Dasatinib (Sprycel®)  
(“da SA ti nib”)

How drug is given: by mouth

Purpose: stops growth of cancer cells in leukemia and other cancers

How to take the drug by mouth

• Take with or without food (taking with food may help prevent an upset stomach).

• Swallow each tablet whole; do not crush or chew them. If you are unable to swallow the tablet, the pharmacist will give you specific instructions.

• 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.

• Dasatinib can interfere with many drugs, which may change how this works in your body. Talk with your doctor before starting any new drugs, including over-the-counter drugs, natural products, herbal supplements, and vitamins.

• Do not drink grapefruit juice or eat grapefruit. Also, do not take St. John’s wort. These may increase the amount of medication in your body and worsen side effects.

• Avoid taking medicines that reduce the acid in your stomach, such as H2 blockers (e.g., Zantac® or Pepcid®) and proton pump inhibitors (e.g., Prilosec® or Prevacid®). You may take antacids 2 hours before or 22 hours after taking this medicine. If antacids are not working, talk to your doctor or nurse.

• Tell your doctor if you are lactose intolerant.

Storage

• Store this medicine at room temperature, away from heat and moisture.

• Keep this medicine in its original container, out of reach of children and pets.

• If you have unused oral chemotherapy pills (tablets or capsules), please return them 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. Skin changes, such as dryness or a rash on your body, may occur. Ask your doctor or nurse what lotions or creams you may take to help with this.

2. Loose stools or diarrhea may occur after the drug is given (within a few days after the drug is started). You may take loperamide (Imodium A-D®) to help control diarrhea. You can buy this at most drug stores. It is also important to drink more fluids (water, juice, sports drinks). If these do not help within 24 hours, call your doctor or nurse.

3. You may get a headache. Please talk to your doctor or nurse about what you can take for this.

4. Mild to moderate nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, and/or loss of appetite may occur. Drugs to help with this may be given to you.

5. Call your doctor right away if you have chest pain that worsens with coughing or deep breaths, shortness of breath, cough, or fever. This could be a symptom of fluid buildup around your lungs called a pleural effusion.

6. Your body may not be able to get rid of extra fluid. This is called edema. You may notice some swelling in your arms or legs.

7. Your blood cell counts may drop. This is known as bone marrow suppression. This includes a decrease in your:
   - Red blood cells, which carry oxygen in your body to help give you energy
   - White blood cells, which fight infection in your body
   - Platelets, which help clot the blood to stop bleeding

   If you have a fever of 100.5°F (38°C) or higher, chills, a cough, or any bleeding problems, call your doctor or nurse right away.

8. Some patients may feel very tired, also known as fatigue. You may need to rest or take naps more often. Mild to moderate exercise may also help you maintain your energy. (You may also be less interested in doing your usual activities.)

9. 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.

Managing your oral chemotherapy schedule at home can be challenging. To help you with this, consider using tools to help you keep track of your schedule and any side effects you may have. You can find these tools online at www.dana-farber.org/OralChemoDiary.

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