



## Treatment & medication

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# Dactinomycin

Other names: Actinomycin D, Lyovac Cosmegen.

### 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 yellow liquid that is administered as a bolus injection or as an infusion into a vein (intravenous) (depending on the protocol).

### Short-term side effects (within 24 hours)

- Nausea and vomiting
- Infections
- Irritation of the skin (burn-like patches) in case the medicine leaks from the blood vessel

### Long-term side effects

- Sore mouth caused by inflamed mucous membranes (5 to 10 days after administration)
- Hair loss
- Diarrhea caused by the inflammation of the mucous membranes of the intestines
- Decrease in the number of red and white blood cells and platelets (7 to 14 days after administration)

- Discoloration or redness of the skin in (previously) irradiated area
- Acne and/or skin rash
- Liver damage
- Muscle pain

### 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.
- The skin is more sensitive to sunburn. Avoid the sun and use sun cream with a high sun protection factor (SPF).
- The skin can become hypersensitive to brown band-aids.

### Specifics

Blood will be sampled regularly (depending on the dose) to check how the liver is working.

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This card lists the most common side effects and specifics of this medicine. If you want a complete list, please ask the doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.