



Provincial Health Services Authority

For the Patient: Osimertinib
Other names: TAGRISSO®

- **Osimertinib** (oh" sim er' 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 osimertinib before taking osimertinib.
- **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** osimertinib exactly as directed by your doctor. Make sure you understand the directions.
- You may **take** osimertinib with food or on an empty stomach.
- If you **miss a dose** of osimertinib, 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 times.
- If you **vomit** the dose of osimertinib within 30 minutes of taking it, repeat the dose. Let your doctor know as a medication to prevent nausea may be required for future doses.
- Other drugs such as rifampin (RIFADIN®) and rosuvastatin (CRESTOR®) may **interact** with osimertinib. 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 osimertinib.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of osimertinib.
- Osimertinib may cause **sterility** in men. If you plan to have children, discuss this with your doctor before being treated with osimertinib.
- Osimertinib may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with osimertinib. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breastfeed during treatment.

- **Store** osimertinib 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 osimertinib 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 with osimertinib. 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. <p>Try the ideas in Practical Tips to Manage Nausea.*</p> |
| <p>Diarrhea may sometimes occur.</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 Food Choices to Help Manage Diarrhea.* • Call your doctor. Another medication may be recommended to help control your diarrhea. |
| <p>Constipation may sometimes occur.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise if you can. • Drink plenty of fluids. • Try ideas in Food Choices to Manage Constipation.* |
| <p>Skin rash and dry or itchy skin commonly occurs.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moisturizing creams can help reduce skin dryness. • Avoid hot showers. • Exposure to the sun might make these symptoms worse. Refer to <i>Your Medication Sun Sensitivity and Sunscreens</i>* or the <i>BC Health Guide</i> for more information. <p>If your symptoms get worse, or are very irritating, call your doctor. Otherwise, be sure to mention it at your next visit.</p> |

| SIDE EFFECTS | MANAGEMENT |
|---|--|
| <p>Nail changes, including loosening or loss of the nail, and swelling sometimes occurs.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid trauma to nails or fingertips. • Avoid harsh soaps, detergents, and nail products. • Keep hands clean and dry. • If nail changes interfere with your activity, or are painful, call your doctor. Otherwise, be sure to mention it at your next visit. |
| <p>Sore mouth sometimes occurs. 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 Food Ideas to Try with a Sore Mouth.* |
| <p>Headache may sometimes occur.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours if needed, to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day. |
| <p>Muscle, joint, or back 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 doctor if the pain interferes with your activity.</p> |
| <p>Loss of appetite sometimes occurs.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try the ideas in Food Ideas to Help with Decreased Appetite.* |
| <p>Tiredness and lack of energy may sometimes 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 Fatigue/Tiredness – Patient Handout OR Your Bank to Energy Savings: Helping People with Cancer Handle Fatigue.* |
| <p>Hair loss is rare with osimertinib.</p> | <p>If hair loss is a problem, refer to Resources for Hair Loss and Appearance Changes – Patient Handout.*</p> |

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

STOP TAKING OSIMERTINIB AND SEE YOUR DOCTOR OR GET EMERGENCY HELP IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:

- Signs of an **infection** such as fever (over 100°F or 38°C 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 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 a **blood clot** such as tenderness or hardness over a vein, calf swelling and tenderness, sudden onset of cough, chest pain, or shortness of breath.
- Signs of **heart or lung problems** such as fast or uneven heartbeat, chest pain, chest pressure, shortness of breath or difficulty in breathing, swelling of feet or lower legs, or fainting.

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.
- **Eye pain**, sensitivity to light, red or itchy eyes, or blurry vision.
- Signs of **bladder problems** such as changes in urination, painful burning sensation, presence of blood, or abdominal pain.

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

- Headache not controlled with acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®).
- Easy bruising or minor bleeding.
- Redness, swelling, pain, or sores on your lips, tongue, mouth, or throat.
- Dizziness or ringing in your ears.
- Heartburn, hiccups, upset stomach, or changes in taste.
- Muscle spasms or tremors.
- Unusual mood changes or trouble sleeping.
- For diabetic patients: uncontrolled blood sugars.

REPORT ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS TO YOUR DOCTOR
