

Consumer Medicine Information

What is in this leaflet

Please read this leaflet carefully before you take any Tykerb tablets.

This leaflet answers some common questions about Tykerb. It does not contain all of the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist. The information in this leaflet was last updated on the date listed on the final page. More recent information on the medicine may be available.

You should ensure that you speak to your pharmacist or doctor to obtain the most up to date information on the medicine.

You can also download the most up to date leaflet from www.novartis.com.au.

The updates may contain important information about the medicine and its use of which you should be aware.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the expected benefits of you taking Tykerb against the risks this medicine could have for you.

If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine.

You may need to read it again.

What is Tykerb used for

Tykerb contains the active ingredient lapatinib, which belongs to a group of medicines called protein kinase inhibitors.

Tykerb is used in combination with other medicines to treat certain types of advanced or metastatic breast cancers. Tykerb may slow or stop cancer cells from growing, or may kill them.

Advanced or metastatic breast cancers have spread beyond an original tumour. These types of breast cancers are more likely to grow in the presence of hormones, like oestrogen and progesterone.

Tykerb may be used with any of the following medicines:

- An aromatase inhibitor tablet to treat tumours that are hormone sensitive
- Capecitabine tablet to treat advanced or metastatic breast cancer whose tumours produce large amounts of a protein called human epidermal growth factor receptor-2 (HER2, also known as ErbB2) on the surface of the tumour cells.
- Paclitaxel infusion to treat metastatic breast cancer whose tumours produce large amounts of HER2 (ErbB2). These patients are unable to take another medicine containing trastuzumab.

Information about these other medicines is available in separate Consumer Medicine Information leaflets.

If you are taking any of these other medicines together with Tykerb, please read about the other medicine in the Consumer Medicine Information as well as this one carefully.

If not included in the pack, the other medicine leaflets are available from your doctor or pharmacist.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why this medicine has been prescribed for you.

Your doctor may have prescribed Tykerb for another reason.

This medicine is available only with a doctor's prescription.

It is not recommended for use in children and adolescents, under the age of 18 years.

Tykerb is not addictive.

Before you take Tykerb

When you must not take it

Do not take Tykerb if you have an allergy to:

- Lapatinib (active ingredient) or
- Any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.
(See "**Ingredients**".)

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include:

- Shortness of breath
- Wheezing or difficulty breathing
- Swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body
- Rash, itching or hives on the skin

Do not take this medicine after the expiry date (EXP) printed on the pack has passed, or if the pack is torn or shows signs of tampering.

The expiry date refers to the last day of that month. If it is expired or damaged, return it to your pharmacist for disposal.

If you are not sure whether you should start taking this medicine, talk to your doctor.

Before you start to take it

Tell your doctor or nurse if you have allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.

Your doctor will want to know if you are prone to allergies.

Also tell your doctor if you have any of the following problems:

- Heart problems.
- Lung problems or problems breathing.
- Liver problems.

Check with your doctor if you think any of these may apply to you.

You may need extra tests to check that your heart and liver are working properly. Your doctor may decide to adjust your dose or stop treatment based on the results of these tests.

Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken, or might take any other medicines.

This includes herbal medicines and other medicines or complementary therapies that you may have bought without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket, or health food shop.

Keep a list of the medicines you take, so you can show it to your doctor, nurse or pharmacist when you get a new medicine. Your doctor and pharmacist have more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while taking this medicine.

Some medicines may affect the way Tykerb works or Tykerb may affect how other medicines work. These include:

- Erythromycin, ketoconazole, itraconazole, posaconazole, voriconazole, rifabutin, rifampicin, telithromycin (used to treat infections)
- Ritonavir, saquinavir (used to treat HIV)
- Cisapride (used to treat digestive system problems)
- Drugs that decrease stomach acidity (used to treat stomach ulcers or indigestion)
- Quinidine, digoxin (used to treat heart problems)
- Verapamil (used to treat high blood pressure or angina)
- Rosuvastatin (used to treat high cholesterol)
- Repaglinide (used to treat diabetes)
- Phenytoin, carbamazepine (used to treat seizures)
- Pimozide (used to treat mental health problems)
- Nefazodone (used to treat depression)
- St John's Wort (a herb extract used to treat depression)
- Cyclosporin (used to suppress the immune system for example after organ transplantations)
- Topotecan, paclitaxel, irinotecan, docetaxel (used to treat cancer).

Tell your doctor if you are taking any of these.

Taking Tykerb with food and drink

Tykerb is affected by food intake and must be taken on an empty stomach.

You should not drink grapefruit juice while you are being treated with Tykerb as this may increase the chance of side effects.

Pregnancy

You should avoid becoming pregnant while taking Tykerb. Use a reliable method of contraception (a way to avoid pregnancy) while you're taking Tykerb.

If you are pregnant or think you could be, talk to your doctor about the risks and benefits of taking Tykerb.

Your doctor may recommend that you don't take Tykerb while you are pregnant.

Breast feeding

Breast-feeding is not recommended during treatment with Tykerb.

Ask your doctor for advice.

Driving and using machines

Tykerb can cause tiredness and may make you unfit to drive.

Do not drive or operate machinery unless you're feeling well and are sure that you are not affected by tiredness.

How to take Tykerb

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or pharmacist.

The directions may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you do not understand the instructions on the label ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

Your doctor will decide on the dose of Tykerb tablets that you should take. The usual dose of Tykerb is either five or six 250 mg film-coated tablets, taken once a day, depending on the type of breast cancer you have and what your doctor recommends.

Depending on your response to Tykerb, your doctor may recommend lowering your dose or temporarily stopping it.

When to take Tykerb

It is important that you take Tykerb tablets either at least one hour before or at least one hour after food.

Take your medicine at about the same time each day.

Taking it at the same time each day will have the best effect. It will also help you remember when to take it.

How much to take

In combination with capecitabine:

The usual dose is 5 (five) Tykerb tablets (a total dose of 1250 mg) taken once a day.

In combination with paclitaxel:

The usual dose is 6 (six) Tykerb tablets (a total dose of 1500 mg) taken once a day.

In combination with an aromatase inhibitor:

The usual dose is 6 (six) Tykerb tablets (a total dose of 1500 mg) taken once a day.

How to take it

Swallow the Tykerb tablets whole with water, one after the other.

If you are being treated with a combination of Tykerb and paclitaxel, your doctor will tell you how often you will be given paclitaxel.

If you are being treated with a combination of Tykerb and either capecitabine or an aromatase inhibitor, your doctor will advise you about the other medicine doses, when to take them, and how often.

If you forget to take Tykerb

Take the next dose at the scheduled time. Then go back to taking your medicine as you would normally.

Do not take a double dose to make up for a missed dose.

This may increase the chance of you getting an unwanted side effect.

If you are not sure what to do, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

If you have trouble remembering to take your medicine, ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist for some hints.

How long to take it for

Keep taking Tykerb for as long as your doctor recommends.

If you take more Tykerb than you should (Overdose)

If you think you or anyone else may have taken too much Tykerb, immediately telephone your doctor or Poisons Information Centre (In Australia call 131126) for advice, or go to Accident and Emergency at the nearest hospital.

Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

You/they may need urgent medical attention.

Take the pack with you.

While you are taking Tykerb

Things you must do

Take Tykerb for as long as your doctor recommends.

Don't stop taking this medicine unless your doctor advises you to.

Tell your doctor if, for any reason, you have not taken your medicine exactly as directed.

Otherwise, your doctor may think that it was not working as it should and change your treatment unnecessarily.

Keep all of your doctor's appointments so that your progress can be checked.

Use a contraceptive to prevent pregnancy during treatment with Tykerb.

If you become pregnant while taking this medicine, tell your doctor immediately.

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, remind your doctor and pharmacist that you are taking Tykerb.

Tell any doctors, dentists, and pharmacists who treat you that you are taking this medicine.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Things you must not do

Do not drink grapefruit juice while you are being treated with Tykerb. (See "Taking Tykerb with food and drink.")

Do not give this medicine to anyone else, even if their symptoms seem similar to yours.

Do not use Tykerb to treat any other complaints unless your doctor says to.

Do not stop taking Tykerb unless your doctor advises you to.

Do not dispose of medicines in wastewater or household rubbish.

This will help to protect the environment.

Possible side effects

Like all medicines, Tykerb can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Do not be alarmed by these possible side effects.

You may not experience any of them. If they occur, they are most likely to be minor and temporary. However, some may be serious and need medical attention.

Check with your doctor as soon as possible if you think you are experiencing any side effects or allergic reactions due to taking Tykerb, even if the problem is not listed below.

These side effects have occurred with Tykerb alone, or in combination with capecitabine, paclitaxel or letrozole (an aromatase inhibitor).

Severe allergic reaction

This rare side effect may affect up to 1 in 1000 people and develop rapidly.

Symptoms may include:

- Skin rash (including itchy, bumpy rash)
- Unusual wheezing, or difficulty in breathing
- Swollen eyelids, lips or tongue
- Pains in muscles or joints
- Collapse or blackout.

Tell your doctor immediately if you get any of these symptoms.

Do not take any more tablets.

Severe skin reactions

Severe skin reactions have been seen with Tykerb. Symptoms may include skin rash, blisters and skin peeling.

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you get any of these symptoms.

As severe skin reactions can be life threatening, your doctor may tell you to stop Tykerb.

Very common side effects

These may affect more than 1 in 10 people:

- Diarrhoea (which if severe can be life-threatening)
Contact your doctor immediately at the first sign of diarrhoea (loose stool), as it is important that this is treated right away. Also tell your doctor immediately if your diarrhoea worsens.
- Low levels of white blood cells and red blood cells in blood test results
- Muscle pain
- Numbness, tingling or weakness of the arms and legs
- Loss of appetite
- Indigestion or stomach pain
- Feeling or being sick (nausea or vomiting)
- Constipation
- Tiredness
- Unusual hair loss or thinning
- Nose bleed
- Sore mouth or mouth ulcers
- Trouble sleeping (insomnia)
- Back pain
- Rash or dry skin
- Skin reaction or pain on the palms of the hands or soles of the feet (including tingling, numbness, pain, swelling or reddening).

Common side effects

These may affect up to 1 in 10 people:

- An effect on how your heart works - this may cause an irregular heartbeat and shortness of breath
- Headache
- Nail disorders - such as a tender infection and swelling of the cuticles.

Uncommon side effects

These may affect up to 1 in 100 people:

- Liver problems - this may cause itching, yellow eyes or skin (jaundice), dark urine or pain or discomfort in the right upper area of the stomach
- Swelling of the lungs - this may cause coughing or shortness of breath.

Rare side effects

These may affect up to 1 in 1000 people:

- Severe allergic reactions.

Frequency unknown

The frequency of these side effects is not known (events from spontaneous reports):

- Irregular heart-beat (change in the electrical activity of the heart)
- Severe skin reaction that might include: rash, red skin, blistering of the lips, eyes

or mouth, skin peeling, fever or any combination of these.

If you get side effects

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if any of the side effects listed become severe or troublesome, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet.

After taking Tykerb

Storage

Keep this medicine where children cannot reach it.

A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

Store the tablets in a cool place below 30°C.

Do not leave this medicine in a car, on a window sill or in a bathroom.

Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

Keep Tykerb in its original container until it is time to take it.

Disposal

If your doctor tells you to stop taking this medicine or if you have any unwanted medicines, ask your pharmacist what to do with them.

Product description

What Tykerb looks like

Tykerb is supplied in plastic bottle packs containing 70 tablets.

250 mg tablets

Tykerb tablets are oval, biconvex, yellow film-coated, and with GS XJG debossed on one side.

Ingredients

Each Tykerb tablet contains the active ingredient lapatinib ditosilate monohydrate, equivalent to 250 mg of lapatinib.

Tykerb tablets also contain the following ingredients:

- Microcrystalline cellulose (E460)
- Povidone (E1201)
- Sodium starch glycolate
- Magnesium stearate (E572) (vegetable origin)
- Hypromellose (E464)
- Titanium dioxide (E171)
- Macrogol (E1521)
- Polysorbate (E433)
- Iron oxide yellow (E172)
- Iron oxide red (E172).

Tykerb tablets do not contain lactose, sucrose, tartrazine or any other azo dyes.

Sponsor

Tykerb is supplied in Australia by:

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Australia Pty Limited

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www.novartis.com.au

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