Methotrexate Patient Information

Methotrexate is a medication used to treat certain forms of cancer. It is also valuable in the treatment of certain skin disorders, such as psoriasis.

You should be aware of the following while you are talking this medication:

1. The most important side effect from this medication liver damage. This side effect is very rare when low doses are used, as in the treatment of psoriasis. The risk is higher with long-term treatment. Your doctor will regularly check blood tests that Test liver function while you are taking this medication. A liver biopsy is also recommended, as this is a more sensitive test to detect early liver damage. The American Academy of Dermatology recommends pretreatment and yearly liver biopsies for patients taking Methotrexate.

2. Do not take this medication if there is any chance that you may become pregnant.

3. Do not take this medication if you develop any kidney disease.

4. The medication may occasionally affect your lungs or your blood. These side effects are rarely a problem, since your doctor will be checking a chest x-ray and blood tests periodically while you are on this medication.

5. As with any other medications, there are other side effects that may occur. These are uncommon.

I have read the above and understand it. I will be given a copy of this form.

_______________________________  _____________________
Patient                              Date

_______________________________  _____________________
Doctor                              Date