How drug is given: By mouth

Purpose: to treat aplastic anemia and increase low platelet counts in some conditions.

This medication is part of a Risk Evaluation Mitigation Strategy (REMS) program. FDA-approved medication guides are required for all education purposes. Please use the following link to access the required guide.

Please print out the document at this web address (hold CTRL and click):

How to take this drug

1. Take this medication on an empty stomach (at least 1 hour before food or 2 hours after food).
   - The following foods must be taken at least 4 hours before or 4 hours after eltrombopag:
     Antacids, multivitamins, foods that have calcium (especially dairy products), and foods that have aluminum, iron, magnesium, selenium, or zinc.

2. Swallow each tablet whole. Do not crush or chew. If you have trouble swallowing the tablet, the pharmacist will give you specific instructions.

3. Eltrombopag 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.

4. If you miss a dose, skip the missed dose and stay on your regular schedule. Do not take more than one dose in a 24-hour period.

5. Do not stop taking this drug without discussing with your doctor. This could cause your platelet count to drop and increase your risk for bleeding.
Storage and disposal

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

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 use.

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

3. If you have an ongoing fever of 100.5 F (38°C) or higher, make sure to drink plenty of fluids. If you become dizzy or lightheaded, call your doctor or nurse right away. Flu-like symptoms, such as fever, chills, headache, muscle aches, and/or joint aches, are common. If these occur, your doctor may suggest taking acetaminophen (Tylenol®) to help control the symptoms. Please let your doctor or nurse know if acetaminophen (Tylenol) does not help, as other medicines may be suggested.

4. Mild nausea may occur. Talk to your doctor or nurse about medicines to help.

5. 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 can buy this at most drug stores. Be sure to also drink more fluids (water, juice, sports drinks). If these do not help within 24 hours, call your doctor or nurse.

6. If you develop a new or worsening cough or shortness of breath, tell your doctor or nurse.

7. Your liver may be affected by this drug. Blood may be drawn to monitor your liver functions.

8. You are at increased risk of blood clots. If you have pain, swelling, and/or warmth in one leg, or if you develop shortness of breath, talk to your doctor or nurse right away.

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.

10. In rare cases, you may be at risk of getting cancer after taking eltrombopag.
The above information includes some, but not necessarily all, of the possible side effects of this medication. The side effects listed 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 are taking other medications. Please speak 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 about your treatment and side effects you may experience during and after treatment.

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

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