Chemotherapy for bowel cancer

Chemotherapy treatment uses drugs to kill cancer cells

Treatment is usually given in cycles and often lasts between three to six months
Most chemotherapy for bowel cancer is given as an injection, drip or tablet
You might have a chemotherapy drug on its own or in combination with another drug or treatment

Common chemotherapy drugs for bowel cancer

Fluorouracil (also known as 5FU)
Capecitabine (also known as Xeloda®)
Irinotecan (also known as Campto®)
Oxaliplatin (also known as Eloxatin®)

Folinic acid is not a chemotherapy drug, but is sometimes given as part of chemotherapy treatment.

Common combinations of chemotherapy drugs for bowel cancer

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If you have any questions or concerns about your chemotherapy treatment:
• Speak to your doctor or medical team
• Contact our nurses at bowelcanceruk.org.uk/nurse
• Join our online community for everyone affected by bowel cancer at bowelcanceruk.org.uk/community

Visit our website for more information
bowelcanceruk.org.uk/chemotherapy

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