UPMC | HILLMAN CANCER CENTER

Selpercatinib (Retevmo)

About This Medicine

SELPERCATINIB (SEL per KA ti nib) treats some types of 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

- 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.
- Nausea/vomiting
- Dry mouth
- Constipation (not able to move bowels)
- Diarrhea (loose bowel movements)
- Pain in your abdomen
- Tiredness
- Muscle and bone pain
- Swelling of the hands, feet, or any other part of the body
- Cough
- Trouble breathing
- Headache
- Abnormal bleeding – 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.
- Electrolyte changes
- Increase in your cholesterol level
- Changes in your kidney function
- Changes in your liver function
- Blood sugar levels may change
- Decrease in a blood protein called albumin
- Rash
- High blood pressure

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Note: *Each of the side effects above was reported in 25% or greater of people treated with selpercatinib. 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 high blood pressure
- Severe changes in your liver function
- Abnormal electrocardiogram (EKG/ECG)
- Abnormal bleeding, which may 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.
- Allergic reactions. Signs of allergic reaction to this medicine may be a severe red rash, fever, muscle pain/aching or pain in the joints. 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. **If this happens, do not take another dose of this medicine. Let your care team know right away.**
- Tumor lysis syndrome: This medicine may act on the cancer cells very quickly. This may affect how your kidneys work.
- Slow wound healing
- Inflammation (swelling) and/or scarring of the lungs which can be life-threatening. You may have a cough and/or trouble breathing.
- Changes in your thyroid function

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

- Selpercatinib may cause slow wound healing. It should not be given within at least 7 days of planned surgery and for at least 2 weeks after major surgical procedures and until adequate wound healing following major surgery. If you must have emergency surgery or have an accident that results in a wound, tell your care team that you are on selpercatinib.

How to Take Your Medicine

- Swallow the medicine whole with or without food, approximately 12 hours apart. Do not crush or chew capsules or the tablets.
- If you have difficulty swallowing the medicine, you can disperse the 40 mg tablets. Add the correct number of 40 mg tablets required for your prescribed dose to approximately 1 tablespoon (15 mL) of room temperature or chilled water or 100% carrot puree in a glass or medicine cup. Stir until tablets have dissolved (approximately 7 to 10 minutes). The mixture may look cloudy if water is used. Swallow immediately. Add 1 tablespoon (15 mL) of water to the glass or medicine cup used to make the mixture, stir well and take immediately. Throw away the mixture if not taken within 2 hours of preparing.

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- If you take medicines that treat heartburn, you should take selpercatinib with food. Ask your care team how to take these medicines with your selpercatinib because there are known interactions.
- **Missed dose**: If you miss a dose, and it is less than 6 hours until your next dose, then skip the missed dose and go back to your normal schedule. If you miss a dose, and it is more than 6 hours until your next dose, take the missed dose. Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses. Do not replace a vomited 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.
- Get regular exercise, with your care team's approval. If you feel too tired to exercise vigorously, try taking a short walk.
- 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.
- 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 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.
- If you are not able to move your bowels, check with your care team before you use enemas, laxatives, or suppositories.

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- Sugar-free hard candies and chewing gum can keep your mouth moist.
- Ask your care team about medicines that are available to help stop or lessen constipation or diarrhea.
- Keeping your pain under control is important to your well-being. Please tell your care team if you are experiencing pain.
- 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.
- 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.

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 selpercatinib. 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.
- Avoid the use of St. John’s Wort while taking selpercatinib as this may lower the levels of the medicine in your body, which can make it less effective.
- Medicines that treat heartburn and stomach upset may lower the effect of your cancer treatment if taken with selpercatinib. Ask your care team what medicine you can take with selpercatinib to help with heartburn or stomach upset.

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 extreme weakness that interferes with your daily activities
- A headache that does not go away
- Blurry vision or other changes in eyesight
- Feeling that your heart is beating fast or in a not normal way (palpitations)
- Feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- Easy bleeding or bruising
- Pain in your chest
- Cough that is bothersome
- Dry cough
- Wheezing and/or trouble breathing
- Trouble eating/swallowing
- Sore mouth/throat

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- 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
- No bowel movement in 3 days or when you feel uncomfortable
- Pain in your abdomen that does not go away
- Pain that does not go away, or is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Weight gain of 5 pounds in one week (fluid retention)
- Swelling of the hands, feet, or any other part of the body
- 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
- Signs of tumor lysis: confusion or agitation, decreased urine, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, muscle cramping, numbness and/or tingling, seizures.
- 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 allergic reaction: rash, muscle pain/aching, pain in the joints, fever. **If this happens, let your care team know right away**.
- Flu-like symptoms: fever, headache, muscle and joint aches, and tiredness
- Signs of low thyroid function: tiredness, unexplained weight gain, hair loss, dry skin, constipation, increased sensitivity to cold
- Decreased or very dark urine
- New rash and/or itching
- Rash that is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Signs of high blood sugar: unusual thirst, passing urine often, headache, sweating, shakiness, irritability
- Signs of low blood sugar: feeling sleepy, increased hunger, sweating, shakiness, irritability
- Signs of electrolyte changes: numbness or tingling around your mouth or in your hands and/or feet, muscle stiffness/weakness, twitching, spasms, or cramps, confusion, agitation, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, tremors, feeling that your heart is beating fast, chest pain, passing out, seizure and/or coma

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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