Ifosfamide (Ifex®) is a medication used in the treatment of some cancers. This medication works by preventing cells from making copies of themselves by interacting with the DNA.

Ifosfamide is given into the vein by IV infusion.

Your child’s doctor will give you a copy of the treatment protocol and this will include information on the medication dose and when it will be given.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- Ifosfamide may cause bladder irritation. Have your child drink plenty of liquids before, during and after the medication is given as directed.
- IV fluids will be given to your child while he is receiving this medication.
- Encourage your child to urinate frequently, at least every 1 to 2 hours for 24 hours after the infusion is done.
- Check the amount of urine and its color and checking for blood every time he urinates.
- A medication called mesna will be given while your child receives ifosfamide to help protect the bladder.

SIDE EFFECTS:

The following side effects are common:

- Low white blood cell counts – increasing your child's risk for infection
- Low platelet count – increasing your child's risk for bleeding
- Low red blood cell count – increasing your child's risk for anemia
- Diarrhea
- Nausea and/or vomiting
- Hair loss
- Irritation to the bladder causing pain and blood in the urine
- Confusion, dizziness, and sleepiness

The following side effects are less common, but can occur:

- Elevated liver enzymes
- Heart and kidney damage
- Seizures
Call your child’s doctor or nurse if:

- Fever of 101.5°F (38.6°C) or greater
- Signs of blood in the urine or pain when urinating
- Bleeding or bruising

**Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.:**
Call your child’s Hematology/Oncology Advanced Practice Nurse at (816) 234-3265.

**Monday through Friday after 5 p.m., and on weekends or holidays:**
Call (816) 234-3000 and ask the operator to page the Hematology/Oncology nurse or doctor "on-call."