

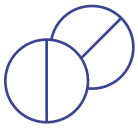
Hormone Therapy for Cancer

Hormones are proteins made by the body that help to control how certain cells work. Hormone therapy uses hormones or hormone-like medicines to treat some cancers and other conditions.



How does hormone therapy work?

Some cancers depend on hormones to grow. Hormone therapy works by blocking or changing hormones to help slow or stop these types of cancer from growing. Hormone therapy may be the only treatment a person needs, or it might be given along with other treatments like chemo or radiation therapy.



How is it given?

Most of the time, hormone therapy is given by mouth as a pill, capsule, or liquid. Other times, it is given as an injection or shot. Some types of surgery affect hormone levels and can be called hormone therapy, too.



How long does treatment last?

This depends on the type of cancer being treated, the type of medicine that's given, and other health problems a person might have. Hormone therapy might be given for weeks, months, or years.



Side effects

Not everyone getting hormone therapy will have side effects. Side effects of hormone therapy depend on which treatment is used and might include:

- Hot flashes
- Sweating at night
- Feeling tired
- Bone problems
- Less interest in sex
- Decreased ability to have sex



Questions to ask

Here are some questions you can ask your health care team:

- What hormone therapy am I getting?
- How often will I get treatment?
- How long will my treatment last?
- Will my insurance pay for my treatment? How much will I have to pay?
- What side effects could I have?
- When should I call the doctor or nurse?
- Are there any special things I need to do to protect myself and others while getting treatment?

For cancer information, day-to-day help, and support, call the American Cancer Society at **1-800-227-2345** or visit us online at **cancer.org/hormonetherapy**.
We're here when you need us.