# Possible Side Effects of 5-Fluorouracil (Table Version Date: June 16, 2023)

| **COMMON, SOME MAY BE SERIOUS**In 100 people receiving 5-Fluorouracil, more than 20 and up to 100 may have: |
| --- |
| * Diarrhea, nausea, vomiting
* Sores in mouth which may cause difficulty swallowing
* Swelling and redness at the site of the medication injection
* Hand-foot syndrome (palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia) which may cause redness, pain or peeling of palms and soles
* Increased risk of sunburn, itching, blisters on the skin, dry skin
 |

| **OCCASIONAL, SOME MAY BE SERIOUS**In 100 people receiving 5-Fluorouracil, from 4 to 20 may have: |
| --- |
| * Chest pain
* Abnormal heartbeat which may cause fainting
* Stroke, which may cause paralysis, weakness, headache
* Altered mental status, confusion, disorientation, intense feelings of joy, difficulty walking and balancing, coma
* Allergic reaction which may cause rash, low blood pressure, wheezing, shortness of breath, swelling of the face or throat
* Bruising, bleeding, or internal bleeding which may cause black tarry stools
* Blood clot
* Infection, especially when white blood cell count is low
* Anemia which may require blood transfusions
* Visual disturbances, abnormal eye movement, discomfort from light and watering eyes
* Sores in stomach which may cause belly pain
* Loss of appetite, weight loss
* Tiredness, headache
* Change in skin or nails, rash
* Hair loss
 |

| **RARE, AND SERIOUS**In 100 people receiving 5-Fluorouracil, 3 or fewer may have: |
| --- |
| * Heart attack or heart failure, which may cause shortness of breath, swelling of ankles, and tiredness
* Stevens-Johnson syndrome which may cause severe skin rash with blisters and peeling which can involve the mouth and other parts of the body
 |