



Provincial Health Services Authority

For the Patient: Decitabine-cedazuridine
Other names: INQOVI®

- **Decitabine-cedazuridine** (dee sye' ta been-sed" az ure' i deen) 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 decitabine or cedazuridine before taking decitabine-cedazuridine.
- **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** decitabine-cedazuridine exactly as directed by your doctor. Make sure you understand the directions.
- **Take** decitabine-cedazuridine on an empty stomach, at least 2 hours before or 2 hours after a meal.
- Do not chew or crush decitabine-cedazuridine tablets. **Swallow whole.**
- If you **miss a dose** of decitabine-cedazuridine, 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 go back to your usual dosing time. Do NOT take a double dose to make up for the missed dose. Ask your doctor if you need to extend your dosing period by one day to make up for the missed dose.
- If you **vomit** the dose of decitabine-cedazuridine, do not take a second dose. Skip the missed dose and go back to your usual dosing time. Let your doctor know as a medication to prevent nausea may be required for future doses.
- Other drugs may **interact** with decitabine-cedazuridine. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before you start or stop taking any other drugs. Drugs to reduce stomach acid (e.g., omeprazole (LOSEC®), ranitidine (ZANTAC®), calcium carbonate (TUMS®)) should NOT be taken within 4 hours of decitabine-cedazuridine.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of decitabine-cedazuridine.

- Decitabine-cesdazuridine may affect **fertility** in men and/or women. If you plan to have children, discuss this with your doctor before being treated with decitabine-cesdazuridine.
- Decitabine-cesdazuridine may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with decitabine-cesdazuridine. 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 2 weeks after your last dose.
- **Store** decitabine-cesdazuridine tablets out of the reach of children, at room temperature, away from heat, light, and moisture. Keep tablets in the original blister card packaging.
- **Tell** doctors, dentists, and other health professionals that you are being treated with decitabine-cesdazuridine before you receive any treatment from them.

Changes in blood counts

Decitabine-cesdazuridine 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 doctor 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.

BLOOD COUNTS	MANAGEMENT
<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) without discussing it with them first. • 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>Nausea and vomiting may sometimes occur. Most people have little or no nausea.</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>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. <p>Try the ideas in <i>Fatigue/Tiredness – Patient Handout</i>.*</p>
<p>Skin rashes may sometimes occur.</p>	<p>If itching is very irritating, call your doctor. Otherwise, be sure to mention it at your next visit.</p>

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
Fever may sometimes occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever (over 38°C or 100°F by an oral thermometer) which occurs more than a few days after treatment may be a sign of an infection. Report this to your doctor immediately.
Diarrhea may sometimes occur.	<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 decitabine-cesdazuridine dose.
Constipation may sometimes occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise if you can. • Drink plenty of fluids. • Try ideas in <i>Food Choices to Manage Constipation</i>.*
Sugar control may sometimes be affected in patients with diabetes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check your blood sugar regularly if you are diabetic.
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.	<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>.*
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. Tell your doctor if the pain interferes with your activity.

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
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.
You may sometimes have trouble sleeping .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk to your doctor if you continue to have trouble sleeping.
Loss of appetite and weight loss may sometimes occur and may persist after discontinuation of decitabine-cedazuridine.	Try the ideas in <i>Food Ideas to Help with Decreased Appetite</i> .*
Numbness or tingling of the fingers or toes may sometimes occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be careful when handling items that are sharp, hot, or cold. Tell your doctor at your next visit, especially if you have trouble with buttons, writing, or picking up small objects.
Hair loss does not occur with decitabine-cedazuridine.	

*Please ask your nurse or pharmacist for a copy.

STOP TAKING DECITABINE-CEDAZURIDINE AND SEE YOUR DOCTOR 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, tarry stools; blood in urine; pinpoint red spots on skin; extensive bruising.
- Signs of an **allergic reaction** (rare) including dizziness, fast heartbeat, face swelling, or breathing problems.
- Signs of **heart problems** such as fast, slow, or uneven heartbeat.
- Signs of **lung problems** such as new or worsening cough, chest pain, shortness of breath, or difficulty in breathing.
- Rapid **weight gain**.

SEE YOUR DOCTOR 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.
- Signs of **kidney problems** such as lower back or side pain, swelling of feet or lower legs.

