How drug is given: by mouth

Purpose: to treat metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) or other cancers

How to take the drug

• Take this medication on an empty stomach (at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after food).

• If you miss a dose, take it as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular dosing schedule. Do not double dose.

• Take each dose at the same time every day.

• Your skin may be more sensitive in the sun. Use a sunscreen of SPF 30 or greater when you go outside. Wear protective clothing and limit your time in the sun. Do not go to tanning booths.

Storage and disposal

• Store this medicine at room temperature, away from heat and moisture. Keep this medicine in its original container, out of the reach of children and pets.

• If you have unused oral chemotherapy pills (tablets or capsules), please return to the pharmacy where the prescription was filled. Do not flush down the toilet, dump in the sink or throw away in the trash.

Things that may occur during treatment

1. Loose stools or diarrhea may occur within a few days after the drug is started. You may take loperamide (Imodium A-D®) to help control diarrhea. You may buy this at most drug stores. It is also important to drink more fluids (water, juice, sports drinks). If these do not help, tell your doctor or nurse.

2. Skin changes, such as redness or a rash (sometimes looks like acne). This will most likely appear on your face, chest, or back. It may be itchy, inflamed, and could become infected. If this occurs, please discuss what creams or lotions can be used with your doctor or nurse. There are drugs that can be given to help with this. Stay out of the sun and do not use over-the-counter acne products.
3. Some patients have experienced nosebleeds. If you have a nose bleed, sit with your head tipped slightly forward and apply pressure by lightly pinching the soft part of your nose between the thumb and forefinger for a full 10 minutes. Applying ice to the bridge of the nose can also help.

4. Nail changes can occur such as an infection where the nail and skin meet; this is called paronychia. Please tell your doctor or nurse if you notice these changes.

5. You may get mouth pain. You may have a burning feeling and redness inside the mouth or on the lips. Mouth rinses may be ordered by your doctor. Check with your doctor before having any dental work done.

6. Report any worsening dry cough or shortness of breath to your doctor or nurse.

7. Eyes may get puffy and/or watery and bright light may bother you. Please tell your doctor if you have blurred vision, eye pain or red eye.

8. Fertility and Related Precautions:
   • It is very important to use birth control if you are having sex, because this drug could be harmful to an unborn baby.
   • Women should not breast-feed while receiving this drug.
   • If you are concerned about any of this, please talk with your doctor or nurse.

The above information includes some, but not necessarily all, of the possible side effects of this medication. The side effects in this teaching sheet may not be the same ones you experience. Your side effects may be different, depending on how often you receive treatment (your schedule) and how much you receive each time (your dosage). Side effects may also vary if you take other medications. Please talk with your doctor or nurse if you have questions about possible side effects you may experience. This document should not take the place of conversations with members of your health care team.

If you experience any significant change in your health during or after treatment, contact a member of your health care team right away.

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THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS OR NOTES FOR THE PATIENT AND FAMILY: