**MEDICATION:** Oxaliplatin (Eloxatin®)

**USES:** To treat many types of cancer, including cancer of the colon and rectum (colorectal cancer)

**ADMINISTRATION:** Intravenous

**Potential Side Effects:**
- Nausea, vomiting
- Possible hair loss is temporary and will grow back
- Rash or hives
- Sensitivity to cold temperature
- Sudden dry cough
- Swelling of lips or tongue
- Tingling, pain or burning (pins and needles, numbness) in hands, feet, mouth or tongue, which may cause problems walking or performing daily activities like swallowing, writing, buttoning
- Difficulty breathing
- Difficulty swallowing or saying words, jaw tightness

(If you experience any of the side effects listed in **Bold** please contact your doctor immediately. The side effects listed above are those that occur most frequently. Other side effects may occur; please contact your doctor to report any new medical problems!)

**Warnings:**
- Inform your doctor if you are:
  1. allergic to any food or medicine,
  2. taking any non-cancer related prescriptions or over the counter drugs
- Ask your doctor or pharmacist before using any new medications including: prescriptions, over-the-counter drugs, vitamins or herbal supplements.
Additional Instructions:

- Avoid cold temperatures. It may cause you to experience or worsen these side effects: trouble breathing, swallowing, saying words, jaw tightness, chest pressure, or pain, tingling, burning in your hands, feet, or around your mouth or throat.

- To reduce the sides effects caused by cold temperatures, try the following:
  - Cover yourself with a blanket while you are getting Oxaliplatin.
  - Do not breathe deeply when out in cold air.
  - Wear warm clothing in cold weather at all times. Cover your mouth and nose with a scarf or pull-down cap (ski cap) to warm the air that goes into your lungs.
  - Do not take things from the freezer or refrigerator without wearing gloves.
  - Drink fluids warm or at room temperature.
  - Drink through a straw.
  - Avoid ice chips or cubes, even if you have nausea or mouth sores. Ask your doctor/nurse what else you can use.
  - Be aware that most metals such as your car door or mailbox, are cold to touch, especially in the winter. Wear gloves to touch cold objects.
  - Do not run the air conditioning at high levels in the house or car in hot weather.
  - If your body gets cold, warm-up the affected part. If your hands get cold, wash them with warm water.