



Provincial Health Services Authority

For the Patient: Niraparib-abiraterone

Other names: AKEEGA®

- **Niraparib-abiraterone** (nye rap' a rib - a" bir a' ter one) is a drug that is used to treat prostate 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 niraparib or abiraterone before taking niraparib-abiraterone.
- **Blood tests** and **blood pressure measurements** 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** niraparib-abiraterone exactly as directed by your doctor. Make sure you understand the directions.
- Take niraparib-abiraterone on an **empty stomach**.
- If you **miss a dose** of niraparib-abiraterone, take it as soon as you can on the same day, then go back to your usual dosing time on the following day. Do NOT take more than one dose to make up for the missed dose. Be sure to mention it to your healthcare team at your next visit.
- If you **vomit** the dose of niraparib-abiraterone, do not take a second dose. Skip the missed dose and go back to your usual dosing times. Call your healthcare team during office hours for advice.
- Other drugs such as dextromethorphan (DM®, DELSYM®), pioglitazone (ACTOS®), or repaglinide (GLUCONORM®) may **interact** with niraparib-abiraterone. 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.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of niraparib-abiraterone.
- Niraparib-abiraterone may affect **fertility** in men. If you plan to have children, discuss this with your doctor before being treated with niraparib-abiraterone.
- Niraparib-abiraterone may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with niraparib-abiraterone and for 3 months after your treatment has ended. Male patients are

advised to use a **condom** when having sexual activity with a woman who is pregnant or can become pregnant. Tell your doctor right away if your partner becomes pregnant.

- **Store** niraparib-abiraterone tablets out of the reach of children, at room temperature, away from heat, light, and moisture.
- **Tell** your doctor, dentist, and other health professionals that you are being treated with niraparib-abiraterone 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 after your treatment. If you are vomiting and it is not controlled, you can quickly become dehydrated. 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. • Try the ideas in <i>Practical Tips to Manage Nausea</i>.* <p>Tell your healthcare team if nausea or vomiting continues or is not controlled with your antinausea drug(s).</p>
<p>High blood pressure may sometimes occur. This can happen very quickly after starting treatment.</p>	<p>Your blood pressure will be checked by your healthcare team during your visits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may be asked to check your blood pressure frequently between visits. • Your doctor may give you a prescription for blood pressure medication if your blood pressure is high. • Tell your doctor if you are already on blood pressure medication. Your doctor may have to adjust your dose.
<p>Constipation may sometimes occur.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise if you can. • Drink plenty of fluids. <p>Try ideas in <i>Food Choices to Manage Constipation</i>.*</p>

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p>Diarrhea may sometimes occur. If you have diarrhea and it is not controlled, you can quickly become dehydrated.</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 niraparib-abiraterone dose. <p>Tell your healthcare team if you have diarrhea for more than 24 hours.</p>
<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. <p>Stop taking niraparib-abiraterone and call your healthcare team immediately at the first sign of an infection such as fever (over 38°C or 100°F by an oral thermometer), chills, cough, or burning when you pass urine.</p>
<p>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>	<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.

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p>Hot flashes (sudden sweating and feelings of warmth) may sometimes occur when you first start taking niraparib-abiraterone. This usually improves as your body adjusts to niraparib-abiraterone.</p>	<p>If hot flashes are troublesome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take niraparib-abiraterone at bedtime. • If night sweats interfere with sleep, try taking niraparib-abiraterone in the morning. • Some people find it helpful to avoid alcohol, spicy food, and caffeine (coffee, tea, colas, chocolate). • Follow a regular exercise program. • Try staying in a cool environment. • Wear layers so that if you do experience a hot flash, the outer layers may be removed. <p>Ask your doctor for more advice if your hot flashes continue to bother you.</p>
<p>Headache may sometimes occur.</p>	<p>Take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours if needed, to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day.</p>
<p>Muscle or joint 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. Tell your healthcare team if the pain interferes with your activity.</p>
<p>Swelling of hands, feet, or lower legs may sometimes occur if your body retains extra fluid.</p>	<p>If swelling is a problem:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevate your feet when sitting. • Avoid tight clothing.
<p>You may sometimes have trouble sleeping.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to your healthcare team if you continue to have trouble sleeping. • This will return to normal when you stop taking niraparib-abiraterone.
<p>Your skin may sunburn more easily than usual.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell your healthcare team if you have a severe sunburn or skin reaction such as itching, rash, or swelling after sun exposure. • Refer to <i>Your Medication Sun Sensitivity and Sunscreens*</i> or the <i>BC Health Guide</i> for more information.
<p>Loss of appetite and weight loss may sometimes occur.</p>	<p>Try the ideas in <i>Food Ideas to Help with Decreased Appetite</i>.*</p>

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
Tiredness and lack of energy may commonly 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 does not occur with niraparib-abiraterone.	

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

STOP TAKING NIRAPARIB-ABIRATERONE AND CHECK WITH YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM OR GET EMERGENCY HELP IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:

- Signs of an **allergic reaction** (rare) soon after a treatment including dizziness, fast heart beat, face swelling, or breathing problems.
- 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 **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 or breath or difficulty in breathing, swelling of feet or lower legs, or fainting.
- **Seizures** or **loss of consciousness**, loss of speech or vision.

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

- Headache not controlled with acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®)
- Anxiety (nervousness or worry) or changes in mood that are not normal for you.
- Confusion or problems with memory.
- Seeing or hearing things that are not really there.
- Eye problems.
- Indigestion or heartburn; abdominal pain.
- Dry mouth.
- Dizziness.
- Skin rash.

