

## **Patient Instruction**

HUS Medical Imaging Center Nuclear Medicine

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# Radioisotope Therapy, radium-223

Radium-<sup>223</sup> is used for treatment of prostate cancer in adults when the tumor is not responding to androgen deprivation therapy.

Please reserve approximately 15 minutes for your visit.

## Before the treatment

You can eat, drink and take your medication as usual.

You must have blood tests taken before radioisotope therapy. The ward/outpatient clinic in charge of your care will give you more detailed instructions.

## **During the treatment**

An intravenous catheter will be placed into your arm and a small amount of a radioactive substance will be administered via the catheter.

You will receive radium-233 dichloride injections every 4 weeks for 6 months.

#### After the treatment

To reduce the harmful effect of radiation, drink plenty of fluids and empty your bladder more frequently than usual after the therapy. You must practice careful toilet hygiene for 1 week following each injection. Flush the toilet 2 times after every use. Clean excretions (urine, feces, vomit, sweat, blood) from any surfaces by using disposable tissues and disposable gloves.

Wash soiled clothes and bed linen separately. Always wash your hands carefully after using the toilet.

After receiving the radioactive contrast agent, do not hold a child or remain in prolonged close contact with children for the remainder of the day.

Use effective birth control methods during radioisotope therapy and for at least 6 months after the treatment has ended.

## Other things to note

Please take your Kela-card or identification with you.

You will not be charged for the treatment separately.

Cancel the appointment if you cannot come. If you do not cancel, you will be charged a fine.

Date of entry: 25.1.2021

Language versions: Suomi, ruotsi, englanti Examination: XX7AT Radiolääkehoito, Radium-223 Kymsote ja Eksote

Tunniste: 4362