



Provincial Health Services Authority

For the Patient: Brigatinib
Other names: ALUNBRIG®

- **Brigatinib** (bri ga' ti 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 brigatinib before taking brigatinib.
- **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** brigatinib exactly as directed by your doctor. Make sure you understand the directions.
- You may **take** brigatinib with food or on an empty stomach.
- If you **miss a dose** of brigatinib, 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 go back to your usual dosing times. Do not take any doses to make up for the missed dose.
- If you **vomit** the dose of brigatinib within 30 minutes of taking it, skip the missed dose and go back to your usual dosing times. Do not take any doses to make up for the missed dose. Call your healthcare team during office hours for advice as a medication to prevent nausea may be required for future doses.
- Other drugs such as itraconazole (SPORANOX®) and rifampin (RIFADIN®) may **interact** with brigatinib. 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.
- **Avoid grapefruit and grapefruit juice** for the duration of your treatment, as these may interact with brigatinib.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of brigatinib.
- Brigatinib may affect **fertility** in men. If you plan to have children, discuss this with your doctor before being treated with brigatinib.

- Brigatinib may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with brigatinib. Do NOT use hormonal birth control as it may not work as well while you are taking brigatinib. Ask your doctor how long you should continue using birth control after your treatment has ended. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breastfeed during treatment and for one week after your last dose.
- **Store** brigatinib tablets out of the reach of children, at room temperature, away from heat, light, and moisture.
- **Tell** doctors, dentists, and other health professionals that you are being treated with brigatinib 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 after your treatment. 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>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>
<p>Fever may sometimes occur.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours, to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day. • If you have fever (over 38°C or 100°F by an oral thermometer) plus another sign of infection, call your healthcare team immediately. Other signs of infection include chills, cough, or burning when you pass urine.

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p>Constipation may sometimes occur.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise if you can. • Drink plenty of fluids. • Try ideas in <i>Food Choices to Manage Constipation</i>.*
<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 brigatinib dose. <p>Tell your healthcare team if you have diarrhea for more than 24 hours.</p>
<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. <p>Try the ideas in <i>Food Ideas to Try with a Sore Mouth</i>.*</p>
<p>Your white blood cells may decrease after your 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. • Stop taking brigatinib 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.

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p>Your platelets may decrease after your 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>Slow or abnormal heart rhythm may rarely occur.</p>	<p>Minimize your risk of slow or abnormal heart rhythm by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always checking with your pharmacist and doctor about drug interactions when starting a new medication, herbal product, or supplement. • Avoiding grapefruit and grapefruit juice. <p>Get emergency help immediately if your heart is beating irregularly OR if you feel faint, lightheaded, or dizzy.</p>
<p>High blood pressure may sometimes occur. This can happen very quickly after starting treatment.</p>	<p>Your blood pressure may be checked by your healthcare team during your visit.</p> <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. Your doctor may have to adjust your dose.
<p>Headache may sometimes occur.</p>	<p>Take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours if needed, to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day.</p>

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
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 or ibuprofen (e.g., ADVIL®) for mild to moderate pain. Tell your healthcare team if the pain interferes with your activity.
Sugar control may sometimes be affected in patients with diabetes.	Check your blood sugar regularly if you have diabetes.
Swelling of hands, feet, or lower legs may sometimes occur if your body retains extra fluid.	If swelling is a problem: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevate your feet when sitting. • Avoid tight clothing.
Loss of appetite may sometimes occur.	Try the ideas in <i>Food Ideas to Help with Decreased Appetite</i> .*
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>.*
Eye problems such as blurry or double vision, increased sensitivity to light, eye pain, or seeing flashes of light sometimes occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use caution when driving or operating machinery. • Tell your healthcare team at your next visit, especially if the changes do not go away or get worse.
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.	<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.
Your skin may sunburn more easily than usual during treatment and for five days after your last dose.	Refer to <i>Your Medication Sun Sensitivity and Sunscreens</i> * or the <i>BC Health Guide</i> for more information. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After sun exposure, if you have a severe sunburn or skin reaction such as itching, rash, or swelling, contact your healthcare team.
Hair loss does not occur with brigatinib.	

***Please ask your nurse or pharmacist for a copy.**

STOP TAKING BRIGATINIB 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 **heart or lung problems** such as slow or uneven heartbeat, chest pain, chest pressure, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty in breathing, swelling of feet or lower legs, or fainting.

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

- Signs of **anemia** such as unusual tiredness or weakness.
- Signs of **liver problems** such as yellow eyes or skin, white or clay-coloured stools.
- Abdominal pain that gets worse with eating.
- Severe unexplained **muscle pain**, muscle swelling, or weakness.
- Increased **thirst**, or changes in how often you pass urine (go pee).

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

- Weight changes.
- Dry mouth; changes in taste.
- Muscle spasms or stiffness; back pain; pain in arms or legs.
- Dizziness.
- Heartburn or indigestion.
- Acne; dry or itchy skin.
- Abdominal pain.
- Trouble sleeping; changes in mood.
- Your voice sounds different than usual (e.g., hoarse, raspy).
- For patients with diabetes: uncontrolled blood sugars.

REPORT ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS TO YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM
