

## Lapatinib (Tykerb)

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### About This Medicine

LAPATINIB (la PA ti nib) treats breast cancer. It works by blocking a protein that causes cancer cells to grow and multiply. This helps to slow or stop the spread of cancer cells. It is given orally (by mouth).

This medicine may be used for other purposes; ask your care team if you have questions.

### Possible Side Effects

- Nausea and vomiting (throwing up)
- Diarrhea (loose bowel movements)
- Tiredness
- Rash
- Hand-foot syndrome. The palms of your hands or soles of your feet may tingle, become numb, painful, swollen, or red.

**Note:** Each of the side effects above was reported in greater than 20% of people treated with lapatinib. All possible side effects are not included. Your side effects may be different depending on your cancer diagnosis, condition, or if you are receiving other medicines in combination. Please discuss any concerns or questions with your care team.

### Warnings and Precautions

- Severe diarrhea which can be life-threatening
- Abnormal electrocardiogram (EKG/ECG) and changes in your heart's ability to pump blood properly
- Inflammation (swelling) and/or scarring of the lungs. You may have a cough and/or trouble breathing.
- Severe allergic skin reactions which can be life-threatening. You may develop blisters on your skin that are filled with fluid or a severe red rash all over your body that may be painful.
- Changes in your liver function, which can cause liver failure and 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 care team.

## Important Information

- It is important that you notify your care team at the first sign of diarrhea, so they can provide you with anti-diarrheal medicine and give you further instructions. Notify your care team if you are taking anti-diarrheal medicine and your symptoms have not improved or are worsening.

## How to Take Your Medicine

- Take this medicine by mouth without food, at least 1 hour before you eat or 1 hour after you eat. Lapatinib is usually given with another medicine. Follow your care team's instructions carefully for how to take lapatinib and how to take the other medicine.
- **Missed dose:** If you vomit or miss a dose, take your next dose at the regular time. Do not take 2 doses at the same time and do not double up on the next dose.
- **Overdosage:** If you think you have taken too much of this medicine contact a poison control center or emergency room at once.
- **Handling:** Wash your hands with soap and water, before and after handling your medicine. Your caretakers should not handle your medicine with bare hands and should wear latex gloves.
- This medicine may be present in the urine, stool and other body fluids such as blood, vomit, semen, and vaginal fluids. Take precautions to prevent others from coming in contact with your medicine or your body fluids. Follow safety precautions during your treatment and for as long as directed by your care team after your treatment. If you take a pill each day, follow these precautions every day.
- **Storage:** Store this medicine in the original container at room temperature. Keep out of the reach of children and pets.
- **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 medicine 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 care team 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.
- Drink enough fluids to keep your urine pale yellow.
- If you throw up or have diarrhea, 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 care team about medicine that can lessen or stop your diarrhea.
- 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. Ask your care team about other helpful tips and medicine that is available to help stop or lessen these symptoms.
- If you get a rash do not put anything on it unless your care team says you may. Keep the area around the rash clean and dry. Ask your care team for medicine if your rash bothers you.
- Avoid sun exposure and apply sunscreen routinely when outdoors.

- Use a gentle, unscented lotion to keep your hands and feet soft. A cream with 10% or 20% urea may help. Don't rub your hands or feet too much.
- Try not to put your hands or feet in hot water, like baths, showers, or washing dishes. Wear gloves when doing work with your hands. Avoid tight shoes or socks.

## Food and Medicine Interactions

- Avoid grapefruit or grapefruit juice while taking this medicine, as it may raise the levels of lapatinib in your body which could make side effects worse.
- Check with your care team 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 medicine interactions with lapatinib. Also, check with your care team before starting any new prescription or over-the-counter medicines, or dietary supplement to make sure that there are no interactions.
- Avoid the use of St. John's Wort while taking lapatinib as this may lower the levels of the medicine in your body, which can make it less effective.

## When to Call Your Care Team

Call your care team 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
- Feeling that your heart is beating in a fast or not normal way (palpitations)
- Pain in your chest
- Wheezing and/or trouble breathing
- Dry cough
- Flu-like symptoms: fever, headache, muscle and joint aches, and fatigue (low energy, feeling weak)
- 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
- Swelling of the hands, feet, or any other part of the body
- Weight gain of 5 pounds in one week (fluid retention)
- 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
- New rash and/or itching or a rash that is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Painful, red, or swollen areas on your hands or feet
- Numbness and/or tingling of your hands and/or feet

## Reproduction Warnings



- **Pregnancy warning:** This medicine can cause serious birth defects. If you can become pregnant, use birth control while taking this medicine and for 1 week after the last dose. If you can get your partner pregnant, use birth control while taking this medicine and for 1 week after the last dose. Tell your care team right away if you think you might be pregnant or think your partner might be pregnant.
- **Breastfeeding warning:** Do not breastfeed while taking this medicine and for 1 week after the last dose.
- **Fertility warning:** This medicine may affect your ability to have children in the future. If you plan to have children, talk with your care team.

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