

Denosumab (Xgeva®)

You have been prescribed denosumab (Xgeva) every 4 weeks. The drug is given by a needle just under the skin. Your first injection is at the Juravinski Cancer Centre (JCC). You will need to pick up the drug at the JCC for the first dose.

There are a few things that need to be done before you start the drug:

- Dentist** – You will need to see your dentist before starting this drug, unless you were just recently seen by your dentist. Tell your dentist that you are on the drug, denosumab.
- Bloodwork** – Before your first injection, you will have bloodwork done at the JCC. Then, you will be given the needed paperwork for blood work to be done in the community.
- You will need to take Calcium and Vitamin D**
Calcium 500 mg daily or Calcium _____ mg daily
Vitamin D 1000 IU mg daily or Vitamin D _____ IU daily

Sometimes, the drug can cause your calcium levels to be too low. Low calcium can cause confusion, muscle spasms, twitching, cramps, seizures or changes in your heartbeat. If you have any of these symptoms, seek medical help right away or go to Emergency.

After the first injection

- A prescription for denosumab will be given to you. Please contact your pharmacy as soon as possible to make sure the drug will be available.
- When you get home, put the drug in the refrigerator right away.
- A home care referral will be made for the injection to be given at home.
- You will need the drug every 4 weeks, please write down the date it is given.
- You will need blood work done in the community 1 week before every injection.