



NEBRASKA CANCER SPECIALISTS

the Physicians of Oncology Hematology West

Lapatinib

Trade name: TYKERB®

Drug type: Lapatinib is a targeted therapy. Lapatinib is a tyrosine kinase inhibitor, inhibitor of EGFR and HER2.

How lapatinib is given:

- Lapatinib is a tablet to be taken by mouth.
- Take lapatinib exactly as instructed by your doctor.
- Lapatinib should be taken at least one hour before, or at least one hour after food (take total dose at the same time daily, dividing doses is not recommended).
- Do not eat or drink grapefruit products while taking lapatinib.
- If you miss a dose of lapatinib, take it as soon as you remember that day. If you miss a day, do not double your dose the next day. Just skip the missed dose. Call your healthcare provider if you are not sure what to do.

Side effects of lapatinib:

Important things to remember about the side effects of lapatinib:

- You will not get all of the side effects mentioned below.
- Side effects are almost always reversible and will usually go away after therapy is complete.
- Side effects are quite manageable. There are many options to minimize or prevent them.

The following side effects are common for patients receiving lapatinib in combination with capecitabine (Xeloda):

- Diarrhea
- Hand-foot syndrome (Palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia or PPE) -skin rash, swelling, redness, pain and/or peeling of the skin on the palms of hands and soles of feet. Usually mild, has started as early as 2 weeks after start of treatment
- Low red blood cell count
- Nausea and vomiting
- Elevated liver function tests

These are less common side effects for patients receiving lapatinib in combination with capecitabine (Xeloda):

- Rash
- Low blood counts; white blood cells and platelets may temporarily decrease
- Fatigue, tiredness
- Abdominal pain
- Mouth sores
- Heartburn
- Pain in arms, legs, back
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty sleeping
- Dry skin

These are rare but serious side effects of lapatinib.

- Heart problems including decreased pumping of blood from the heart, or abnormal heartbeat can occur rarely.
- Severe diarrhea, which may lead to dehydration.

When to contact your doctor or health care provider:

Contact your health care provider ***immediately***, day or night, if you should experience any of the following symptoms:

- Fever of 101° F or higher, chills (possible signs of infection)
- Palpitations or are short of breath.

The following symptoms require medical attention, but are not an emergency. Contact your health care provider ***within 24 hours*** of noticing any of the following:

- Diarrhea (4-6 episodes in a 24-hour period)
- Nausea (interferes with ability to eat and unrelieved with prescribed medication)
- Vomiting (vomiting more than 4-5 times in a 24 hour period)
- Tingling or burning, redness, swelling of the palms of the hands or soles of feet
- Unusual bleeding or bruising
- Black or tarry stool or blood in your stools
- Blood in the urine
- Extreme fatigue (unable to carry on self-care activities)
- Mouth sores (painful redness, swelling or ulcers)
- Unable to eat or drink for 24 hours or have signs of dehydration: tiredness, thirst, dry mouth, dark and decrease amount of urine, or dizziness

Always inform your health care provider if you experience any unusual symptoms.