# FILGRASTIM

*fil-gras-tim*

## What does it do?

*Filgrastim* is used in the treatment or prevention of infections by increasing the production of white blood cells.

## How is it given?

*Filgrastim* is usually injected under the skin. Sometimes it is injected into a vein.

## What if you forget a dose?

Inject the missed dose as soon as possible. If it is close to the time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and carry on as normal. Do not inject two doses at the same time.

## Can you take other medicines?

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

## What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects | Recommended action |
|---|---|
| Trouble breathing, swollen lips, tongue, throat or face<br>Chest pain, fast or irregular heartbeat<br>Fever | Tell your doctor immediately |
| Nose bleeds, small red or purple skin spots<br>Bone pain | Tell your doctor |
| Hair loss or thinning<br>Dizziness, headache<br>Pain, tenderness or redness at injection site | Tell your doctor if troublesome |

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

## Other information:

- Tell your doctor if you have problems with your spleen, sickle cell disease, osteoporosis (weak bones) or rheumatoid arthritis.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.
- This medicine is also known as *granulocyte-colony stimulating factor* (G-CSF).