

NEW ZEALAND DATA SHEET

1. PRODUCT NAME

DBL™ Carboplatin Injection

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

DBL Carboplatin Injection (all presentations) is a sterile solution of carboplatin in Water for Injections BP. The vials contain 5, 15, 45 or of 10 mg/mL carboplatin. The solution does not contain any preservatives.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

DBL Carboplatin Injection is a solution for injection.

It is clear, colourless or slightly yellow solution free from particulates and is presented in vials.

The pH of the injection ranges between 4.0 to 7.0.

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

Carboplatin is indicated in the treatment of:

- advanced stage ovarian cancer of epithelial origin
- small cell lung carcinoma
- carcinoma of the head and neck
- carcinoma of the testis
- paediatric cerebral tumours
- soft tissue sarcoma
- neuroblastoma

4.2 Dose and method of administration

Dose

Contains no antimicrobial agent. Product is for single use in one patient only. Discard any residue.

Adults: The recommended dose of carboplatin in previously untreated adults with normal renal function is 400 mg/m² given as a single intravenous infusion over 15 to 60 minutes. Therapy should not be repeated until four weeks after the previous carboplatin course.

It is recommended that according to clinical circumstances the initial dosage may require reduction by 20 to 25% in patients with risk factors such as increasing age, previous myelosuppressive therapy and poor performance status.

Dosage modification may be required when carboplatin is used in combination with other myelosuppressive drugs or radiation therapy, to minimise additive myelosuppressive effects.

Determination of haematologic nadir by weekly blood counts during initial courses is recommended for future dosage adjustment and scheduling of carboplatin.

Impaired Renal Function: In patients with initial impaired renal function reduction of dosage of carboplatin may be required. Haematological nadirs and renal function should be monitored in these circumstances.

A suggested dosage schedule in patients with impaired renal function based on creatinine clearance is as follows:

Creatinine Clearance	Dose of Carboplatin
>40 mL/min.	400 mg/m ²
20-39 mL/min.	250 mg/m ²
0-19 mL/min.	150 mg/m ²

Children: Sufficient usage of carboplatin in paediatrics has not occurred to allow specific dosage recommendations to be made. Physicians are advised to refer to recently published literature for information on the current dosing regimens for particular tumours.

Method of Administration

For instructions on dilution of the medicine before administration, see section 6.6.

4.3 Contraindications

Carboplatin is contraindicated in patients with the following conditions:

- Severe myelosuppression
- Pre-existing severe renal impairment; dose adjustment may allow use in the presence of mild renal impairment (see section 4.2)
- History of severe allergic reactions to carboplatin, other platinum-containing compounds
- Severe bleeding
- Pregnancy or lactation.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Carboplatin should only be administered to patients under the supervision of a qualified physician who is experienced in the use of chemotherapeutic agents. Diagnostic and treatment facilities should be readily available for appropriate management of therapy and possible complications.

Bone Marrow Function

Carboplatin should be administered with caution to patients with significant bleeding or with bone marrow depression.

Peripheral blood counts and renal function should be monitored closely. Blood counts should be performed prior to commencement of carboplatin therapy and weekly thereafter. Aside from monitoring toxicity, this practice will help determine the nadir and recovery of the haematological parameters and assist in the subsequent dose adjustments. Lowest levels in white cells and platelets are generally seen between days 14 and 28, and days 14 and 21 respectively after initial therapy. A greater reduction in platelets is seen in patients who previously received extensive myelosuppressive chemotherapy than non-treated patients. White blood cells counts less than 2×10^9 cells/L (2,000 cells/mm³) or platelets less than 50×10^9 cells/L (50,000 cells/mm³) should cause consideration of postponement of carboplatin therapy until bone marrow recovery is evident, which is usually 5 to 6 weeks. Transfusions may be required.

The occurrence, severity and protraction of toxicity are likely to be greater in patients who have received extensive prior treatment for their disease, have poor performance status and who are more advanced in age. Dosage reduction may be necessary in cases of severe toxicity.

Carboplatin courses should not, in general, be repeated more frequently than every four weeks in order to ensure that the nadir in blood counts has occurred and that there has been recovery to a satisfactory level.

Hypersensitivity Reactions

Hypersensitivity and anaphylactic reactions to carboplatin have been reported. These allergic reactions have been similar in nature and severity to those reported with other platinum containing compounds. Symptoms include rash, urticaria, erythema, pruritus, bronchospasm and hypotension. Patients should be monitored for possible anaphylactoid reactions and appropriate equipment and medication should be readily available to treat such reactions (e.g., antihistamines, corticosteroids, epinephrine, oxygen) whenever carboplatin is administered.

Use in renal impairment

Renal function should be assessed prior to and during therapy. Myelosuppression as a result of carboplatin treatment is closely related to the renal clearance of the drug. Therefore in patients who have abnormal renal function or who are receiving concomitant therapy with nephrotoxic drugs, myelosuppression, especially thrombocytopenia, may be more severe and prolonged.

Renal toxicity is not usually dose-limiting. Pre-treatment and post-treatment hydration is not necessary. However, about 25% of patients show decreases in creatinine clearance and, less

frequently, rises in serum creatinine and blood urea nitrogen may be seen. Impairment of renal function is more likely to be seen in patients who have previously experience nephrotoxicity as a result of cisplatin therapy. Concomitant administration of other nephrotoxic drugs (e.g., aminoglycoside antibiotics) may increase the risk of nephrotoxicity (see section 4.5)

Central Nervous System (CNS)/Hearing Functions

Neurotoxicity, such as paraesthesias and decreased deep tendon reflexes, and ototoxicity are more likely to be seen in patients who have received cisplatin previously. Routine neurologic examination is advisable during carboplatin therapy, particularly in patients previously treated with cisplatin and in patients over 65 years of age. Ototoxicity is cumulative. The frequency and severity of hearing disorders increases with high dose regimens and repeated doses, or prior treatment with cisplatin (as cisplatin is also toxic). Assessment of hearing should be performed on a regular basis. The risk of ototoxicity may be increased by concomitant administration of other ototoxic drugs (e.g., aminoglycosides) (see section 4.5).

Delayed onset hearing loss has been reported in paediatric patients. Long-term audiometric follow-up in this population is recommended.

Reversible Posterior Leukoencephalopathy Syndrome (RPLS)

Cases of RPLS have been reported in patients receiving carboplatin in combination chemotherapy. RPLS is a rare, reversible after treatment discontinuation, rapidly evolving neurological condition, which can include seizure, hypertension, headache, confusion, blindness, and other visual and neurological disturbances. Diagnosis of RPLS is based upon confirmation by brain imaging, preferably MRI.

Blood and Lymphatic System Disorders

Haemolytic anemia with the presence of serologic drug-induced antibodies has been reported in patients treated with carboplatin. This event can be fatal.

Haemolytic-uremic syndrome (HUS) is a potentially life-threatening side effect. Carboplatin should be discontinued at the first sign of any evidence of microangiopathic hemolytic anaemia, such as rapidly falling haemoglobin with concomitant thrombocytopenia, elevation of serum bilirubin, serum creatinine, blood urea nitrogen, or lactate dehydrogenase (LDH). Renal failure may not be reversible with discontinuation of therapy and dialysis may be required.

Secondary Leukaemia

Acute promyelocytic leukaemia (APL) and myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS)/acute myeloid leukemia (AML) have been reported years after therapy with carboplatin and other antineoplastic treatments.

Hepatobiliary Disease

Cases of hepatic veno-occlusive disease (sinusoidal obstructive syndrome) have been reported. Some of them were fatal.

Gastrointestinal Effects

Gastrointestinal, carboplatin can induce emesis. The incidence and severity of emesis may be reduced by pre-treatment with antiemetics or by carboplatin administration as a continuous IV infusion over 24 hours, or as IV administration of divided doses over 5 consecutive days rather than a single infusion. Selective inhibitors of type 3 (5-HT₃), serotonergic receptors (e.g., ondansetron) or substituted benzamides (e.g., metoclopramide) may be particularly effective antiemetics and combination therapy may be considered for patients experiencing severe or refractory emetogenic effects.

Tumour Lysis Syndrome (TLS)

Patients at high risk of TLS such as patients with high proliferative rate, high tumor burden and high sensitivity to cytotoxic agents should be monitored closely and appropriate precaution taken.

Immunosuppressant Effects/Increased Susceptibility to Infections

Administration of live or live attenuated vaccines in patients immunocompromised by chemotherapeutic agents, including carboplatin, may result in serious or fatal infections. Vaccination with a live vaccine should be avoided in patients receiving carboplatin. Killed or inactivated vaccines may be administered; however the response to such vaccines may be diminished.

Carboplatin should be administered with caution to patients with herpes zoster, existing or recent chicken pox, or recent exposure to chicken pox, due to the risk of severe generalised disease. It should also be administered with caution to patients with other infections.

The myelosuppressive effects of carboplatin may adversely affect dental procedures, resulting in an increased incidence of microbial infection, delayed healing and gingival bleeding. Where possible, dental work should be completed prior to initiation of carboplatin therapy, or deferred until blood counts have returned to normal. Patients should be instructed on proper oral hygiene during treatment, including caution in the use of toothbrushes, dental floss and toothpicks.

Aluminium

Aluminium-containing equipment should not be used (see section 4.5).

Use in elderly patients

Carboplatin-induced peripheral neuropathy appears to be more common in those over 65 years of age than in younger patients. Elderly patients may have decreased renal and haematopoietic function, and may be more susceptible to other effects of the drug (see section 4.8).

Paediatric population

Safety and efficacy in children have not been established.

4.5 Interaction with other medicines and other forms of interaction

Carboplatin may interact with aluminium to form a black precipitate. Needles, syringes, catheters or IV administration sets that contain aluminium parts which may come in contact with carboplatin should not be used for preparation or administration of the drug (see section 6.2).

Concurrent therapy with nephrotoxic drugs may increase or exacerbate toxicity due to carboplatin-induced changes in renal clearance. Patients receiving aminoglycoside antibiotics or other nephrotoxic drugs should not be treated with carboplatin.

Concomitant administration of carboplatin and aminoglycosides results in an increased risk of ototoxicity, and the drugs should be used concurrently with caution.

Combination therapy with other myelosuppressive drugs may require modification of the dose or timing of carboplatin therapy to minimize additive myelosuppressive effects. Dosage reduction is recommended if carboplatin is administered concurrently with radiation therapy.

Vaccination with a live vaccine should be avoided in patients receiving carboplatin.

An increased incidence of emesis has been reported when carboplatin and other emetogenic drugs are given concurrently or carboplatin is administered to patients who previously received emetogenic therapy.

In patients who have previously received cisplatin, neurotoxicity such as paraesthesias, decreased deep tendon reflexes, and ototoxicity are more likely to be seen. The frequency and severity of hearing disorder increases with prior treatment with cisplatin (as cisplatin is also ototoxic). Paraesthesias present prior to treatment, especially if caused by cisplatin, may persist or worsen during carboplatin therapy.

In patients receiving carboplatin concomitantly with paclitaxel, myalgias and arthralgias commonly occur. Fatigue has also been reported in patients receiving this combination.

Pain, most likely related to tumour size, and asthenia occur frequently in patients receiving carboplatin in conjunction with cyclophosphamide. Visual disturbances have been reported in patients receiving usual dosages of carboplatin in conjunction with cyclophosphamide.

A decrease in phenytoin serum levels has been observed with concurrent administration of carboplatin and phenytoin/fosphenytoin. This may lead to exacerbation of seizures.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Fertility

Both men and women receiving carboplatin should be informed of the potential risk of adverse effects on reproduction. Women of childbearing potential should be advised to avoid becoming pregnant by using effective contraception during treatment and up to 6 months after therapy. For women who are pregnant or become pregnant during therapy, genetic counseling should be provided.

Carboplatin is genotoxic. Men being treated with carboplatin are advised not to father a child during and up to three months after treatment and to seek advice on conservation of sperm prior to treatment because of the possibility of irreversible infertility due to therapy with carboplatin.

Male and female fertility may be impacted by treatment with carboplatin. Most forms of chemotherapy have been associated with reduction of oogenesis and spermatogenesis and patients receiving carboplatin should be warned of this potential. Although not reported with carboplatin, this has been reported with other platinum agents. Recovery of fertility after exposure can occur but is not guaranteed. Both men and women should seek advice for fertility preservation before treatment with carboplatin.

Pregnancy – Category D

This category specifies drugs which have caused or may be expected to cause an increased incidence of human foetal malformations or irreversible damage. These drugs may also have adverse pharmacological effects. Carboplatin has been shown to be embryotoxic and mutagenic. Use in pregnancy is not recommended. Women of child bearing potential should use adequate contraception. If the patient becomes pregnant while being treated with carboplatin, she should be advised of the potential hazard to the foetus.

Breast-feeding

It is not known whether carboplatin is excreted in breast milk. To avoid possible harmful effects in the infant, breast-feeding is not advised during carboplatin therapy.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machinery

The effect of carboplatin on the ability to drive or use machinery has not been systematically evaluated.

4.8 Undesirable effects

Myelosuppression is the dose-limiting toxicity of carboplatin. It is generally reversible and is not cumulative when carboplatin is used as single agent and at the recommended frequencies of administration.

Adverse effects which have been observed in studies to date can be grouped under the following organ systems:-

Blood and lymphatic system disorders: Leucopenia (55%), thrombocytopenia (32%), anaemia (59%). Myelosuppression is dose-related, and appears to be most common and more severe in patients who have received prior antineoplastic therapy (especially cisplatin), those who have received or who are currently receiving other myelosuppressive drugs or radiation therapy, and those with renal impairment. Transfusional support has been required in about one-fifth of patients.

Haemolytic anemia (sometimes fatal) has also been reported.

Clinical sequelae of bone marrow/haematologic toxicity such as fever, infections, sepsis/septic shock and haemorrhage may be expected.

Haemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS) has been reported.

Gastrointestinal disorders: Nausea and vomiting (53%), nausea only (25%), diarrhoea (6%), constipation (3%). Nausea and vomiting generally are delayed 6 to 12 hours after administration of carboplatin and disappear within 24 hours, but may persist for up to 3 days in some patients. Vomiting may be delayed for 24 hours or longer after treatment in some patients. Nausea and vomiting are readily controlled (or may be prevented) with antiemetic medication. Gastrointestinal pain, mucositis and stomatitis have also been reported.

Renal and urinary disorders: Decrease in creatinine clearance (25%); increases in uric acid (25%), blood urea nitrogen (16%) and serum creatinine (7%). Acute renal failure has been reported rarely. Mild and transient elevations of serum creatinine and of blood urea nitrogen concentrations may occur. Risk of carboplatin-induced nephrotoxicity (e.g., impaired creatinine clearance) becomes more prominent at relatively high dosages or in patients previously treated with Cisplatin.

Investigations: Decreases in serum magnesium (37%), potassium (16%) and, rarely, calcium (5%). Carboplatin may also cause decreases in serum sodium levels. These changes have not been severe enough to cause clinical symptoms.

Nervous system disorders: Peripheral neuropathy (6%) which was mild and dysgeusia (<1%). Peripheral neuropathies may occur, mainly in the form of paraesthesias and decreased deep tendon reflexes. The effect, more common in patients over 65 years of age, appears to be cumulative, occurring mainly in patients receiving prolonged therapy and/or in those who have received prior cisplatin therapy. CNS effects may also occur. In some cases the neurotoxicity seen with carboplatin may be the result of a combination with some delayed effect of prior cisplatin therapy. Central neurotoxicity has also been reported, although this may be related to concomitant antiemetic therapy. Fatigue has been reported in patients receiving carboplatin concomitantly with paclitaxel. Dysgeusia has been reported in patients taking carboplatin.

Ear and labyrinth disorders: Subclinical decrease in hearing acuity as determined by audiogram, in the high frequency (4,000 – 8,000Hz) range (15%); clinical ototoxicity, usually manifested as tinnitus (1%). Pre-existing hearing impairment may persist or worsen with carboplatin therapy. In patients who developed hearing loss as a result of cisplatin therapy, the impairment may persist or worsen.

Hepatobiliary disorders: Increases in liver enzymes have been transient in the majority of cases. Alkaline phosphatase (ALP) (30%), aspartate aminotransferase (AST) (15%), bilirubin (4%). Substantial abnormalities in liver function test have been reported in patients treated with carboplatin at high doses and autologous bone marrow transplantation.

Immune system disorders: In less than 2% of patients reactions similar to those seen after cisplatin have been observed. Erythematous rash, fever, perioral tingling, urticaria, pruritus, bronchospasm, hypotension, hypoxia and pyrexia have been observed. Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions have also occurred, while exfoliative dermatitis has been reported rarely. In a few cases, no cross-reactivity was present. The frequency of allergic reactions is higher in patients who receive carboplatin in conjunction with other antineoplastic agents. Hypersensitivity reactions may occur within a few minutes after IV administration of carboplatin.

Eye Disorders: Visual abnormalities, such as transient sight loss (which can be complete for light and colours) or other disturbances may occur in patients treated with carboplatin. Improvement and/or total recovery of vision usually occurs within weeks after the drug is discontinued. Cortical blindness has been reported in patients with impaired renal function receiving high-dose carboplatin.

Neoplasms Benign, Malignant and Unspecified: There have been rare reports of acute myelogenous leukemias and myelodysplastic syndromes arising in patients who have been treated with carboplatin, mostly when given in combination with other potentially leukemogenic agents.

Cardiac Disorders: Cardiac failure; ischaemic coronary artery disorders (e.g., myocardial infarction, cardiac arrest, angina, myocardial ischaemia), Kounis syndrome (vasospastic allergic angina).

Vascular Disorders: Cerebrovascular events.

Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Disorders: exfoliative dermatitis may rarely occur. Erythematous rash, pruritus, urticaria, and alopecia have also been reported in association with carboplatin.

Musculoskeletal and Connective Tissue Disorders: Myalgia/arthralgia. This can commonly occur in patients receiving carboplatin together with paclitaxel (see section 4.5).

Metabolism and Nutrition Disorders: electrolyte abnormalities (hypokalaemia, hypocalcaemia, hyponatraemia and/or hypomagnesaemia).

Others: alopecia (2%), flu-like syndrome (1%), reaction at injection site (<1%). Taste abnormalities, and adverse respiratory and genitourinary effects have also been reported. Pain, most likely related to tumour size, and asthenia occur frequently in patients receiving carboplatin in conjunction with cyclophosphamide.

Reporting of Suspected Adverse Reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicine is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicine. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions <https://nzphvc.otago.ac.nz/reporting/>.

4.9 Overdose

No overdosage occurred during clinical trials. Should it occur, the patient may need to be sustained through complications relating to myelosuppression, renal impairment and hepatic impairment. From reports in which doses up to 1600 mg/m² were used, patients were said to feel extremely unwell and developed diarrhoea and alopecia.

For advice on the management of overdose please contact the National Poisons Centre on 0800 POISON (0800 764766).

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Mechanism of action

Carboplatin, an analogue of cisplatin, is an antineoplastic agent which interferes with DNA intrastrand and interstrand crosslinks in cells exposed to the drug. DNA reactivity has been correlated with cytotoxicity.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Elimination

After a one-hour infusion of the drug (dose range 20 to 520 mg/m²) plasma levels of total platinum and ultrafilterable (free) platinum decay biphasically following first order kinetics. For ultrafilterable platinum reported values for the initial phases of the half life ($t_{\alpha 1/2}$) are about 90 minutes and in the later phase the half life ($t_{\beta 1/2}$) is about 6 hours. Total platinum elimination has a similar initial half life while in the later phase the half life of total platinum may be greater than 24 hours. Carboplatin is a stable molecule. All free platinum is in the form of carboplatin in the first 4 hours.

Elimination

65% of the carboplatin dose is eliminated in the urine within 24 hours of administration with 32% of the dose being excreted as unchanged drug. Most of the drug is excreted in the first 6 hours.

Initially protein binding is low. During the first 4 hours after administration 0-29% of carboplatin is protein bound. By 24 hours 85-89% is protein bound. Excretion of carboplatin is by glomerular filtration. Patients with poor renal function have a higher Area Under Curve for total platinum and a reduction in dosage is recommended.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

Genotoxicity

Carboplatin has been shown to be mutagenic in mammalian cells. Patients should be advised of its mutagenic potential and should use effective contraception for an adequate duration of time after ceasing therapy.

Carcinogenicity

No data available.

Reproductive and developmental toxicity

No data available.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Nitrogen
Water for injections

6.2 Incompatibilities

Carboplatin may interact with aluminium to form a black precipitate. Needles, syringes, catheters or intravenous administration sets that contain aluminium parts which may come in contact with carboplatin should not be used for preparation or administration of the drug.

Parenteral drugs should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discolouration, prior administration, whenever solution and container permit. If particulate matter observed, shake and re-inspect. Vials with visible particulate matter should not be used.

6.3 Shelf life

24 months from date of manufacture stored at or below 25°C

6.4 Special precautions for storage

DBL Carboplatin Injection (glass vials) should be stored at or below 25°C. Do not freeze. Protect from light.

Carboplatin has been found to be stable for 24 hours when mixed within 5% glucose in water.

These products contain no antimicrobial agent. However in order to reduce microbiological contamination hazard, infusion should be commenced as soon as practicable after preparation. Infusion should be completed within 24 hours of preparation and any residue discarded.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

<i>Strength</i>	<i>Packs</i>
50 mg/5mL	1 x 5 mL glass vial
150 mg/15mL	1 x 20 mL glass vial
450 mg/45mL	1 x 50 mL glass vial

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

Preparation of Carboplatin Solution

Equipment containing aluminium components should be avoided (See section 4.4). DBL Carboplatin Injection is a ready to use solution containing 10 mg/mL carboplatin in Water for Injections B.P.

The injections may be further diluted in 5% Glucose Intravenous Infusion B.P. To reduce microbiological hazard, use as soon as practicable after preparation. If storage is necessary, hold at 2-8°C for not more than 24 hours.

Handling Guidelines

1. Carboplatin should be prepared for administration only by professionals who have been trained in the safe use of the preparation.
2. Operations such as transfer to syringes should be carried out only in the designated area.
3. The personnel carrying out these procedures should be adequately protected with clothing, gloves and eye shield.
4. Pregnant personnel are advised not to handle chemotherapeutic agents.

Contamination

- (a) In the event of contact with the skin or eyes, the affected area should be washed with copious amounts of water or normal saline. A bland cream may be used to treat transient stinging of the skin. Medical advice should be sought if the eyes are affected.
- (b) In the event of spillage, operators should put on gloves and mop up the spilled material with a sponge kept in the area for that purpose. Rinse the area twice with water. Put all solutions and sponges into a plastic bag and then seal it. The bag should be prominently labelled with the words "Cytotoxic Waste" or similar.

Disposal

Syringes, containers, absorbent materials, solution and any other material which has come into contact with carboplatin should be placed in a thick plastic bag or other impervious container and incinerated at 1000°C or more.

7. MEDICINE SCHEDULE

Prescription Medicine

8. SPONSOR

Pfizer New Zealand Limited
P O Box 3998
Auckland, New Zealand

Toll Free Number: 0800 736 363

9. DATE OF FIRST APPROVAL

21 July 1989

10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

21 January 2020

™ = Trademark

SUMMARY TABLE OF CHANGES

Section changed	Summary of new information
Throughout	Minor editorial changes.
4.4	Addition of information concerning reversible posterior leukoencephalopathy syndrome (RPLS).