

What are some of the palliative treatments for acute side effects?

“Palliative Treatments” are those treatments that relieve pain, side effects and symptoms but are not meant to have any curative effect on the original disease or condition.

Drugs and Supplements for Systemic Side Effects, Such as Pain, Nausea, Upset Stomach

Augmentin (antibiotic)
Amifostine (ethyol) protects tissue and prevents dry mouth during treatment
Ativan (drug for calming effect)
Bupivacaine (injectable local anesthetic)
Colace (constipation)
Compazine (nausea med)
Hydrocodone (pain med)
Ibuprofen (pain med)
Kytril/Kitril (nausea med)
Morphine / MS Contin (pain med)
Oxycontin / Oxycodone (pain med)
Prilocaine (topical anesthetic, usually prescribed in viscous form)
Procaine (pain med)
Roxicet (pain med)
Steroid drugs (For nausea – ie. Decadron / Dexamethasone to help reduce brain swelling)
Trental (reduces scarring in tissue)
Vicodin (combination pain med of hydrocodone and Tylenol)
Zantac (buffers stomach when taking a lot of other medications)
Zofran (nausea med)

Mouth, Throat and Nasal Side Effects

Aquae Mouth Spray (relieves dry mouth – Australia)
Biotene gum (stimulates saliva for dry mouth)
Biotene mouthwash
Biotene Oral Balance (clear gel to put in mouth to act as artificial saliva)
Biotene toothpaste (mild flavored and less drying than normal toothpaste)
Bonjello (a soothing gel used for teething babies – Australia)
Carafate (mouth wash that coats the mucosa lining of mouth and throat to relieve sores)
Dental care: take proactive measures including regular brushing, flossing and fluoride
Diflucan (to prevent yeast infection in the mouth)
Fluconazole (drug to prevent yeast infection in the mouth)
Hurricane Liquid (Anesthetic gel for mouth sores)
Lortab (liquid drug that coats inner throat)
Mouth Kote (spray oral moisturizer to relieve dry mouth)
Mouth Wash Mixture - Benadryl, Mylanta and Xylocaine (numbs throat)
Mouth Wash Mixture – Lidocaine, diphenhydramine and sucralfate
Mouth Wash Mixture - baking soda, salt and water (for mouth sores)
Mouth Wash Mixture - Kesslers -lidocaine, diphenhydramine and Maalox (for mouth sores)
Ponaris Nasal Emollient – (dropper applied for dry nasal area with nose bleed incidence)
Prevident (Fluoride paste treatment used in custom trays or brushed on to protect enamel)
Prilosec (Relieves burning and indigestion caused by irritation to esophagus)
Radiacare oral rinse (mouth wash for soothing mouth sores)

Salagen (drug that stimulates salivary gland production)

Water: Carry a bottle and regularly drink lots of fresh water

Wellea toothpaste (salt based tooth paste)

Xylocaine Viscous (lignocaine viscous 2% - syrup to help you eat and swallow)

Skin Burn, Bone and Tissue Side Effects (Face, neck, nostrils)

*Note – There are various lotions, soaks and natural remedies such as Vitamin E oil that are recommended by some naturopathic doctors. Patients should verify skin products with their oncologist prior to using them since some of them can potentially make skin conditions worse.)

Aquafor (Topical ointment to treat burned skin)

Biafine (skin treatment to apply during treatment to prevent skin irritation)

Burrows soaks (Topical soak to sooth burned skin)

Carradres (Topical covering sheet to place over burned skin to sooth)

Cetaphil soap

Hydrocortisone (for itching skin)

Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment (for treatment or prevention of Osteoradionecrosis)

IntraSite Gel (soothing gel for skin burn – Australia)

Jean's Cream (for peeling skin)

Miaderm

Ponaris Nasal Emollient (nose drops to moisten the inner nose lining)

Radiacare/ RadiaGel (Carrington) skin gel (lotion for soothing burned skin)

Saline nasal drops / nasal spray (for dry and bleeding nostrils)

TriCeram by Osmotics. (a non-steroidal, emollient moisturizer)

www.uddercream.com

Xclair Cream - less greasy than Aquafor - Can be applied before, during or after treatment. It is available by prescription only.

Brain, Nerves and Muscle Side Effects

Decadron / Dexamethasone (steroidal drug for reducing brain swelling)

Depakote

Duragesic patches

Dry injections

Flexerall (muscle relaxers)

Heating pads

Hot water bottles (after radiation burn is gone)

Klonopin and drugs in this family

Lidocaine patches

Neurontin

Percocet

Therabite (device you place in mouth to exercise and stretch tight jaw muscles)

Therapeutic massage

Trigger point injections

Vicodan

Ear Side Effects

Ear drops to soften and stimulate excessive ear wax removal

Vestibular rehab training

Nutrition

Ensure, Boost diet supplement drinks if solid food is difficult to swallow

Peg Tube (feeding tube that is inserted in stomach to allow direct feeding to stomach when swallowing food through the stomach and throat is difficult)

Vitamin supplements