**Oxaliplatin**

**Generic name:** Oxaliplatin

**Brand name:** OXALAN®

**Dosage form:** Lyophilized Powder 50, 100 mg

**Drug class**: Alkylating agents

**Indications**

Oxaliplatin is a platinum-based antineoplastic medication is used in combination with other cancer medications such as Infusional 5-fluorouracil/leucovorin to treat colon and rectal cancer.

* Adjuvant treatment of stage III colon cancer in patients who have undergone complete resection of the primary tumor.
* Treatment of advanced colorectal cancer.

Oxaliplatin may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

**Contraindications**

Oxaliplatin should not be prescribed for patients with the following conditions:

* In patients with a known hypersensitivity or allergy to Oxaliplatin or any of the other ingredients of OXALAN®.
* History of Platinum hypersensitivity reaction or other platinum containing compounds such as Cisplatin and Carboplatin.
* Posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome
* Grade 3 or 4 peripheral sensory neuropathy
* Severe renal impairment
* Chronic lung disease
* Rhabdomyolysis
* Sepsis
* Pregnant or intending to get pregnant Pregnancy or breastfeeding

**Mechanism of action**

Oxaliplatin is an alkylating agent and has non-cell cycle-specific cytotoxicity. The platinum complex in the drug binds to DNA and forms cross-links. The cross-links inhibit DNA replication, transcription, and arrest of the cell cycle, resulting in cell death. It works synergistically with Fluoropyrimidines such as 5-fluorouracil. Oxaliplatin is effective in treating fast-growing tumors like those in the gastrointestinal system, which have a high cell turnover rate.

**Warning and precautions**

* This medicine is prescribed for your current condition. So do not use it in similar cases or recommend it to others.
* Take this medicine according to the treatment plan prescribed by the doctor and with the strict observance of the hours and intervals mentioned.
* Discontinue the use of medication only with a doctor and avoid abstinence.
* Oxaliplatin should not be given to patients who are allergic to Oxaliplatin or any of the other ingredients of this product.
* Oxaliplatin should not be prescribed for patients with history of Platinum hypersensitivity reaction or other platinum containing compounds such as Cisplatin and Carboplatin.
* Oxaliplatin can cause a severe or life-threatening allergic reaction. Get emergency medical help if you have: rash, hives, itching, sweating; chest pain, warmth or redness in your face, feeling light-headed; sudden cough, difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.
* Tell your doctor if you have ever had:
* An active or recent infection
* Kidney disease
* Liver disease
* Heart disease, heart rhythm disorder
* Long QT syndrome (in you or a family member)
* An electrolyte imbalance (such as low levels of calcium, potassium, or magnesium in your blood)
* Breathing disorder
* A nerve problem
* Oxaliplatin can harm an unborn baby if the mother or the father is using this medicine.
* If you are a woman, do not use Oxaliplatin if you are pregnant.
* Use effective [birth control](https://www.drugs.com/cg/birth-control-pills.html) to prevent pregnancy while you are using this medicine and for at least 9 months after your last dose.
* If you are a man, use effective birth control if your sex partner is able to get pregnant. Keep using birth control for at least 6 months after your last dose.
* Tell your doctor right away if a pregnancy occurs while either the mother or the father is using Oxaliplatin.
* This medicine may affect fertility (ability to have children) in both men and women. However, it is important to use birth control to prevent pregnancy because Oxaliplatin can harm an unborn baby.
* Do not breastfeed while using this medicine, and for at least 3 months after your last dose.
* Oxaliplatin can lower your blood cell counts. Your blood will need to be tested often. Your cancer treatments may be delayed based on the results.
* As in all cases, you should not drive a car or use machines if you feel dizzy or light-headed.
* Receiving Oxaliplatin can make you more sensitive to cold, which can cause [numbness](https://www.drugs.com/mcs/numbness), tingling, and muscle spasms. This includes exposure to cold temperature and coming into contact with cold objects. To prevent discomfort, follow these steps:
* Do not inhale deeply when you are exposed to cold air
* Cover your skin, head, and face when you are outside in cold temperatures
* Wear gloves when handling cold objects or refrigerated foods
* Do not run an air conditioner at very cool temperature in your home or car (even during hot weather)
* Do not drink cold drinks or use ice cubes in drinks
* Do not put ice packs on your body.

## How is Oxaliplatin given?

Oxaliplatin is given as an infusion into a vein. A healthcare provider will give you this injection.

Oxaliplatin must be given slowly, and the infusion can take at least 2 hours to complete.

Oxaliplatin is usually given once every 2 weeks. Your doctor will determine how long to treat you with this medicine.

You may be given medication to prevent [nausea](https://www.drugs.com/health-guide/nausea.html) or [vomiting](https://www.drugs.com/cg/acute-nausea-and-vomiting.html)

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* Do not put ice packs on your body.

[Chemotherapy](https://www.drugs.com/mcp/chemotherapy) often causes nausea or mouth sores. Talk to your doctor about other ways to treat nausea or mouth sores. You may be given other medications to prevent nausea or vomiting while you are receiving Oxaliplatin.

Oxaliplatin can lower your blood cell counts. Your blood will need to be tested often. Your cancer treatments may be delayed based on the results.

Your heart function may need to be checked using an electrocardiograph or ECG.

**What should I avoid while receiving Oxaliplatin?**

Avoid cold temperatures and cold objects, including ice, cold drinks, and skin exposure to cold temperatures.

Avoid being near people who are sick or have infections. Tell your doctor at once if you develop signs of infection.

Oxaliplatin may cause blurred vision and may impair your reactions. Avoid driving or hazardous activity until you know how this medicine will affect you.

**Oxaliplatin side effects**

Taking any medication may cause side effects. In some cases, patients do not experience any side effects or the side effects of the drug disappear after a short time of taking the drug. Talk to your doctor if you experience any side effects while taking this medicine.

Oxaliplatin can cause a severe or life-threatening allergic reaction. Some people receiving an Oxaliplatin injection have had a reaction to the infusion within minutes after the medicine is injected into the vein. Tell your caregiver right away if you feel dizzy, short of breath, confused, sweaty, itchy, or have diarrhea, chest pain, warmth or redness in your face, or feel like you might pass out.

Get emergency medical help if you have signs of an allergic reaction: hives; difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

The most common side effects reported are:

* Systemic: fever, fatigue, nausea, emesis, weakness
* Nervous system: peripheral sensory neuropathy, pain, headache, insomnia
* Gastrointestinal system: diarrhea, abdominal pain, constipation, anorexia, stomatitis
* Hepatic: elevated serum aspartate aminotransferase (AST), alanine aminotransferase (ALT), total bilirubin
* Hematologic and oncologic: anemia, thrombocytopenia, leukopenia
* Musculoskeletal: back pain
* Respiratory system: dyspnea, cough
* Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
* Numbness, tingling, burning pain
* Abnormal liver function tests
* Mouth sores
* Feeling tired

**Drug interactions**

Oxaliplatin requires close monitoring when administered with other drugs as it can enhance the adverse/toxic effects or diminish the therapeutic effects. The following drug interactions are important to consider:

* Baricitinib
* Disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs)
* Chloramphenicol
* Cladribine
* Clozapine
* Deferiprone
* Denosumab
* Dipyrone
* Echinacea
* Erdafitinib
* Fingolimod
* Fosphenytoin-phenytoin
* Haloperidol
* Leflunomide
* Lenograstim
* Lipegfilgrastim
* Mesalamine
* Natalizumab
* Nivolumab
* Ocrelizumab
* Palifermin
* Pidotimod
* Pimecrolimus
* Promazine
* QT-prolonging agents
* Roflumilast
* Siponimod
* Sipuleucel-T
* Tacrolimus
* Tafenoquine
* Taxane derivatives
* Tertomotide
* Tofacitinib
* Topotecan
* Upadacitinib
* Vaccines

Other drugs may affect Oxaliplatin, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal products. Tell your doctor about all your current medicines and any medicine you start or stop using.

**Oxaliplatin use while Pregnancy and Breastfeeding**

Pregnancy: Category D

Using Oxaliplatin during pregnancy is strongly discouraged and patients should take precautions to avoid pregnancy.

Patients must not breast-feed while they are treated with OXALAN®.

Do not restart breast-feeding, unless doctor has allowed.

**Storage conditions**

* Store the medicine at temperatures below 30° C and stored away from light and moisture.
* Keep the medicine in the box until it is consumed.
* Keep the medicine out of the reach of children.