



Provincial Health Services Authority

**For the Patient: Ribociclib**  
Other names: KISQALI®

- **Ribociclib** (rye" boe sye' klib) 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 ribociclib before taking ribociclib.
- **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** ribociclib exactly as directed by your doctor. Make sure you understand the directions.
- **Take** ribociclib in the morning, with food or on an empty stomach.
- Do not chew or crush ribociclib tablets. **Swallow whole.**
- If you **miss a dose** of ribociclib, skip the missed dose and go back to your usual dosing times.
- If you **vomit** the dose of ribociclib, do not take a second dose. Skip the missed dose and go back to your usual dosing times. Call your doctor during office hours for advice as a medication to prevent nausea may be required for future doses.
- Other drugs such as midazolam (VERSED®), rifampin (RIFADIN®) and ritonavir (NORVIR®) may **interact** with ribociclib. 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 ribociclib.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of ribociclib.
- Ribociclib may affect **fertility** in men. If you plan to have children, discuss this with your doctor before being treated with ribociclib.
- Ribociclib may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with ribociclib and for at least 21 days

after the last dose. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breastfeed during treatment.

- **Store** ribociclib tablets out of the reach of children, at room temperature, away from heat and light. Keep in original packaging to protect from moisture.
- **Tell** doctors, dentists, and other health professionals that you are being treated with ribociclib 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><b>Nausea</b> and <b>vomiting</b> may sometimes occur.</p>	<p>You may be given a prescription for antinausea drug(s) to take at home. <b>It is easier to prevent nausea than treat it once it has occurred</b>, so follow directions closely.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drink plenty of fluids.</li> <li>• Eat and drink often in small amounts.</li> </ul> <p>Try the ideas in <i>Practical Tips to Manage Nausea</i>.*</p>
<p><b>Skin rashes</b> may sometimes occur.</p>	<p>If itching is very irritating, call your doctor. Otherwise, be sure to mention it at your next visit.</p>
<p><b>Diarrhea</b> may sometimes occur.</p>	<p>If diarrhea is a problem:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drink plenty of fluids.</li> <li>• Eat and drink often in small amounts.</li> <li>• Avoid high fibre foods as outlined in <i>Food Choices to Help Manage Diarrhea</i>.* </li></ul>
<p><b>Constipation</b> may sometimes occur.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercise if you can.</li> <li>• Drink plenty of fluids.</li> </ul> <p>Try ideas in <i>Food Choices to Manage Constipation</i>.*</p>
<p>Your <b>white blood cells</b> may decrease. White blood cells protect your body by fighting bacteria (germs) that cause infection. When they are low, <b>you are at greater risk of having an infection</b>.</p>	<p>To help prevent infection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wash your hands often and always after using the bathroom.</li> <li>• Avoid crowds and people who are sick.</li> <li>• Stop taking ribociclib and call your doctor <b>immediately</b> at the first sign of an infection such as fever (over 100°F or 38°C by an oral thermometer), chills, cough, or burning when you pass urine.</li> </ul>

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p>Your <b>platelets</b> may decrease. Platelets help to make your blood clot when you hurt yourself. <b>You may bruise or bleed more easily than usual.</b></p>	<p>To help prevent bleeding problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Try not to bruise, cut, or burn yourself.</li> <li>• Clean your nose by blowing gently. Do not pick your nose.</li> <li>• Avoid constipation.</li> <li>• Brush your teeth gently with a soft toothbrush as your gums may bleed more easily. Maintain good oral hygiene.</li> </ul> <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"> <li>• Do not stop taking any medication that has been prescribed by your doctor (e.g., <b>ASA for your heart</b>).</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Loss of appetite</b> sometimes occurs.</p>	<p>Try the ideas in <i>Food Ideas to Help with Decreased Appetite</i>.*</p>
<p><b>Sore mouth</b> may sometimes occur. Mouth sores can occur on the tongue, the sides of the mouth, or in the throat. <b>Mouth sores or bleeding gums can lead to an infection.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Make a mouthwash with ½ teaspoon baking soda or salt in 1 cup warm water and rinse several times a day.</li> <li>• Try the ideas in <i>Food Ideas to Try with a Sore Mouth</i>.*</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tiredness</b> and lack of energy may sometimes occur.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not drive a car or operate machinery if you are feeling tired.</li> <li>• Try the ideas in <i>Fatigue/Tiredness – Patient Handout</i> or <i>Your Bank to Energy Savings: Helping People with Cancer Handle Fatigue</i>.*</li> </ul>

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p><b>Abnormal heart rhythm</b> (QT prolongation) sometimes occurs.</p>	<p>Minimize your risk of abnormal heart rhythm by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• always checking with your pharmacist and doctor about drug interactions when starting a new medication, herbal product, or supplement.</li> <li>• avoiding grapefruit and grapefruit juice.</li> </ul> <p>Tell your doctor <b><i>immediately</i></b> or get emergency help if your heart is beating irregularly or fast, or if you feel faint, lightheaded, or dizzy.</p>

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

**STOP TAKING RIBOCICLIB 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 **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.
- Signs of **kidney problems** such as lower back or side pain, swelling of feet or lower legs.

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

- Easy bruising or minor bleeding.
- Increased sore throat or mouth that makes it difficult to swallow comfortably.
- Skin rash or itching.

**REPORT ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS TO YOUR DOCTOR**