

Chemotherapy for bowel cancer



Bowel Cancer UK
Beating bowel cancer together

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®**)

Oxaliplatin

(also known as **Eloxatin®**)

Irinotecan

(also known as **Campto®**)

**Trifluridine
-tipiracil
hydrochloride**

(also known as **Lonsurf®**)

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

Common combinations of chemotherapy drugs for bowel cancer

FOLFIRI

Folinic acid
Fluorouracil
Irinotecan

FOLFOX

Folinic acid
Fluorouracil
Oxaliplatin

FOLFOXIRI

Folinic acid
Fluorouracil
Oxaliplatin
Irinotecan

CAPOX

Capecitabine
Oxaliplatin

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](https://www.bowelcanceruk.org.uk/nurse)
- Join our online community for everyone affected by bowel cancer at [bowelcanceruk.org.uk/community](https://www.bowelcanceruk.org.uk/community)



Find out more

Visit our website for more information
[bowelcanceruk.org.uk/chemotherapy](https://www.bowelcanceruk.org.uk/chemotherapy)

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