

Pluvicto® Treatment for Advanced Stage Prostate Cancer Patients

What is Pluvicto® treatment?

Pluvicto® is a cancer medicine that uses radiation to treat adults with advanced prostate cancer. It is used when:

- ✓ the cancer has spread
- ✓ has already been treated with other cancer therapies
- ✓ is PSMA-positive mCRPC

PSMA = Prostate-Specific Membrane Antigen

mCRPC = metastatic Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer

This is a term that describes the type of prostate cancer for this treatment.

How does Pluvicto® work?

Pluvicto® works by finding and attaching to a protein called **PSMA** that is found on the surface of many prostate cancer cells. Once Pluvicto® attaches to the cancer cell, it delivers radiation directly to that cell. This radiation damages the cancer cell, while limiting effects on healthy tissue.

Before Starting Pluvicto® treatments

- ✓ Tell your health care team about all medications and supplements you take, including vitamins and natural products.
- ✓ You will need regular blood tests before and during treatment. These tests help your care team check how your body is tolerating treatment and catch side effects early.

Possible Safety Risks:

The most serious risks include:

- **low blood counts** and
- **changes in kidney function.**

Your health care team will regularly check for:

- Low blood counts
- Easy bleeding or bruising
- Risk of infection
- Reduced kidney function

Pluvicto® uses radiation, which adds to your **lifetime exposure to radiation**. Your care team carefully considers this when planning and monitoring your treatment.

How will I know if I am eligible for Pluvicto® treatment?

Your care team may offer pre-screening for Pluvicto® treatment if you have **advanced prostate cancer** and have already **been treated with other cancer therapies**.

Pre-screening for Pluvicto® treatment will include a **PET scan** to check whether your **prostate cancer cells have PSMA** on their surface. If the test is positive, your cancer is likely to respond to treatment with Pluvicto®.

PET Scan is a type of **imaging test** that uses a small amount of radioactive material to show how organs and tissues are working inside the body.

Your health care team will carefully review your situation and help determine if Pluvicto® treatment is the best course of treatment for you. Pluvicto® treatment involves radiation and some safety measures will have to be put into place before, during and after treatment.

How will I be given Pluvicto® treatment?

Pluvicto® is given through a vein **intravenously (IV)** about **every 6 weeks**, for up to 6 treatments in total. The treatment is given by a nuclear medicine technologist who has experience using radioactive medicines. Each treatment includes a carefully measured dose of radiation.

You will receive **6 doses** for a total of approximately 30 weeks. Based on your test results (blood work) or how you are feeling, your treatment may be delayed, adjusted, or stopped. Your health care team will let you know about any schedule delays or changes.



Every 6 weeks, up to 6 doses, with a break in between each dose

You will **see your oncologist about 4 weeks after each treatment**. At this visit, they will review your blood work and check how you are feeling. Based on this assessment, your oncologist will tell the Nuclear Medicine team whether to proceed with your next treatment dose, 2 weeks later.

After each Pluvicto® treatment, What will I have to do?

Immediately following each treatment:



- Drink plenty of water and urinate as frequently as possible during the first hours after treatment
- Continue drinking plenty of water and urinating for 2 days after each treatment.

Radiation Safety after treatment:

Getting to and from the Hospital after your treatment appointment:



- You can drive yourself to your treatment appointments or a family member, friend, or volunteer caregiver can drive you to and from the hospital.
- You cannot use public transportation, a taxi, rideshare, or other commercial driver.

If you have questions about transportation speak with your Radiation Safety Officer.

Toilet Hygiene (for 2 days after treatment):



- Always sit when using the toilet when using it.
- Always double flush after using the toilet.
- Use toilet paper every time. Flush toilet paper and wipes right away after use.
- Put items that can not be flushed, such as bandages or anything with body fluids (blood, urine, or stool) into a separate plastic bag and throw them in the garbage.
- Wash your hands well with soap and water after using the toilet.

Personal Hygiene:



- **Shower every day** for at least **7 days**.
- **Wash** any clothing, underwear, pajamas, or bed linens that have sweat, blood, or urine on them **separately from other laundry**.
- Use your regular washing machine cycle. No bleach or extra rinses are needed.

Contact with People:

To help keep others safe from radiation exposure, please follow these steps:



- **Stay at least 1 meter (3 feet) away from other adults for 2 days, and sleep in a separate bed for 3 days.**
- Stay at least 1 meter away from **children and sleep in a separate bed** from them for **7 days**.
- Stay at least 1 meter away from **pregnant women for 7 days** and **sleep in a separate bed for 15 days**.
- Avoid sexual activity for **7 days**.
- Use reliable birth control during treatment and for **14 days** after your dose.
- Avoid public places and do not use public transportation for 15 days

Important: If you need daily support from a caregiver (family member, friend, or volunteer) in the home for any reason, it is important to **speak with your health care team before doing pre-screening** for Pluvicto®.

Your health care team can answer any questions and help you follow these steps safely and comfortably.

Hospitalization and Emergency Care after a Treatment



If you need emergency medical care or are unexpectedly admitted to the hospital within the **first week after your treatment**, tell all health care providers that you have received a radioactive treatment. Be sure to **share the date of your treatment and the dose**.

You will be given an alert card after each treatment that you can show health care practitioners, and you can write your treatments in your treatment log at the back of this book for your own records.

Fire emergency: If there is a fire at your home, leave right away. Being radioactive should not delay or change the emergency response. Once you are safely away and the fire department has been called, contact the Radiation Safety Officer as soon as you can.


The following radioactive isotope has been administered to _____ for a Nuclear Medicine procedure.

Isotope: ☐ Technetium 99m Half-life: _____
☐ Gallium 67
☐ Iodine 131 Amount: _____ ☐ millicuries
☐ Indium 111 ☐ microcuries
☐ Lutetium 177 Pluvicto
☐ Yttrium 90
☐ Other _____

Date administered: _____ (dd/mm/yy) Time administered: _____

Signature: _____ MRT (N)
Nuclear Medicine Technologist

☐ Credit Valley Hospital - 2200 Eglinton Ave West, Mississauga, ON L5M 2N1 (905) 813-2200 x 816260
☐ Mississauga Hospital - 100 Queensway West, Mississauga, ON L5B 1B8 (905) 848-7100 x 822902

Cleaning and Waste Instructions



The Radiation Safety team at the Nuclear Medicine Department will tell you:

- ✓ how to clean equipment safely
- ✓ when and how to dispose of waste bags

Waste disposal Instructions:

A **contaminated item** is anything that comes into contact with your body fluids, such as urine, stool, blood, sweat, or vomit. After treatment, these fluids can contain radioactivity for a short time.

Examples of contaminated items:

- Tissues and toilet paper
- Bandages and disposable gloves used to clean body fluids or put on your body
- Medical items like catheters, colostomy bags, bedpans, or water nozzles
- Clothing and linens (underwear, pajamas, sheets) with sweat, blood, or urine

How to dispose of waste items:

- Flush tissues and toilet paper right away.
- Place non-flushable items (like bandages or gloves) in designated plastic waste bags.
- Keep waste bags away from children and pets and separate from regular household garbage.
- You may dispose of the waste bag with regular household garbage **7 days after the last item was placed in the bag.**



Possible Side Effects of Pluvicto® treatment

This list does not include all possible side effects. If you notice any new symptoms or side effects that are not listed here or any of the below side effects become hard to manage, you can contact the **REACT clinic** during daytime working hours or the **CareChart after hours** program.

Very common side effects:		Common side effects:
• Feeling very tired (fatigue) • Dry mouth • Nausea or vomiting • Loss of appetite • Changes in bowel habits (constipation or diarrhea)	• Stomach or abdominal pain • Urinary tract infection • Weight loss • Swelling of the hands, ankles, or feet	• Dizziness and headache • Changes in taste • Fever • Trouble swallowing • Mouth sores • Dry eyes and skin

If you are experiencing any of the below **serious side effects**, please **contact the REACT Clinic or CareChart after hours program**.

Serious side effects: contact the REACT Clinic or CareChart after hours program	
Common to very common side effects that your oncologist will be checking for and asking about at your clinic appointments:	
• More tired than usual • Weakness • Pale skin • Shortness of breath • Bruise easily or more often • Bleeding that is hard to stop	• Urinating less often than usual • Passing much smaller amounts of urine • Frequent infections (fever, chills, sore throat, mouth sores)



REACT Clinic

905-813-4412

Monday- Friday | 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

CareChart after-hours program



1-877-681-3057

www.carechart.ca

Monday- Friday | 4:00 p.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Saturday, Sunday & Holidays | 24hrs

Go to Cancer Symptom Management Support Services booklet for more information about the REACT Clinic and CareChart after hours program.

If you are experiencing any of the below **serious side effects**, please **go to the emergency department**.

Serious side effects: go to the emergency department.



Go to the emergency department if:

- Severe swelling of the body
- Fast or irregular heartbeat
- **Severe** headache
- Confusion
- Stomach pain
- Trouble speaking, moving, or staying awake
- Yellowing of the skin or eyes
- Extreme tiredness
- Trouble breathing

Radiation Safety Screening and Responsibility

Before starting Pluvicto®, your oncology team will meet with you and your caregiver. They will explain the treatment and confirm whether it is right for you.

Next, you will have a visit with a Radiation Safety Officer. They will talk with you and your caregiver to go over a **radiation safety screening**. This is to make sure you are prepared for the treatment and caring for yourself at home afterward. You will also discuss how you will travel to and from the hospital and how to follow safety instructions after treatment.

*This treatment uses radiation, it is important to know how to keep yourself and others safe. Your radiation safety officer will go over all safety instructions with you and answer any questions you have.

Contact Your Team

For **treatment and health questions** or concerns contact your **Oncologist and Primary Nurse**:

1. Talk to your Primary Nurse at your clinic appointments
2. Contact them by phone using their phone extension or following the voice prompting with the phone number below.

Credit Valley Hospital

(905) 813-2200

Extension: _____

Queensway Hospital

(416) 521-4110

For any **radiation safety concerns or questions** contact the **Nuclear Medicine Department**:

Nuclear Medicine Department

(905) 813-1100

extension 6260

Collin Lewis

Radiation Safety Officer

(905) 848-7580

extension 3547 or 2913

In the Event of a Patients' Death

In the event of death of a person who has received radioactive Pluvicto® treatment within the last 3 months, **call the Radiation Safety Officer or Nuclear Medicine Manager** through hospital locating at **(905) 813-2200 extension 81 - 4466** as soon as possible. They will help make arrangements to keep radiation exposure low for family members, caregivers, and service providers.

Special instructions may be needed for care of the body after death, including transportation, cremation, or autopsy if those are requested from the family. Support and guidance will be provided during this difficult time.

Treatment Log

If you would like to keep a record of your treatment information, you can write down your treatments and dose here. This information will be given to you at the end of each treatment on an alert card. [Remember to share this information if you are hospitalized within 7days of your treatment.](#)

Treatment Plan	Patient name and MRN	
Treatment	Date (DD/MM/YYYY)	Time
Treatment 1		
Treatment 2		
Treatment 3		
Treatment 4		
Treatment 5		
Treatment 6		

Notify your doctor as early as possible **if rescheduling is needed.**

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Important Note: This resource was created by Trillium Health Partners to give patients, families and caregivers information about Pluvicto Treatment for patients with advanced prostate cancer. The information in this resource does not replace medical advice. Every effort has been made to ensure information this resource is complete, correct and up to date, but no guarantee is made to that effect. If you have any questions about the information in this resource, please talk to your health care team. Accessible formats and communication supports are available upon request. **References:** Images: Icons used with permissions from Microsoft 365, CoPilot and thenounproject.com **Updated:** August 2026

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