

## Possible side effects

Nausea, vomiting and decreased appetite

What to do?

- Eat small frequent meals with a balanced diet.
- Avoid foods with strong flavouring.
- Maintain adequate fluid intake.
- Take the antiemetic medications prescribed by your doctor if necessary.

Diarrhoea

What to do?

- Drink plenty of fluids.
- Avoid fatty or spicy foods, dairy products and high fiber content foods (e.g. fruits, vegetables, wholemeal bread, digestive biscuits).
- Take the anti-diarrhoeal medications prescribed by your doctor if necessary.

Muscle pain

What to do?

- Do regular, mild to moderate exercises.

Fatigue

What to do?

- Avoid driving or operating machinery.
- Balance activities with rest.

Skin rashes, dryness or itching

What to do?

- Wear loose cotton clothing.
- Use moisturising creams or lotions.
- Avoid direct sun exposure, you may use a sunblock or wear a hat while conducting outdoor activities.

Other common symptoms include headache, cough or shortness of breath, etc.

If side effect symptoms persist or worsen, contact the doctor immediately

If you notice any allergic reactions like skin itchiness, face or hand swelling, breathing difficulty, etc., consult your doctor immediately.

## Potential drug interaction

1. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications.
2. Some of the medications may interact with dasatinib, particularly:
  - Anti-fungals, such as ketoconazole, itraconazole and voriconazole
  - Anti-biotics, such as clarithromycin, erythromycin
  - Anti-HIV medicines, such as ritonavir
  - Anti-convulsants, such as phenytoin, carbamazepine and phenobarbitone
  - Anti-tuberculosis medicines, such as rifampicin
  - Anti-coagulants, such as warfarin, rivaroxaban, apixaban, edoxaban, and dabigatran
  - Medicines which affect your gastric acid, such as pantoprazole, famotidine and aluminium / magnesium hydroxide
  - St John's wort

## What if I miss a dose?

- If it is within 12 hours of the missed dose, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Then take the next dose as usual.
- If it is over 12 hours since the missed dose, skip the missed dose and take the next dose as usual.
- Do not double the dose.
- Inform your doctor about any missed dose during follow-up appointment.

## How to store?

1. Keep out of reach of children.
2. Store in a cool, dry place and away from direct heat and light.

**For any queries, please seek advice from your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.**

# Information for patient taking oral targeted therapy

## Dasatinib

## What is Dasatinib?

Dasatinib is an oral targeted therapy called tyrosine kinase inhibitor. It acts by inhibiting the enzymes (tyrosine kinase) inside cancer cells, which is involved in the growth and spread of cancer cells. By blocking these signals, dasatinib can stop the cancer cells from growing and cause them to die.

Most of the chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML) patients (about 90 to 95%) may have abnormal Philadelphia chromosome. The Philadelphia chromosome produces abnormal enzymes leading to uncontrolled growth of white blood cells. Dasatinib may inhibit the Philadelphia chromosome to generate wrong signals and stop the uncontrolled proliferation of white blood cells.

## Indication

The main indication for dasatinib is for treatment of CML. Apart from CML, dasatinib can also be used for other leukaemic disease such as acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL). Please consult doctors or pharmacists for details.

## How to use?

- Please take the medications at the same time every day.
- You can take the medications with or without a meal.
- Please swallow whole the medication with water.
- Take with a meal or with a large glass of water if stomach upset occurs.
- Do not take antacids (to reduce the acid level of your stomach) from two hours before to two hours after taking dasatinib.
- Avoid grapefruit or grapefruit juice during treatment.
- Please report any suspected side effects to your doctors. The doctor may alter the dosage of the medications according to the side effects.

## Precautions

1. Use the medication as directed by the doctor.
2. If you have history of drug allergy, consult your doctor or pharmacist before using the medicine.
3. Discard all medications that have expired or no longer required.
4. Do not share the medication with other people.
5. Tell your doctor and pharmacist if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding. Do not breastfeed during treatment and for 2 weeks after the last dose.
6. Please consult your doctor if symptoms persist or worsen after using the medicine.
7. Avoid handling the medicine if you are pregnant.
8. Wash hands after you have handled the medicines.
9. Consult doctor or pharmacist on the use of over-the-counter medications, Chinese medicines, herbal medications and vaccination during your treatment.
10. Sexual activities are not contraindicated during treatment but you are advised to use barrier contraception (such as condoms). Inform your doctor if you are in doubt of being pregnant.

## Possible side effects and their management

### Possible side effects

Increased infection risk

What to do?

- Wash your hands often and maintain personal hygiene.

- Avoid crowds and close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid taking raw food.
- Seek medical advice immediately at the first sign of an infection such as fever (over 38°C or 100°F by an oral thermometer), chills, cough, or burning sensation when passing urine.

Impaired heart function

What to do?

- Your heart function will be checked regularly.

Increased bleeding risk

What to do?

- Avoid injuring yourself.
- Avoid constipation.
- Brush your teeth gently with a soft toothbrush in order to avoid gum bleeding.
- Tell your doctor immediately if you have any unexplained bruising or bleeding, such as nosebleeds, bleeding gums, blood spots or rashes on the skin, vomiting blood, blood in urine or stool.

Oedema (swelling around your eyes, in your feet or lower legs may occur if your body retains extra fluid)

What to do?

- Contact your doctor if you experience a rapid unexplained weight gain.
- If swelling in your feet or lower legs is a problem, try to elevate your feet when sitting and avoid tight clothing.
- If symptoms worsen, diuretics may be prescribed by your doctor to help getting rid of extra fluid depends on your situation.