

Carmustine

Other names: BCNU, BiCNU.

What is it and how does it work?

A medicine that inhibits cell division (cytostatic drug).

What does it look like and how is it given?

A clear liquid that is administered as an infusion into a vein (intravenous).

Short-term side effects (within 24 hours)

- Nausea and vomiting (up to several hours after administration)
- During administration, pain (burning sensation) at the site of administration
- Hot flashes (redness of the face) during administration

Long-term side effects

- Decrease in the number of white blood cells and platelets (3 to 6 weeks after administration)
- Fatique
- In rare cases, liver damage
- In rare cases, lung damage

Special instructions

- Warn your doctor or nurse if your child complains about a burning or painful sensation during the administration, or if the skin becomes red or painful after the administration.
- Warn the doctor or nurse if your child starts to cough or feels short of breath during the administration.

Specifics

- An X-ray of the lungs and/or a lung function study will be performed regularly to monitor the situation.
- Blood will be sampled to check the functioning of the liver.