

Paralytic ileus associated with capecitabine

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ABSTRACT

Paralytic ileus is a temporary arrest of intestinal peristalsis. We report on two patients with breast cancer who developed paralytic ileus following treatment with capecitabine. The pathophysiology of this disorder and its possible connection to capecitabine are described with the aim of promoting the early recognition of the clinical picture so that unnecessary surgery can be avoided.

Key words: *paralytic ileus, capecitabine, enteric nervous system, breast cancer.*

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