



ROGEL CANCER CENTER
MICHIGAN MEDICINE

Managing Irinotecan®-Related Diarrhea

Patients treated with Irinotecan® (CPT-11 or Camptosar®) may develop diarrhea, which can be severe. We recommend following these directions carefully to help prevent this side effect.

Begin treatment At First Signs

At the earliest signs of diarrhea, begin taking the medicine loperamide® (Imodium® or Kaopectate 1-D®). The earliest signs of diarrhea include the first poorly formed or loose stool or the first episode of two or more bowel movements in one day. If you do not start taking the Imodium®/Kaopectate 1-D® early, the diarrhea may become severe and last several days.

Instructions for Taking Imodium®/Kaopectate 1-D®:

- At the first signs of diarrhea, take 4mg of Imodium®/Kaopectate 1-D®
- Continue taking Imodium®/Kaopectate 1-D®, 2mg every two hours around the clock until you are free of diarrhea for at least 12 hours
- During the night, you may take Imodium®/Kaopectate 1-D® 4mg every four hours rather than 2mg every two hours
- Please call your doctor if you have any questions about taking Imodium®/Kaopectate 1-D®, if your diarrhea is not under control, or if you think you are having any side effects from taking this medicine.

This document is not intended to take the place of the care and attention of your personal physician or other professional medical services. Our aim is to promote active participation in your care and treatment by providing information and education. Questions about individual health concerns or specific treatment options should be discussed with your physician.

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