

Pemigatinib (Pemazyre)

About This Drug

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

Possible Side Effects

- Dry eyes
- Soreness and dryness of the mouth and throat. You may have red areas, white patches, or sores in your mouth that hurt.
- Changes in the way food and drinks taste
- Nausea and vomiting (throwing up)
- Diarrhea (loose bowel movements)
- Constipation (unable to move your bowels)
- Pain in your abdomen
- Tiredness
- Decreased appetite (decreased hunger)
- Changes in your phosphate levels
- Pain in your back and/or joints
- Nail changes such as discoloration, nail loss and/or brittle nail as well as inflammation/infection of the tissue around your nails.
- Dry skin
- Hair loss. Hair loss is often temporary, although with certain medicine, hair loss can sometimes be permanent. Hair loss may happen suddenly or gradually. If you lose hair, you may lose it from your head, face, armpits, pubic area, chest, and/or legs. You may also notice your hair getting thin.

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

Warnings and Precautions

- Blurred vision or other changes in eyesight such as severe dry eyes, eye floaters (spots) and/or flashes of light in your visual field. Eye exams are recommended before and during your treatment.

- Increased phosphate levels in your blood that may require phosphate lowering treatment such as medications and/or a low phosphate diet.

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

How to Take Your Medication

- Swallow the medicine whole with or without food as prescribed. Take this medicine at the same time each day it is scheduled.
- Do not chew, crush, split or dissolve tablets.
- **Missed dose:** If you miss a dose by more than 4 hours, then skip the missed dose and go back to your normal schedule. If it has been less than 4 hours since your missed dose, then take the missed dose. Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses. Do not replace a vomited dose. If you vomit a dose or miss a dose, contact your doctor.
- **Handling:** Wash your hands after handling your medicine. 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.
- **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

- If you have dry eyes, you should use artificial tears, hydrating or lubricating eye gels to help prevent or treat dry eyes. Ask your nurse or doctor for more information about which product they recommend for you.
- Manage tiredness by pacing your activities for the day.
- Be sure to include periods of rest between energy-draining activities.
- Drink plenty of fluids (a minimum of eight glasses per day is recommended).
- To help with dry mouth, sugar-free hard candies and chewing gum can keep your mouth moist.
- Mouth care is very important. Your mouth care should consist of routine, gentle cleaning of your teeth or dentures and rinsing your mouth with a mixture of 1/2 teaspoon of salt in 8 ounces of water or 1/2 teaspoon of baking soda in 8 ounces of water. This should be done at least after each meal and at bedtime.
- If you have mouth sores, avoid mouthwash that has alcohol. Also avoid alcohol and smoking because they can bother your mouth and throat.
- Taking good care of your mouth may help food taste better and improve your appetite.
- If you throw up or have loose bowel movements, you should drink more fluids so that you do not become dehydrated (lack of water in the body from losing too much fluid).



- If you have diarrhea, eat low-fiber foods that are high in protein and calories and avoid foods that can irritate your digestive tracts or lead to cramping.
- Ask your nurse or doctor about medicine that can lessen or stop your diarrhea, constipation and/or nausea.
- If you are not able to move your bowels, check with your doctor or nurse before you use enemas, laxatives, or suppositories.
- To help with nausea and vomiting, eat small, frequent meals instead of three large meals a day. Choose foods and drinks that are at room temperature.
- To help with decreased appetite, eat small, frequent meals. Eat foods high in calories and protein, such as meat, poultry, fish, dry beans, tofu, eggs, nuts, milk, yogurt, cheese, ice cream, pudding, and nutritional supplements.
- Consider using sauces and spices to increase taste. Daily exercise, with your doctor's approval, may increase your appetite.
- To help with dry skin, moisturize your skin several times a day.
- Avoid sun exposure and apply sunscreen routinely when outdoors.
- Keeping your nails moisturized may help with brittleness.
- To help with hair loss, wash with a mild shampoo and avoid washing your hair every day.
- Avoid rubbing your scalp, pat your hair or scalp dry.
- Avoid coloring your hair.
- Limit your use of hair spray, electric curlers, blow dryers, and curling irons.
- If you are interested in getting a wig, talk to your nurse. You can also call the American Cancer Society at 800-ACS-2345 to find out information about the "Look Good, Feel Better" program close to where you live. It is a free program where women getting chemotherapy can learn about wigs, turbans and scarves as well as makeup techniques and skin and nail care.
- Keeping your pain under control is important to your well-being. Please tell your doctor or nurse if you are experiencing pain.

Food and Drug Interactions

- Avoid grapefruit or grapefruit juice while taking this medicine. Grapefruit and grapefruit juice may raise the levels of pemigatinib in your body. This could make side effects worse.
- Check with your doctor or pharmacist about all other prescription medicines and over-the-counter medicines and dietary supplements (vitamins, minerals, herbs and others) you are taking before starting this medicine as there are known drug interactions with pemigatinib. 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.
- Avoid the use of St. John's Wort while taking pemigatinib as this may lower the levels of the drug in your body, which can make it less effective.

When to Call the Doctor

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



- Blurred vision or other changes in eyesight such as severe dry eyes, eye floaters (spots) and/or flashes of light in your visual field.
- Tiredness that interferes with your daily activities
- Pain or dryness in your mouth or throat that makes it hard to eat or drink
- Nausea that stops you from eating or drinking and/or is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Throwing up more than 3 times a day
- Diarrhea, 4 times in one day or diarrhea with lack of strength or a feeling of being dizzy
- No bowel movement in 3 days or when you feel uncomfortable
- Pain in your abdomen that does not go away
- Pain in your back and/or joints that does not go away, or is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Lasting loss of appetite or rapid weight loss of five pounds in a week
- Dry skin that is bothersome
- Signs of inflammation/infection (redness, swelling, pain) of the tissue around your nails
- Signs of high phosphate in your blood such as muscle cramps, numbness or tingling around your mouth
- 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 1 week after treatment. Men with female partners of childbearing potential should use effective methods of birth control during your cancer treatment and for 1 week 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.

New April 2020

