



Provincial Health Services Authority

For the Patient: Tucatinib

Other names: TUKYSA®

- **Tucatinib** (too ka' ti nib) is a drug that is used to treat some types of cancer. It is a tablet that you take by mouth.
- Tell your doctor if you have ever had an unusual or **allergic reaction** to tucatinib before taking tucatinib.
- **Blood tests** may be taken regularly during treatment. The dose and timing of your treatment may be changed based on the test results and/or other side effects.
- It is important to **take** tucatinib exactly as directed by your doctor. Make sure you understand the directions. You may be given tablets of more than one strength to make the right dose.
- You may **take** tucatinib with food or on an empty stomach. Tucatinib is usually taken twice daily. Take your doses about 12 hours apart, and around the same time each day.
- If you **miss a dose** of tucatinib, skip the missed dose and go back to your usual dosing times. Do not double your dose or take extra tablets to make up for the missed dose.
- If you **vomit** the dose of tucatinib, do not take a second dose. Call your healthcare team during office hours for advice.
- Other drugs such as gemfibrozil (LOPID®) and rifampin (RIFADIN®) may **interact** with tucatinib. Tell your doctor if you are taking these or any other drugs as you may need extra blood tests or your dose may need to be changed. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before you start or stop taking any other drugs.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of tucatinib.
- Tucatinib may affect **fertility** in men and women. If you plan to have children, discuss this with your doctor before being treated with tucatinib.
- Tucatinib may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with tucatinib and for at least one week after the last dose. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breastfeed during treatment and for one week after the last dose.

- **Do not donate semen** while you are taking tucatinib and for at least one month after the last dose.
- **Store** tucatinib tablets out of the reach of children, at room temperature, and away from heat, light, and moisture. Keep tablets in the original bottle and the lid tightly closed. Do not remove the desiccant. Once the bottle has been opened, any remaining tucatinib tablets must be discarded after 3 months.
- **Tell** your doctor, dentist, and other health professionals that you are being treated with tucatinib before you receive any treatment from them.

Side effects are listed in the following table in the order in which they may occur. Tips to help manage the side effects are included.

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p>Nausea and vomiting may occur. If you are vomiting and it is not controlled, you can quickly become dehydrated.</p>	<p>You may be given a prescription for antinausea drug(s) to take at home. It is easier to prevent nausea than treat it once it has occurred, so follow directions closely.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink plenty of fluids. • Eat and drink often in small amounts. • Try the ideas in <i>Practical Tips to Manage Nausea</i>.* <p>Tell your healthcare team if nausea or vomiting continues or is not controlled with your antinausea drug(s).</p>
<p>Diarrhea commonly occurs. If you have diarrhea and it is not controlled, you can quickly become dehydrated.</p>	<p>If diarrhea is a problem:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink plenty of fluids. • Eat and drink often in small amounts. • Avoid high fibre foods as outlined in <i>Food Choices to Help Manage Diarrhea</i>.* <p>Tell your healthcare team if you have diarrhea for more than 24 hours.</p>
<p>Skin rashes may sometimes occur.</p>	<p>If itching is very irritating, call your healthcare team. Otherwise, be sure to mention it at your next visit.</p>

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p>Hand-foot skin reaction commonly occurs during tucatinib treatment. The palms of your hands and soles of your feet may tingle, become red, numb, painful, or swollen. Skin may also become dry or itchy. You may not be able to do your normal daily activities if blisters, severe pain, or ulcers occur.</p> <p>Hand-foot skin reaction is more common when tucatinib is taken with other cancer drugs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid tight-fitting shoes or rubbing pressure to hands and feet, such as that caused by heavy activity. • Avoid tight-fitting jewellery. • Clean hands and feet with lukewarm water and gently pat to dry; avoid hot water. • Apply a sunscreen with an SPF (sun protection factor) of at least 30. • Apply lanolin-containing creams (e.g., BAG BALM®, UDDERLY SMOOTH®) to hands and feet, liberally and often. <p>Tell your healthcare team at your next visit if you have any signs of hand-foot skin reaction as your dose may need to be changed.</p>
<p>Minor bleeding, such as nosebleeds, may sometimes occur.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit up straight and tip your head slightly forward. Tilting your head back may cause blood to run down your throat. • Pinch your nostrils shut between your thumb and forefinger or apply firm pressure against the bleeding nostril for 10 full minutes. • After 10 minutes, check to see if your nose is still bleeding. If it is, hold it for 10 more minutes. • Stay quiet for a few hours and do not blow your nose for at least 12 hours after the bleeding has stopped. • Get emergency help if a nosebleed lasts longer than 20 minutes.
<p>Sore mouth may sometimes occur. Mouth sores can occur on the tongue, the sides of the mouth, or in the throat. Mouth sores or bleeding gums can lead to an infection.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brush your teeth gently after eating and at bedtime with a very soft toothbrush. If your gums bleed, use gauze instead of a brush. Use baking soda instead of toothpaste. • Make a mouthwash with ¼ teaspoon baking soda AND ¼ teaspoon salt in 1 cup warm water and rinse several times a day. • Try the ideas in <i>Food Ideas to Try with a Sore Mouth</i>.*

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p>Your white blood cells may decrease after your treatment. They usually return to normal after your last treatment. White blood cells protect your body by fighting bacteria (germs) that cause infection. When they are low, you are at greater risk of having an infection.</p>	<p>To help prevent infection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash your hands often and always after using the bathroom. • Avoid crowds and people who are sick. <p>Stop taking tucatinib and call your healthcare team immediately at the first sign of an infection such as fever (over 38°C or 100°F by an oral thermometer), chills, cough, or burning when you pass urine.</p>
<p>Your platelets may decrease after your treatment. They usually return to normal after your last treatment. Platelets help to make your blood clot when you hurt yourself. You may bruise or bleed more easily than usual.</p>	<p>To help prevent bleeding problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try not to bruise, cut, or burn yourself. • Clean your nose by blowing gently. Do not pick your nose. • Avoid constipation. • Brush your teeth gently with a soft toothbrush as your gums may bleed more easily. Maintain good oral hygiene. <p>Some medications such as ASA (e.g., ASPIRIN®) or ibuprofen (e.g., ADVIL®) may increase your risk of bleeding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not stop taking any medication that has been prescribed by your doctor (e.g., ASA for your heart). • For minor pain, try acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) first, to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day, but occasional use of ibuprofen may be acceptable.
<p>Muscle weakness or joint pain may sometimes occur.</p>	<p>You may take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day or ibuprofen (e.g., ADVIL®) for mild to moderate pain. Tell your healthcare team if the pain interferes with your activity.</p>
<p>Loss of appetite and weight loss may sometimes occur.</p>	<p>Try the ideas in <i>Food Ideas to Help with Decreased Appetite</i>.*</p>
<p>Tiredness and lack of energy commonly occur.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not drive a car or operate machinery if you are feeling tired. • Try the ideas in <i>Fatigue/Tiredness – Patient Handout</i>.*

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p>Hair loss is rare with tucatinib. If you lose hair, it will grow back once you stop treatment with tucatinib. Colour and texture may change.</p>	<p>If hair loss is a problem, refer to <i>Resources for Hair Loss and Appearance Changes – Patient Handout</i>.*</p>
<p>Numbness or tingling of the fingers or toes may sometimes occur. This will slowly return to normal once your treatments are over. This may take several months.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be careful when handling items that are sharp, hot, or cold. • Be careful when walking on uneven surfaces or doing activities that need you to balance or be steady. • Tell your healthcare team at your next visit if you have trouble with buttons, writing, picking up small objects, walking, or have fallen.

*Please ask your nurse or pharmacist for a copy.

STOP TAKING TUCATINIB AND CHECK WITH YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM OR GET EMERGENCY HELP IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:

- Signs of an **infection** such as fever (over 38°C or 100°F by an oral thermometer), shaking chills; severe sore throat, productive cough (coughing up thick or green sputum); cloudy or foul smelling urine; painful, tender, or swollen red skin wounds or sores.
- Signs of **bleeding problems** such as black or tarry stools, blood in urine, pinpoint red spots on skin, or extensive bruising.
- **Seizures** or **fainting**.
- Signs of **heart problems** such as fast or uneven heartbeat, shortness of breath or difficulty in breathing, swelling of feet or lower legs.

CHECK WITH YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (DURING OFFICE HOURS) IF YOU HAVE:

- Uncontrolled **diarrhea**.
- Signs of **liver problems** such as yellow eyes or skin, white or clay-coloured stools.
- Signs of **dehydration** such as dark yellow urine or decreased amount of urine; feeling thirsty or having dry mouth even after drinking; headache.

CHECK WITH YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONTINUE OR BOTHER YOU:

- Night sweats.
- Painful urination or accidental peeing.
- For patients with diabetes: uncontrolled blood sugars.

