

Alectinib (Alecensa)

About This Drug

Alectinib is used to treat cancer. It is given orally (by mouth).

Possible Side Effects

- Decrease in red blood cells. This may make you feel more tired.
- Constipation (unable to move bowels)
- Tiredness
- Swelling of the hands, feet, or any other part of the body
- Muscle pain/aching

Note: Each of the side effects above was reported in 20% or greater of patients treated with alectinib. Not all possible side effects are included above.

Warnings and Precautions

- Decreased heart rate, which may cause you to feel dizzy or pass out.
- Inflammation (swelling) and/or scarring of the lungs. You may have a cough and/or trouble breathing.
- Severe muscle/bone aching and weakness (lack of muscle strength)
- Increase in creatine phosphokinase, which can sometimes be the result of muscle inflammation or damage. You may have muscle aching and/or cramping.
- Changes in your liver function
- Changes in your kidney function, which may be life-threatening

Note: Some of the side effects above are very rare. If you have concerns and/or questions, please discuss them with your medical team.

Important Information

How to Take Your Medication

- Swallow the medicine whole with food. Do not open or dissolve the capsule.

- **Missed dose:** If you vomit or miss a dose, take your next dose at the regular time, and contact your doctor. Do not take 2 doses at the same time and do not double up on the next dose.
- **Handling:** Wash your hands after handling your medicine, your caretakers should not handle your medicine with bare hands and should wear latex gloves.
- This drug may be present in the saliva, tears, sweat, urine, stool, vomit, semen, and vaginal secretions. Talk to your doctor and/or your nurse about the necessary precautions to take during this time.
- **Storage:** Store this medicine in the original container at room temperature and protect from light and moisture. Do not store above 30°C (86°F).
- **Disposal of unused medicine:** Do not flush any expired and/or unused medicine down the toilet or drain unless you are specifically instructed to do so on the medication label. Some facilities have take-back programs and/or other options. If you do not have a take-back program in your area, then please discuss with your nurse or your doctor how to dispose of unused medicine.

Treating Side Effects

- Manage tiredness by pacing your activities for the day.
- Be sure to include periods of rest between energy-draining activities.
- Get regular exercise. If you feel too tired to exercise vigorously, try taking a short walk.
- If you are dizzy, get up slowly after sitting or lying.
- Drink plenty of fluids (a minimum of eight glasses per day is recommended).
- If you are not able to move your bowels, check with your doctor or nurse before you use enemas, laxatives, or suppositories.
- Ask your doctor or nurse about medicines that are available to help stop or lessen constipation.
- Keeping your pain under control is important to your well-being. Please tell your doctor or nurse if you are experiencing pain.
- If you get a rash do not put anything on it unless your doctor or nurse says you may. Keep the area around the rash clean and dry. Ask your doctor for medicine if your rash bothers you.

Food and Drug Interactions

- There are no known interactions of alectinib with food, however this medication should be taken with food.
- This drug may interact with other medicines. Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all the prescription and over-the-counter medicines and dietary supplements (vitamins, minerals, herbs, and others) that you are taking at this time. Also, check with your doctor or pharmacist before starting any new prescription or over-the-counter medicines, or dietary supplements to make sure that there are no interactions.

When to Call the Doctor

Call your doctor or nurse if you have any of these symptoms and/or any new or unusual symptoms:

- Fever of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher



- Chills
- Tiredness that interferes with your daily activities
- Feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- Trouble breathing and/or wheezing
- Pain in your chest
- Dry cough
- No bowel movement in 3 days or when you feel uncomfortable
- Weight gain of 5 pounds in one week (fluid retention)
- Swelling of the hands, feet, or any other part of the body
- Decreased or very dark urine
- Unexplained muscle/bone pain, tenderness, and/or weakness
- Signs of possible liver problems: dark urine, pale bowel movements, pain in your abdomen, feeling very tired and weak, unusual itching, or yellowing of the eyes or skin
- If you think you may be pregnant or may have impregnated your partner

Reproduction Warnings

- **Pregnancy warning:** This drug can have harmful effects on the unborn baby. Women of childbearing potential should use effective methods of birth control during your cancer treatment and for at least 1 week after treatment. Men with female partners of childbearing potential should use effective methods of birth control during your cancer treatment and for 3 months after your cancer treatment. Let your doctor know right away if you think you may be pregnant or may have impregnated your partner.
- **Breastfeeding warning:** Women should not breastfeed during treatment and for 1 week after treatment because this drug could enter the breast milk and cause harm to a breastfeeding baby.
- **Fertility warning:** Fertility studies have not been done with this drug. Talk with your doctor or nurse if you plan to have children. Ask for information on sperm or egg banking.

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