

Pacritinib (Vonjo)

About This Medicine

PACRITINIB (pak ri ti nib) treats bone marrow 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

- Decrease in red blood cells and platelets. This may make you feel more tired and raise your risk of bleeding.
- Nausea
- Diarrhea (loose bowel movements)
- Swelling in your legs, ankles, and/or feet

Note: Each of the side effects above was reported in 20% or greater of people treated with pacritinib. 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

- Abnormal bleeding, which can be life-threatening – symptoms may be coughing up blood, throwing up blood (may look like coffee grounds), red or black tarry bowel movements, abnormally heavy menstrual flow, nosebleeds, or any other unusual bleeding.
- Severe diarrhea
- Severe decrease in platelets
- Abnormal electrocardiogram (EKG/ECG)
- The use of this type of medicine, a JAK inhibitor, for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, has been shown to raise the risk of getting a second cancer such as lymphoma and other cancers. This risk is increased in people who currently smoke or have smoked in the past.
- Life-threatening blood clots and events such as stroke and heart attack have happened in people taking this type of medicine, a JAK inhibitor, for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. A blood clot in your leg may cause your leg to swell, appear red and warm, and/or cause pain. A blood clot in your lungs may cause trouble breathing, pain when breathing, and/or chest pain. These risks are

increased in people who have risk factors for heart problems and/or who currently smoke or have smoked in the past.

- Risk of severe infections has happened in people taking this type of medicine, a JAK inhibitor.

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 stay hydrated while taking pacritinib and 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.
- Pacritinib may increase your risk of abnormal bleeding. It should not be given within 7 days of planned surgery and/or invasive procedures. If you must have emergency surgery or have an accident that results in a wound, tell the care team that you are on pacritinib.

How to Take Your Medicine

- Swallow the medicine whole with or without food, at approximately the same time each day. Do not chew, break, or open the capsules.
- **Missed dose:** If you 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 lid tightly closed and protect from light. 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.
- To decrease the risk of infection, wash your hands regularly.
- Avoid close contact with people who have a cold, the flu, or other infections.



- Take your temperature as your care team tells you, and whenever you feel like you may have a fever.
- To decrease the risk of bleeding, use a soft toothbrush. Check with your care team before using dental floss.
- Be very careful when using knives or tools.
- Use an electric shaver instead of a razor.
- 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).
- 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 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 diarrhea.

Food and Medicine Interactions

- This medicine may interact with grapefruit and grapefruit juice. Talk to your care team as this could make side effects worse.
- Check with your care team about all other prescription medicines, 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 pacritinib. Also, check with your care team before starting any new prescription, over-the-counter medicines, or dietary supplements to make sure that there are no interactions.
- This medicine may interact with St. John's Wort and 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 fast or in a not normal way (palpitations)
- Your leg is swollen, red, warm and/or painful
- Wheezing and/or trouble breathing
- Chest pain or symptoms of a heart attack. Most heart attacks involve pain in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes. The pain may go away and come back. It can feel like pressure, squeezing, fullness, or pain. Sometimes pain is felt in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw, or stomach. **If any of these symptoms last 2 minutes, call 911.**



- Symptoms of a stroke such as sudden numbness or weakness of your face, arm, or leg, mostly on one side of your body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, feeling dizzy, loss of balance or coordination; or sudden, bad headache with no known cause. **If you have any of these symptoms for 2 minutes, call 911.**
- 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
- Signs of infection: fever or chills, cough, trouble breathing, severe pain in your abdomen, trouble urinating, burning or pain when you pass urine, redness and/or swelling of the skin
- Signs of abnormal bleeding such as coughing up blood, throwing up blood (may look like coffee grounds), easy bleeding or bruising, red or black tarry bowel movements, abnormally heavy menstrual flow, nosebleeds, or any other unusual bleeding
- Weight gain of 5 pounds in one week (fluid retention)
- Swelling in your legs, ankles, and/or feet

Reproduction Warnings

- **Pregnancy warning:** Talk with your care team if you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant while taking this medicine. Tell your care team right away if you think you might be pregnant.
- Birth control pills (oral contraceptives) and some other hormonal forms of birth control may not be effective while taking this medicine and for 30 days after the last dose. Discuss with your care team what method of birth control may be right for you during your treatment.
- **Breastfeeding warning:** Do not breastfeed while taking this medicine and for 2 weeks 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.

Revised December 2024

