

# ORAL CHEMOTHERAPY EDUCATION



## TUCATINIB

### Name of your medication

Generic name — tucatinib (too-KA-tih-nib)  
Brand name — Tukysa™ (too-KY-suh)

### Approved uses

Tucatinib is used to treat advanced or metastatic breast cancer that overexpresses human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2). It is used in combination with trastuzumab and capecitabine.

### Dose and schedule

Taking tucatinib as instructed is important to allow your treatment to be as effective as possible, so here are some key points to remember.

- Your dose may vary, but the usual dose of tucatinib is 300 milligrams (300 mg) to be taken by mouth at a scheduled time twice a day.
- Tucatinib can be taken with or without food, but at the same times each day.
- Tucatinib should be taken whole and not crushed, cut, or dissolved. If you are unable to swallow tucatinib, talk to your care provider or pharmacist for possible options.
- If you miss a dose of tucatinib, **do not** take an extra dose or two doses at one time. Simply take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Be sure to write down if you miss a dose and let your care provider know about any missed doses.

### Drug and food interactions

- Tucatinib has many drug interactions. Please inform your care providers of all prescription medications, over-the-counter medications, vitamins, and herbal products.
- Talk with your care provider or pharmacist before taking new medications or supplements, or receiving any vaccines.

### Storage and handling

Handle tucatinib with care. Just like when chemotherapy is given into the vein, this drug can be toxic, and exposure of the drug to others should be limited.

- Store tucatinib at room temperature (68°F–77°F) in a dry location away from light.
- Keep tucatinib out of reach of children and pets.
- Leave tucatinib in the provided packaging until it is ready to be taken.
- Whenever possible, you should give tucatinib to yourself and follow the steps below. If a family member, friend, or caregiver needs to give the tucatinib to you, they also need to follow these steps.
  1. Wash hands with soap and water.
  2. Put on gloves to avoid touching the medication. (Gloves are not necessary if you give the drug to yourself.)

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3. Gently transfer the tucatinib from its package to a small medicine or other disposable cup.
  4. Administer the medicine immediately by mouth with water.
  5. Remove gloves and do not use them for anything else.
  6. Throw gloves and medicine cup in household trash.
  7. Wash hands with soap and water.
- A daily pill box or pill reminder **is not** recommended to be used with tucatinib.
  - If you have any unused tucatinib, **do not** throw it in the trash and **do not** flush it down the sink or toilet. Talk to your care provider or pharmacist about proper disposal of tucatinib.
  - If you are traveling, put your tucatinib's packaging in a separate sealed plastic bag. Ask your pharmacist if any additional travel precautions are needed.

### Side Effects of Tucatinib

Below are common side effects that have been known to happen in about one-third or more of patients taking tucatinib; these are listed on the left side of this table. You **MAY NOT** experience these side effects. Options to help manage any side effects that do occur are included on the right side of this table. These should be discussed with your care provider. If you experience any side effect you cannot manage or that is not listed here, contact your care provider.

Possible Side Effect	Management
<p><b>Diarrhea (loose and/or urgent bowel movements)</b></p>	<p>Monitor how many bowel movements you have each day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drink 8–10 glasses of water or fluid each day unless your care provider has instructed you to limit your fluid intake.</li> <li>• Eat small, frequent meals throughout the day rather than a few large meals.</li> <li>• Eat bland, low-fiber foods, such as bananas, applesauce, potatoes, chicken, rice, and toast.</li> <li>• Avoid high-fiber foods, such as raw vegetables, raw fruits, and whole grains.</li> <li>• Avoid foods that cause gas, such as broccoli and beans.</li> <li>• Avoid lactose-containing foods, such as yogurt and milk.</li> <li>• Avoid spicy, fried, and greasy foods.</li> </ul> <p>Contact your provider if either of the following occurs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of bowel movements you have in a day increases by 4 or more.</li> <li>• You feel dizzy or lightheaded.</li> </ul> <p>Your care provider may recommend an over-the-counter medication called loperamide (Imodium®) to help with your diarrhea, but talk to your care provider before starting this medication.</p>

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Possible Side Effect	Management
<p><b>Pain or discomfort on hands and/or feet</b></p>	<p>Hand- foot skin reaction (HFSR) is a skin reaction that appears on the palms of the hands and the soles of the feet. It can appear as a rash, calluses, peeling skin, and increased sensitivity to heat, or a “pins and needles” sensation. Let your care provider know right away if you experience this side effect.</p> <p>To prevent HFSR, you can do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soak your feet in a water bath with Epsom salts and gently pumice any callused skin.</li> <li>• Exfoliate and keep hands and feet moisturized.</li> <li>• Avoid tight shoes or socks.</li> <li>• Use cushioning (i.e., gloves) when doing activities that increase pressure on the palms of your hands.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Nausea or vomiting</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eat and drink slowly.</li> <li>• Drink 8–10 glasses of water or fluid each day unless your care provider has instructed you to limit your fluid intake.</li> <li>• Eat small, frequent meals throughout the day rather than a few large meals.</li> <li>• Eat bland foods; avoid spicy, fried, and greasy foods.</li> <li>• Avoid vigorous exercise immediately after eating.</li> <li>• Don't lie down immediately after eating.</li> <li>• Avoid strong odors.</li> </ul> <p>Let your provider know if you experience nausea or vomiting.</p> <p>Your provider may prescribe medication to help with the nausea or vomiting.</p>
<p><b>Changes in liver function</b></p>	<p>Your liver function will be checked periodically by a simple blood test. Contact your care provider if you notice any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yellowing of the skin or whites of your eyes</li> <li>• Dark or brown urine</li> <li>• Bleeding or bruising</li> </ul>

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Possible Side Effect	Management
<p><b>Changes in electrolytes and other laboratory values</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low phosphate levels</li> <li>• Low magnesium levels</li> <li>• Low potassium levels</li> <li>• Low sodium levels</li> </ul>	<p>Changes in some laboratory values may occur and will be monitored by a simple blood test.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You may not feel any symptoms if the changes are mild, and they usually are not a sign of a serious problem.</li> <li>• More severe changes may occur, which can be a sign of a serious problem.</li> </ul> <p>Notify your care provider if you have any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shortness of breath</li> <li>• Chest discomfort</li> <li>• Weakness or fatigue</li> <li>• New aches and pains</li> <li>• Headaches</li> <li>• Dizziness</li> <li>• Swelling of your legs or feet</li> <li>• Red- or brown-colored urine</li> </ul>
<p><b>Changes in kidney function</b></p>	<p>Your kidney (renal) function will be checked periodically by a simple blood test. Contact your care provider if you notice any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decreased amount of urination</li> <li>• Unusual swelling in your legs and feet</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mouth irritation or sores</b></p>	<p>Practice good mouth care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rinse your mouth frequently.</li> <li>• Brush your teeth with a soft toothbrush or cotton swab after meals.</li> <li>• Use a mild non-alcohol mouth rinse at least 4 times a day (after eating and at bedtime). One example is a mixture of 1/8 teaspoon of salt and 1/4 teaspoon of baking soda in 8 ounces of warm (not hot) water.</li> <li>• If you have sores in your mouth, avoid using tobacco products, alcohol, and mouthwashes that contain alcohol.</li> </ul> <p>Call your care provider if you experience pain or sores in your mouth or throat.</p>
<p><b>Decreased hemoglobin, the part of the red blood cells that carries iron and oxygen</b></p>	<p>Your hemoglobin should be monitored by a simple blood test. When your hemoglobin is low, you may notice that you get tired or fatigued more easily.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Try to get 7–8 hours of sleep per night.</li> <li>• Avoid operating heavy machinery if you feel too tired.</li> <li>• Find a balance between work and rest.</li> <li>• Stay as active as possible, but know that it is okay to rest as needed.</li> <li>• You might notice that you are more pale than usual.</li> </ul> <p>Let your care provider know right away if you experience any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shortness of breath</li> <li>• Dizziness</li> <li>• Palpitations</li> </ul>

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If you experience ANY uncontrolled side effect, call your physician or healthcare center immediately:

(INSTITUTIONAL CONTACT INFO)

### Handling body fluids and waste

Since tucatinib remains in your body for several days after it is taken, some of the drug may be present in urine, stool, sweat, or vomit. Once you have started to take tucatinib, it is important to adhere to the following instructions every day for as long as your treatment lasts. This is to keep yourself, loved ones, and the environment as safe as possible.

- Pregnant women should avoid touching anything that may be soiled with body fluids from the patient.
- Toilet and septic systems
  - You may use the same toilet, septic tank, and/or sewer that you usually use. If you have a low-flow toilet, close the lid and flush twice to ensure that all waste has been discarded.
  - If the toilet or toilet seat becomes soiled with urine, stool, or vomit, clean the surfaces before other people use the toilet.
  - Wash hands with soap and water after using the toilet.
- If you need a bedpan, be sure your caregiver knows to wear gloves to assist with cleanup and to wash the bedpan with soap and water every day.
- If you do not have good control of bladder or bowels, use a disposable pad with a plastic back, a diaper, or a sheet to absorb body waste.
- Wash any skin that has been exposed to body waste or tucatinib with soap and water.
- Linens or clothing that are soiled with body fluids or body waste should be washed separately from other linens and clothing. If you do not have a washer, place the soiled linens in a plastic bag until they can be washed.
- Wash hands with soap and water after touching linens or clothing that may be soiled with body fluids.

### Pregnancy, sexual activity, and contraception

- Women should not become pregnant and men should not get a partner pregnant while taking tucatinib. Men and women of childbearing age and potential should use effective contraception during therapy and for a minimum of 1 week after the last dose of tucatinib.
- Effective contraception could include 1 or more of the following: oral contraceptive, barrier methods, etc.
- Do not breastfeed while taking tucatinib and for 1 week after the last dose of tucatinib.
- Please inform your care provider if you become pregnant.
- It is safe to hug and kiss. Special precautions may be needed for sexual activity while on oral chemotherapy, and you are encouraged to ask your care provider.

### Obtaining medication

- Talk with your care provider about the process for obtaining your tucatinib.

(PHARMACY OR SPECIALTY PHARMACY CONTACT INFO)

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### Additional resources

**Product website:** <https://www.tukysa.com>

**Product prescribing information:** [https://seagendocs.com/TUKYSA\\_Full\\_Ltr\\_Master.pdf](https://seagendocs.com/TUKYSA_Full_Ltr_Master.pdf)

**Product resources:** <https://seagendocs.com/TUKYSA-Patient-FAQ.pdf>

**Updated – April 28, 2020**

### Additional instructions

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**Important notice:** The Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC), Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association (HOPA), National Community Oncology Dispensing Association, Inc. (NCODA), and Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) have collaborated in gathering information for and developing this patient education guide. This guide represents a brief summary of the medication derived from information provided by the drug manufacturer and other resources. This guide does not cover all existing information related to the possible uses, directions, doses, precautions, warnings, interactions, adverse effects, or risks associated with this medication and should not substitute for the advice of a qualified healthcare professional. Provision of this guide is for informational purposes only and does not constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation, or favoring of this medication by ACCC, HOPA, NCODA, or ONS, who assume no liability for and cannot ensure the accuracy of the information presented. The collaborators are not making any representations with respect to the medications whatsoever, and any and all decisions, with respect to such medications, are at the sole risk of the individual consuming the medication. All decisions related to taking this medication should be made with the guidance and under the direction of a qualified healthcare professional.

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