Arsenic trioxide

Brand name: Trisenox®
IUPAC: 2,4,5-trioxa-1,3-diarsabicyclo[1.1.1]pentane
FDA approval: Yes

Usage:
Arsenic trioxide is highly distributed throughout the liver, heart, kidneys and lungs. The treatment is mostly used in treatment of leukemia and is only administered intravenously.¹

Mechanism:
The mechanism of action of the drug is not fully understood, but caspase (programmed enzymes) found in arsenic trioxide induce apoptosis (cell death), which inhibits the process of angiogenesis and related cancerous cell production.¹

Side effects:
The chief side effect seen in arsenic trioxide is fatigue.¹ Other common side effects include headache, diarrhea, dizziness, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, fever, shortness of breath, swelling. Notify your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding before taking arsenic trioxide.