you are pregnant or think that you might be pregnant.
- If you are breast-feeding; you must discontinue breast-feeding during treatment with Pemexed®.

Cautions

It should be used with caution in patients with diabetes or a history of cardiovascular disease.

It is very important to take folic acid and vitamin B12 during your treatment with Pemexed® Injection to lower your risk of harmful side effects.

Children and adolescents

This medicine should not be used in children or adolescents, since there is no experience with this medicine in children and adolescents under 18 years of age.

Other medicines and Pemexed®

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

Tell your healthcare provider if you have kidney problems and take a medicine that contains ibuprofen. You should avoid taking ibuprofen for 2 days before, the day of, and 2 days after receiving treatment with Pemetrexed Injection.

Pregnancy

If you are pregnant, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, tell your doctor. The use of Pemexed® should be avoided during pregnancy. Your doctor will discuss with you the potential risk of taking Pemexed® during pregnancy.

Ensure effective contraception during treatment with Pemexed® and for 6 months after receiving the last dose

in men or women.

Breast Feeding

It is not known if Pemexed® passes into breast milk. Do not breastfeed during treatment with Pemexed® Injection and for 1 week after the last dose.

3. How to take Pemexed®

The dose of Pemexed® is 500 milligrams for every square metre of your body's surface area. Your height and weight are measured to work out the surface area of your body. This dose may be adjusted, or treatment may be delayed depending on your blood cell counts and on your general condition. A hospital pharmacist, nurse or doctor will have mixed the Pemexed® powder with 9 mg/ml (0.9%) sodium chloride solution for injection before it is given to you.

You will always receive Pemexed® by infusion into one of your veins. The infusion will last approximately 10 minutes. When using Pemexed® in combination with cisplatin:

The doctor or hospital pharmacist will work out the dose you need based on your height and weight. Cisplatin is also given by infusion into one of your veins, and is given approximately 30 minutes after the infusion of Pemexed® has finished. The infusion of cisplatin will last approximately 2 hours.

You should usually receive your infusion once every 3 weeks.

Additional medicines:

Corticosteroids: your doctor will prescribe you steroid tablets (equivalent to 4 milligram of dexamethasone twice a day) that you will need to take on the day before, on the day of, and the day after Pemexed® treatment. This medicine is given to you to reduce the frequency and severity of skin reactions that you may experience during your anticancer treatment.

Vitamin supplementation: your doctor will prescribe you oral folic acid (vitamin) or a multivitamin containing folic acid (350 to 1000 micrograms) that you must take once a day while you are taking Pemexed®. You must take at least 5 doses during the seven days before the first dose of Pemexed®. You must continue taking the folic acid for 21 days after the last dose of Pemexed®. You will also receive an injection of vitamin B12 (1000 micrograms) in the week before administration of Pemexed® and then approximately every 9 weeks (corresponding to 3 courses of Pemexed® treatment). Vitamin B12 and folic acid are given to you to reduce the possible toxic effects of the anticancer treatment.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

Common or very common

Appetite decreased, fatigue, mucositis, nausea, neuropathy sensory, oedema, pain, renal disorder, skin reactions including Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis, stomatitis, vomiting, neutropenia, pharyngitis, esophagitis, chest pain

Uncommon

hepatitis, colitis, interstitial pneumonitis, cardiovascular events including myocardial infarction and cerebrovascular events, arrhythmias, hypersensitivity reactions

5. Storing Pemexed®

Keep out of the reach and sight of children.

Store unopened vials below 25°C.

Do not use Pemexed® after the expiry date which is stated on the carton after "Exp."

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Pemexed® contains:

The active substance is pemetrexed.

Pemexed® 100 mg: Each vial contains 100 milligrams of pemetrexed (as pemetrexed disodium).

Pemexed® 500 mg: Each vial contains 500 milligrams of pemetrexed (as pemetrexed disodium).

The other ingredients are mannitol, water for injection, hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide

What Pemexed® looks like and contents of the pack

Each box contains 1 Vial.

Pemexed® is a powder for Concentrate for Solution for Infusion in a vial.

The following information is intended for medical or healthcare professionals only:

Instructions for use, handling and disposal.

- Use aseptic techniques during the reconstitution and further dilution of pemetrexed for intravenous infusion administration.

- Calculate the dose and the number of Pemexed® vials needed.

- **Pemexed® 100 mg:**

Reconstitute each 100 mg vial with 4.2 ml of 9 mg/ml (0.9%) sodium chloride solution for injection, without preservative, resulting in a solution containing 25 mg/ml pemetrexed.

Pemexed® 500 mg:

Reconstitute each 500 mg vial with 20 ml of 9 mg/ml (0.9%) sodium chloride solution for injection, without preservative, resulting in a solution containing 25 mg/ml pemetrexed.

Gently swirl each vial until the powder is completely dissolved. The resulting solution is clear and ranges in color from colorless to yellow or green-yellow. The pH of the reconstituted solution is between 6.6 and 7.8. Further dilution is required.

- The appropriate volume of reconstituted pemetrexed solution must be further diluted to 100 ml with 9 mg/ml (0.9%) sodium chloride solution for injection, without preservative, and administered as an intravenous infusion over 10 minutes.

- Pemetrexed infusion solutions prepared as directed above are compatible with polyvinyl chloride and polyolefin lined administration sets and infusion bags. **Pemetrexed is incompatible with diluents containing calcium, including lactated Ringer's Injection and Ringer's Injection.**

- Parenteral medicinal products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration. If particulate matter is observed, do not administer.

- Pemetrexed solutions are for single use only. Any unused product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

Preparation and administration precautions: As with other potentially toxic anticancer agents, care should be exercised in the handling and preparation of pemetrexed infusion solutions. The use of gloves is recommended. If a pemetrexed solution contacts the skin, wash the skin immediately and thoroughly with soap and water. If pemetrexed solutions contact the mucous membranes, flush thoroughly with water. Pemetrexed is not a vesicant. There is not a specific antidote for extravasation of pemetrexed. There have been a few reported cases of pemetrexed extravasation, which were not assessed as serious by the investigator. Extravasation should be managed by local standard practice as with other non-vesicants.

 Sobhan Oncology Co.	
Leaflet	Pemexed 500/100mg
Color	PANTONE 295 U  PANTONE 185 U 
Size	180 mm x 250 mm Tolerance: 1±mm
Grammage	58-70 g/m ²
File Name	PMBL-0000-LF-01
date	06.09.03