

## Trametinib (Mekinist)

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### About This Drug

Trametinib is used to treat cancer. It is given orally (by mouth).

### Possible Side Effects

- Diarrhea (loose bowel movements)
- Swelling of your legs, feet, ankles, arms and/or face
- Rash

**Note:** Each of the side effects above was reported in 20% or greater of patients treated with trametinib. 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 drugs in combination. Please discuss any concerns or questions with your medical team.

### Warnings and Precautions

- This drug may raise your risk of getting a second cancer. It may raise the risk of skin lesions that may or may not be cancer.
- Serious 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. When trametinib is given in combination with dabrafenib, these events may be more severe or life-threatening.
- Serious changes to your eyes which may cause blurred vision or other changes in your eyesight and may rarely cause blindness.
- Colitis – inflammation (swelling) in the colon, and/or perforation (an abnormal hole) of esophagus, stomach, or intestine may occur, which may be life-threatening. Symptoms are diarrhea, stomach cramping, and sometimes blood in the bowel movements.
- Inflammation and/or scarring of the lungs. You may have a cough and/or trouble breathing.
- Severe allergic skin reaction, which may 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 heart function such as congestive heart failure - your heart is not pumping blood as well as it should be, and fluid can build up in your body.
- Serious fever reactions. This may be accompanied by dehydration (lack of water in the body from losing too much fluid), low blood pressure and changes in your kidney function which can cause kidney failure.

- Blood clots. 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.
- Blood sugar levels may change
- A serious immune reaction can happen when this medicine is given in combination with dabrafenib which can cause damage to any organs in your body. You may have a fever, swollen glands, bruising or skin rash.

**Note:** Some of the side effects above are very rare. If you have concerns and/or questions, please discuss them with your medical team.

## How to Take Your Medication

- Take this drug by mouth without food, at least 1 hour before you eat or 2 hours after you eat, at the same time each day, approximately 24 hours apart. Do not crush or break tablets.
- **Oral solution:** Refer to the medication guide that comes with your medicine for instructions on how to prepare and dose the medicine correctly.
- **Missed dos:** If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you think about it. If your next dose is due in less than 12 hours, then skip the missed dose and take your next dose at the regular time. Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses, instead, continue with your regular dosing schedule and contact your doctor
- If you vomit a dose, take your next dose at the regular time and contact your doctor.
- **Handling:** Wash your hands after handling your medicine, your caretakers should not handle your medicine with bare hands and should wear latex gloves.
- This drug may be present in the saliva, tears, sweat, urine, stool, vomit, semen, and vaginal secretions. Talk to your doctor and/or your nurse about the necessary precautions to take during this time.
- **Storage: Tablets:** Store this medicine in the refrigerator between 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C). Store in original container, and do not remove desiccant. Do not place tablets in a pill box. Protect from moisture and light.
- **Storage: Oral Solution:** Store in the original container at room temperature, below 77°F (25°C). Do not freeze. Throw away any unused medicine 35 days after reconstitution.
- **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 medication 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 nurse or your doctor how to dispose of unused medicine.

## Treating Side Effects

- Drink plenty of fluids (a minimum of eight glasses per day is recommended).
- 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 nurse or doctor about medicine that can lessen or stop your diarrhea.



- If you have diabetes, keep good control of your blood sugar level. Tell your nurse or your doctor if your glucose levels are higher or lower than normal.
- If you get a rash do not put anything on it unless your doctor or nurse says you may. Keep the area around the rash clean and dry. Ask your doctor for medicine if your rash bothers you.

## Food and Drug Interactions

- There are no known interactions of trametinib with food. This medication should be taken on an empty stomach.
- This drug may interact with other medicines. Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all the prescription and over-the-counter medicines and dietary supplements (vitamins, minerals, herbs, and others) that you are taking at this time. Also, check with your doctor or pharmacist before starting any new prescription or over-the-counter medicines, or dietary supplements to make sure that there are no interactions.

## When to Call the Doctor

Call your doctor or nurse if you have any of these symptoms and/or any new or unusual symptoms:

- Fever of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher
- Chills
- Blurred vision or other changes in eyesight
- Flashes of light and/or dark areas in your field of vision, colored dots, or halos
- Eye pain, swelling, or redness
- Headache that does not go away
- Feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- Feeling that your heart is beating in a fast or not normal way (palpitations)
- Swollen glands
- Bruising
- Pain in your chest
- Dry cough
- Wheezing and/or trouble breathing
- Nausea that stops you from eating or drinking and/or is not relieved by prescribed medicine
- Throwing up more than 3 times a day
- Difficulty swallowing
- Severe abdominal pain that does not go away
- Diarrhea, 4 times in one day or diarrhea with lack of strength or a feeling of being dizzy
- 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
- Swelling of your legs, feet, ankles, arms, and/or face
- Your leg is swollen, red, warm, and/or painful
- Weight gain of 5 pounds in one week (fluid retention)



- Decreased or very dark urine
- Flu-like symptoms: fever, headache, muscle and joint aches, and tiredness
- A new rash and/or itching or a rash that is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- New skin lesions
- Abnormal blood sugar
- Unusual thirst, passing urine often, headache, sweating, shakiness, irritability
- If you think you may be pregnant or may have impregnated your partner

## Reproduction Warnings

- **Pregnancy warning:** This drug can have harmful effects on the unborn baby. Women of childbearing potential should use effective methods of birth control during your cancer treatment and for 4 months after stopping treatment. Men (including those who have had a vasectomy) with female partners of childbearing potential should use condoms during your cancer treatment and for at least 4 months after stopping treatment. Talk with your doctor about effective birth control methods if you are taking trametinib with dabrafenib. Let your doctor know right away if you think you may be pregnant or may have impregnated your partner.
- **Breastfeeding warning:** It is not known if this drug passes into breast milk. For this reason, women should not breastfeed during treatment and for 4 months after stopping treatment because this drug may enter the breast milk and cause harm to a breastfeeding baby.
- **Fertility warning:** In women, this drug may affect your ability to have children in the future. Talk with your doctor or nurse if you plan to have children. Ask for information on egg banking.

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