

Patient Fact Sheet

HYDRAZINE SULFATE

HYDRAZINE SULFATE (HS) is a synthetic chemical.

WHAT IS IT USED FOR?

HS is used as an alternative treatment for cancer, and to try to prevent the weight loss and loss of appetite often caused by cancer.

WHAT HAVE STUDIES SHOWN?

Large studies of cancer patients who took HS showed that it did not fight their cancer, help their appetite or keep them from losing weight. In fact, some studies showed that people who took HS did not live as long, and had worse quality of life, than people who did not take HS.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS?

Side effects may include:

- ◆ Upset stomach
- ◆ Dizziness
- ◆ Itching
- ◆ Liver damage
- ◆ Nerve problems (numbness, tingling, or pain) in the hands and feet.

IS IT SAFE FOR CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN?

There is no information about whether hydrazine sulfate is safe for children or women who are pregnant or breastfeeding.

WILL IT INTERFERE WITH MY OTHER MEDICATIONS OR MY MEDICAL CONDITION?

- ◆ Hydrazine sulfate should not be taken by people who have liver problems or who have more than one or two alcoholic drinks per day.
- ◆ People taking HS should not eat foods containing tyramine, such as red wine and aged meats and cheeses.
- ◆ It should not be taken by people who take barbiturates (like phenobarbital), anxiety medications, or tranquilizers.

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WHAT IS THE TYPICAL DOSE?

The standard adult dose is 60 mg three times a day by mouth.

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

- ◆ Always tell your doctor or nurse practitioner if you are using any alternative medicine product like HS, and before starting any new one. Your health care provider needs to know everything you are taking to help you make decisions about your health care. Hydrazine sulfate can cause problems with other dietary supplements, or medications, or herbs.
- ◆ There is no information about whether HS is safe for children, or for women who are pregnant or breastfeeding.