

Romidepsin (Istodax)

About This Medicine

ROMIDEPSIN (ROE mi DEP sin) treats lymphoma. It works by slowing down the growth of cancer cells. It is given in the vein (IV).

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

Possible Side Effects

- Bone marrow suppression. This is a decrease in the number of white blood cells, red blood cells, and platelets. This may raise your risk of infection, make you tired and weak, and raise your risk of bleeding.
- Decrease in a blood protein called albumin
- Abnormal electrocardiogram (EKG/ECG)
- Nausea and vomiting (throwing up)
- Constipation (not able to move bowels)
- Changes in the way food and drinks taste
- Infection
- Tiredness
- Decreased level of calcium in the blood
- Blood sugar levels may change
- Decreased appetite (decreased hunger)
- Itching

Note: Each of the side effects above was reported in 30% or greater of people treated with romidepsin. 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 bone marrow suppression
- Risk of severe and life-threatening infections

- Reactivation of hepatitis B or Epstein Barr viruses can occur if you have ever been exposed to these viruses, which can cause liver failure and be life-threatening.
- Tumor lysis syndrome: This medicine may act on the cancer cells very quickly. This may affect how your kidneys work.
- Abnormal electrocardiogram (EKG/ECG)

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

- 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.

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 help 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, 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.
- Taking good care of your mouth may help food taste better and improve your appetite.
- If you are not able to move your bowels, check with your care team before you use enemas, laxatives, or suppositories.
- Ask your care team about medicines that are available to help stop or lessen constipation.
- To help with decreased appetite, eat small, frequent meals. Eat foods high in calories and protein, such as meat, poultry, fish, dry beans, tofu, eggs, nuts, milk, yogurt, cheese, ice cream, pudding, and nutritional supplements.
- Consider using sauces and spices to increase taste. Daily exercise, with your care team's approval, may increase your appetite.



- If you have diabetes, keep good control of your blood sugar level. Tell your care team if your glucose levels are higher or lower than normal.
- To help with itching, moisturize your skin several times a day.
- Avoid sun exposure and apply sunscreen routinely when outdoors.

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 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 romidepsin. Also, check with your care team before starting any new prescription or 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.
- There are known interactions of romidepsin with blood thinning medicine such as warfarin. Ask your care team what precautions you should take.
- This medicine may interact with hormonal birth control (i.e., birth control pills, skin patches, vaginal rings, injections) and affect how they work. Discuss with your care team what method of birth control may be right for you during your treatment.

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 or weakness that interferes with your daily activities
- Feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- Easy bleeding or bruising
- Feeling that your heart is beating in a fast or not normal way (palpitations)
- Nausea that stops you from eating or drinking and/or is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Throwing up more than 3 times a day
- No bowel movement in 3 days or when you feel uncomfortable
- Lasting loss of appetite or rapid weight loss of five pounds in a week
- Abnormal blood sugar
- Signs of high blood sugar: unusual thirst, passing urine often, headache, sweating, shakiness, irritability
- 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
- Signs of tumor lysis: confusion or agitation, decreased urine, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, muscle cramping, numbness and/or tingling, seizures

- Itching that is bothersome
- 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
- Swelling of the hands, feet, or any other part of the body

Reproduction Warnings

- **Pregnancy warning:** This medicine can cause serious birth defects. If you can become pregnant, use a non-hormonal method of birth control while taking this medicine and for 1 month after the last dose. If you can get your partner pregnant, use birth control while taking this medicine and for 1 month after the last dose. Tell your care team right away if you think you might be pregnant or think your partner might be pregnant.
- Birth control pills (oral contraceptives) and other hormonal methods of birth control may not be effective with this medicine.
- **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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