

Through Increased HbF (Fetal Hemoglobin)

He-man-globe with Fetus

This drug enhances fetal hemoglobin (HbF) production. Fetal hemoglobin's reduction in the severity of the disease comes from its ability to inhibit the formation of hemoglobin aggregates within red blood cells that contain hemoglobin S (HbS), which is seen in sickle cell anemia.

Side Effects

Myelosuppression

Red and White blood cells Supressed

A very common side effect of hydroxyurea is bone marrow depression; patients often develop neutropenia and thrombocytopenia. Hematologic recovery usually happens 2 weeks after stopping medications administration, however.

GI Distress

GI with Flare-gun

Hydroxyurea can lead to acute mucocutaneous toxicity. Patients can have severe GI distress, with diarrhea, constipation, nausea and vomiting.