

## Patient Information for ISTODAX (Romidepsin)

### What is ISTODAX (Romidepsin)?

Istodax is a prescription medicine used to treat people with a type of cancer called cutaneous T-cell lymphoma (CTCL) after at least one other type of medicine by mouth or injection has been tried. Istodax belongs to a class of medications called a histone deacetylase inhibitor (HDAC), which blocks certain enzymes and interferes with the growth of tumor cells. In vitro, it induces cell cycle arrest and apoptosis (cell death) of some cancer cell lines.

### What should I tell my doctor before I receive ISTODAX?

- ✓ Have any heart problems, including an irregular or fast heartbeat, or a condition called QT prolongation
- ✓ Have kidney and/or liver problems
- ✓ Have problems with the amount of potassium or magnesium in your blood
- ✓ Have nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- ✓ Have any other medical conditions
- ✓ Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.

- ✓ Are breast feeding or plan to breastfeed.
- ✓ Tell about all of the medicines you take, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, such as vitamins and herbal supplements.

### How should I take ISTODAX?

- Will be given to you by a healthcare provider as an intravenous infusion (IV into your vein) over 4 hours
- Usually given on Day 1, 8 and 15 of a 28 day cycle of treatment
- Your doctor will decide how long you will receive treatment with ISTODAX
- Your doctor will check your blood cell counts (CBC prior to **every infusion**) and electrolytes (basic metabolic panel and magnesium) prior to **each cycle** of ISTODAX to check for side effects. Your doctor may decide to do other tests to check your health as needed.
- Your doctor may stop your treatment, change when you get your treatment, or change the dose of your treatment depending how you benefit or tolerate the therapy.

### What are the possible side effects of ISTODAX?

#### May cause side effects, including:

- Low blood cell counts; your doctor will regularly do blood tests to check your blood counts
- **Low platelets:** can cause unusual bleeding, or bruising under the skin. Talk to your doctor right away if this happens.
- **Low red blood cells:** may make you feel tired. You may look pale and feel short of breath. Tell your doctor if you have any of those symptoms.
- **Low white blood cells:** can cause you to get infections, which may be serious. Infections can also happen with normal white blood cell counts.
- Tell your doctor right away if you have any of these symptoms: fever, cough, flu-like symptoms, burning on urination, muscle aches or worsening of skin problems.
- Changes in the electrical activity of your heart seen on ECG (electrocardiogram). Your doctor will check your ECG as needed for this problem. Tell your doctor if you feel abnormal heart beat, chest pain, or shortness of breath.

**Common side effects of ISTODAX include:**

- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and loss of appetite
- Tiredness
- Tell your doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you or does not go away.

Ask your doctor for medical advice about side effects.

Call the Stanford Cutaneous Lymphoma office with any questions 650/721-5406

<http://cutaneouslymphoma.stanford.edu>

**General Information about ISTODAX**

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in patient information leaflets. You may report side effects to FDA 1-800-FDA-1088

For more information, go to [www.ISTODAX.com](http://www.ISTODAX.com) or 1-866-223-7145.

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**Multidisciplinary Cutaneous  
Lymphoma Clinic**

