



Provincial Health Services Authority

For the Patient: Trifluridine-tipiracil

Other names: LONSURF®

- **Trifluridine-tipiracil** (trye flure' i deen – tye pir' a sil) 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 trifluridine-tipiracil before taking trifluridine-tipiracil.
- **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** trifluridine-tipiracil exactly as directed by your doctor. Make sure you understand the directions. You may be given tablets of more than one strength to make the right dose.
- **Take** trifluridine-tipiracil with food. Trifluridine-tipiracil is usually taken twice daily, about 12 hours apart, with equal numbers of tablets taken at each dose.
- If you **miss a dose** of trifluridine-tipiracil, skip the missed dose and go back to your usual dosing times.
- If you **vomit** the dose of trifluridine-tipiracil, do not take a second dose. Skip the missed dose and go back to your usual dosing times. Let your doctor know as a medication to prevent nausea may be required for future doses.
- Other drugs may **interact** with trifluridine-tipiracil. 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 trifluridine-tipiracil.
- Trifluridine-tipiracil may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with trifluridine-tipiracil and for at least 6 months after the last dose. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breastfeed during treatment and for at least 1 day after the last dose.
- **Store** trifluridine-tipiracil 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 trifluridine-tipiracil 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 while you are taking trifluridine-tipiracil. 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 <i>Practical Tips to Manage Nausea</i>.*</p>
<p>Fever may sometimes occur.</p>	<p>Fever (over 100°F or 38°C by an oral thermometer) may be a sign of an infection. Report this to your doctor immediately.</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 <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 trifluridine-tipiracil dose.
<p>Your white blood cells may decrease. 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 trifluridine-tipiracil and call your doctor immediately 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.

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
Your platelets may decrease. Platelets help to make your blood clot when you hurt yourself. You may bruise or bleed more easily than usual.	<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.
Loss of appetite sometimes occurs.	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>.*
Hair loss is rare with trifluridine-tipiracil. If you lose hair, it will grow back once you stop treatment with trifluridine-tipiracil. Colour and texture may change.	If hair loss is a problem, refer to <i>Resources for Hair Loss and Appearance Changes – Patient Handout</i> .*

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

STOP TAKING TRIFLURIDINE-TIPIRACIL 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 **lung problems** such new or worsening cough, chest pain, shortness of breath, or difficulty in breathing.
- Signs of **bleeding problems** such as black, tarry stools; blood in urine; pinpoint red spots on skin; extensive bruising.

