

Table 5. Adverse effects*

Adverse effect	Darbepoetin*	Epoetin
Application site	Injection-site pain	Injection-site stinging
Cardiovascular	Hypertension	Hypertension
	Hypotension/chest pain	Chest pain
CNS/PNS	Headache	Headache
Gastrointestinal	Diarrhea/nausea/vomiting	Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
Musculoskeletal	Myalgia/arthralgia	Arthralgia
Resistance mechanism	Infection	Infection
Respiratory	Upper respiratory infection	Shortness of breath
Skin and appendages	Pruritus/peripheral edema	Urticaria

* These adverse effects are the most frequently reported (occurring in greater than or equal to 5% of darbepoetin patients) and also are seen with epoetin.