COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT: EPIRUBICIN (Ellence®)

**WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?**
- Red fluid

**HOW IS IT GIVEN?**
- Injected into the vein

**WHAT ARE THE MOST COMMON SIDE EFFECTS?**
- Lowering of the white blood cell count, which may increase your chance of getting an infection
- Lowering of the platelet count, which may result in easy bruising or bleeding
- May turn your urine red for 1 or 2 days after treatment
- Hair loss, which occurs 2 or more weeks after therapy begins. Your hair will grow back fully several months after this drug therapy is completed.
- Nausea or vomiting, which is usually controlled with anti-nausea medication.

**WHAT ARE THE LEAST COMMON SIDE EFFECTS?**
- Heart muscle damage may occur. This is more likely to happen after you have received several doses. Heart studies are done periodically to monitor heart function.
- Mouth sores
- Liver problems
- Patients who have been previously treated with radiation may have added damage to the areas irradiated, including the skin (redness or rash), heart, lungs, and other organs.
- Tiredness, weakness or fatigue

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**
This drug can damage tissue if it leaks out of the vein. It is important for you to tell the nurse if you feel burning, stinging, pain or discomfort while the drug is being given or soon afterward. If the area of injection becomes red or swollen after the injection, notify your doctor or nurse immediately.