



Provincial Health Services Authority

For the Patient: Asciminib
Other names: SCEMBLIX®

- **Asciminib** (as kim' i nib) is a drug that is used to treat some types of cancer. It is a tablet that you take by mouth. The tablet contains lactose.
- Tell your doctor if you have ever had an unusual or **allergic reaction** to asciminib before taking asciminib.
- **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** asciminib exactly as directed by your doctor. Make sure you understand the directions.
- **Take** asciminib on an empty stomach (one hour before or two hours after eating).
 - If you take asciminib **once daily**: take your dose about the same time each day.
 - If you take asciminib **two times daily**: take your doses about 12 hours apart.
- If you **miss a dose** of asciminib:
 - If you take asciminib **once daily**: take it as soon as you can if it is within 12 hours of the missed dose. If it is more than 12 hours since your missed dose, skip the missed dose and take the next dose as scheduled.
 - If you take asciminib **two times daily**: take it as soon as you can if it is within 6 hours of the missed dose. If it is more than 6 hours since your missed dose, skip the missed dose and take the next dose as scheduled.
- If you **vomit** the dose of asciminib within 1 hour of taking it, do not take a second dose. Call your healthcare team during office hours for advice. You will be told whether you need to take another dose.
- Other drugs such as warfarin (COUMADIN®) and repaglinide (GLUCONORM®) may **interact** with asciminib. 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 asciminib.
- Asciminib may affect **fertility** in men and women. If you plan to have children, discuss this with your doctor before being treated with asciminib.

- Asciminib may damage sperm and harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with asciminib and for at least 1 week after your treatment has ended. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Breastfeeding is not recommended during treatment and for at least 1 week after treatment.
- **Store** asciminib tablets out of the reach of children, at room temperature, away from heat, light, and moisture. Keep in the original package.
- **Tell** your doctor, dentist, and other health professionals that you are being treated with asciminib before you receive any treatment from them.

Changes in blood counts

Asciminib may cause temporary changes in your blood counts. Your doctor will be following these changes carefully by ordering regular blood tests. Adjustment of your treatment may be needed in certain circumstances.

| BLOOD COUNTS | MANAGEMENT |
|--|--|
| <p>Normal 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. • 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>Normal platelets help your blood to clot normally after an injury (e.g., cut). When the platelet count is low, you may be more likely to bruise or bleed.</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. <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®). |

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>Allergic reactions may sometimes occur. Signs of an allergic reaction may include rash, swelling, or breathing problems.</p> | <p>Stop taking asciminib and contact your healthcare team. Do not manage allergic reactions on your own.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you experience breathing problems, get emergency help immediately. |
| <p>Nausea and vomiting may occur after your treatment. If you are vomiting and it is not controlled, you can quickly become dehydrated. Most people have little or no nausea.</p> | <p>You may be given a prescription for antinausea drug(s) to take before your treatment. 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>Skin rash or itching 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> |
| <p>Diarrhea may sometimes occur. 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>.* • Note: If lactose in milk usually gives you diarrhea, the lactose in the tablet may be causing your diarrhea. Take LACTAID® tablets just before your asciminib dose. <p>Tell your healthcare team if you have diarrhea for more than 24 hours.</p> |

| SIDE EFFECTS | MANAGEMENT |
|---|---|
| High blood pressure may sometimes occur. This can happen very quickly after starting treatment. | Your blood pressure will be checked by your healthcare team during your visit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may be asked to check your blood pressure frequently between visits. Your doctor may give you a prescription for blood pressure medication if your blood pressure is high. Tell your doctor if you are already on blood pressure medication as they may need to adjust your dose. |
| Headache may sometimes occur. | Take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours if needed, to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day. |
| Muscle or joint pain may sometimes occur. | You may take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day for mild to moderate pain. Tell your healthcare team if the pain interferes with your activity. |
| Tiredness and lack of energy may sometimes occur. | <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>.* |
| Increase in cholesterol or triglycerides (one of the types of fat in the blood) may sometimes occur. | Tell your doctor if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A history of heart disease. High blood pressure. High cholesterol or triglycerides. You may need to have your cholesterol or triglyceride levels checked a few months after starting asciminib. |

*Please ask your nurse or pharmacist for a copy.

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

- Signs of a **stroke** such as sudden onset of severe headache, eyesight changes, slurred speech, loss of coordination, weakness or numbness in arm or leg.
- 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.

