



# Nebraska Urology

**Provenge-** This treatment reprograms your body's own immune cells to fight your prostate cancer. Blood cells are removed from your body in a process called Leukapheresis at a facility in Omaha (This is the only site in Nebraska that offers this part of the process). The leukapheresis takes around 3-4 hours. Your cells are modified and re-infused 3 days later at our facility. The infusion process at our facility will take about 2 hours.

- You will feel fatigued, please plan to have a driver for transport following your appointments.
- It is important to keep your treatment appointments because your personal cells have a short "shelf life" after they have been modified and cannot be used following the expiration time.
- It is important to maintain hydration and drink more fluids than usual prior to cell collection. (Try and avoid caffeine on the day of cell collection though.)
- Wear comfortable clothes for your cell collection and infusion appointments.
- Some patients may become chilled during the infusion, feel free to bring a favorite blanket from home. (A warmed blanket will also be provided during the infusion.)
- The most **common side effects** include: chills, fatigue, fever, back pain, nausea, joint ache and headache (flu like symptoms). If these are present, they typically only last a couple days.
- Less common, but **serious side effects** may include: irregular heartbeat, chest pain, stroke, blood clot.
- 30 minutes prior to your cell infusion you will be provided with and asked to take 25 mg Benadryl (diphenhydramine), 650 mg Tylenol (Acetaminophen), and 150 mg Zantac (ranitidine). These products assist with infusion tolerance.
- You will need to bring a drivers license or other photo identification prior to receiving the infusions.