

## **NEUPOGEN® FACT SHEET**

### **What is Neupogen®?**

Neupogen is a prescribed drug that was approved for cancer patients with bone marrow damage due to chemotherapy or radiotherapy by the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) in 1991. It is a specific type of cytokine (hormone-like protein) that stimulates the growth of white blood cells. It can also be prescribed to people who have been exposed to a high dosage of radiation in an emergency.

### **How does Neupogen® work?**

Neupogen can speed up the process of white blood cell creation, reducing the time that the cancer patient is vulnerable to infection.

### **How is Neupogen® given?**

It is given through an injection under the skin or through intravenous infusion by a health care professional.

### **What are the side effects?**

It is safe for most adults, but children and pregnant women should take Neupogen® with caution. The side effects of the drug may include fever, diarrhea, skin rash and weakness. The most common side effect is mild to moderate bone pain. **Do not** take the medicine if you are allergic to *E. coli*-derived proteins or any component of filgrastim.

### **What should I do if I have a reaction to Neupogen®?**

If you have a reaction to the drug, call your **doctor or 911** immediately for medical attention. **Do not drive yourself to the hospital as you may become very ill on your way.**

### **Where can I get more information on neupogen?**

[www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)

[www.dshs.state.tx.us](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us)

[www.state.nj.us/health/eoh/rtkweb/rtkhsfs.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/health/eoh/rtkweb/rtkhsfs.htm)

### **Source of information:**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Rev. July 2008