

ORAL CHEMOTHERAPY EDUCATION



National Community Oncology
Dispensing Association, Inc.
PASSION FOR PATIENTS



VISMODEGIB

Name of your medication

Generic name — vismodegib (VIS-moh-DEH-gib)

Brand name — Erivedge® (AYR-ih-vej)

Common uses

Vismodegib is used to treat locally advanced or metastatic basal cell carcinoma (skin cancer).

Vismodegib may also be used for other treatments.

Dose and schedule

Taking vismodegib 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 vismodegib is 150 milligrams (150 mg) to be taken by mouth once daily.
- Vismodegib can be taken with or without food, but at the same time each day.
- Vismodegib capsules should be taken whole and not crushed, opened, or dissolved. If you are unable to swallow vismodegib, talk to your care provider or pharmacist for possible options.
- If you miss a dose of vismodegib, **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

- Vismodegib has many drug interactions. 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 vismodegib 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 vismodegib at room temperature (68°F–77°F) in a dry location away from light.
- Keep vismodegib out of reach of children and pets.
- Leave vismodegib in the provided packaging until it is ready to be taken. Keep the bottle tightly closed to protect vismodegib from moisture.
- Whenever possible, you should give vismodegib to yourself and follow the steps below. If a family member, friend, or caregiver needs to give the vismodegib to you, they also need to follow these steps.

1. Wash hands with soap and water.

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2. Put on gloves to avoid touching the medication. (Gloves are not necessary if you give the drug to yourself.)
 3. Gently transfer the vismodegib 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.
- If a daily pill box or pill reminder will be used, contact your care team before using:
 - The person filling the box or reminder should wear gloves (gloves are not necessary if you are filling the box or reminder).
 - When empty, the box or reminder should be washed with soap and water before refilling. Be sure to wash hands with soap and water after the task is complete, whether or not gloves are worn
 - If you have any unused vismodegib, **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 vismodegib.
 - If you are traveling, put your vismodegib's packaging in a sealed plastic bag. Ask your pharmacist if any additional travel precautions are needed.

Side Effects of Vismodegib

Below are common side effects that have been known to happen in about one third or more of patients taking vismodegib 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
Muscle spasms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep a diary of your spasms, including a description of when and where the pain is occurring, what it feels like, and how long it lasts.• Stay as active as possible, but know that it is okay to rest as needed, too.• Tell your care provider if pain or spasms interfere with your activity. <p>If the pain or spasms bother you, ask your provider what you may use to help with this discomfort. Take only medication that has been prescribed or recommended by your care provider.</p>
Hair loss (alopecia)	<p>Your hair will grow back after treatment is over.</p> <p>Some people choose to wear scarves, caps, or wigs. A short hair-cut prior to treatment may help with the stress of hair loss.</p>

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Possible Side Effect	Management
Taste changes	<p>Some people experience a metallic or bitter taste in their mouth. To help with taste changes, try the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose and prepare foods that look and smell good to you. • Use plastic utensils if food tastes like metal. • Flavor foods with spices to change taste. • Suck on mints or chew gum to mask taste. • Brush teeth before and after eating with a soft bristle toothbrush. • Avoid smoking. <p>Notify your doctor if you are having trouble eating or are losing weight.</p>
Decreased appetite or weight loss	<p>Talk to your care provider if you notice a sudden decrease in weight while taking this medication.</p> <p>When you do not feel like eating, try the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eat small frequent meals instead of three large meals each day. • Keep snacks nearby so you can eat when you feel hungry. • Drink liquid nutritional supplements. • Drink 8–10 glasses of water or fluid each day, especially if you are not eating, unless your care provider has instructed you to limit your fluid intake.
Fatigue	<p>You may be more tired than usual or have less energy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay as active as possible, but know it is okay to rest as needed, too. • Try to do some activity every day. • Plan your activities, and do them at a time of day when you feel a bit more energetic. • Avoid operating heavy machinery if you feel too tired.

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Possible Side Effect	Management
Nausea or vomiting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eat and drink slowly. • Drink 8-10 glasses of water or fluid each day unless your care provider has instructed you to limit your fluid intake. • Eat small, frequent meals throughout the day rather than a few large meals. • Eat bland foods; avoid spicy, fried, and greasy foods. • Avoid vigorous exercise immediately after eating. • Don't lie down immediately after eating. • Avoid strong odors. <p>Let your provider know if you experience nausea or vomiting. Your provider may prescribe medication to help with the nausea or vomiting.</p>
Diarrhea (loose and/or urgent bowel movements)	<p>Monitor how many bowel movements you have each day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink 8–10 glasses of water or fluid each day unless your care provider has instructed you to limit your fluid intake because of some other health problem. • Eat small, frequent meals throughout the day rather than a few large meals. • Eat bland, low-fiber foods (e.g., bananas, applesauce, potatoes, chicken, rice, toast). • Avoid high-fiber foods (e.g., raw vegetables, raw fruits, whole grains). • Avoid foods that cause gas (e.g., broccoli, beans). • Avoid lactose-containing foods (e.g., yogurt, milk). • Avoid spicy, fried, and greasy foods. <p>Contact your provider if either of the following occurs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of bowel movements you have in a day increases by 4 or more. • You feel dizzy or lightheaded. <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>

Serious side effects of vismodegib

- ❑ Vismodegib can cause serious birth defects. Do not take vismodegib if you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant. Both men and women should use effective contraception during and after vismodegib therapy. (See “Pregnancy, Sexual Activity, and Contraception” section for more detailed information.)
- ❑ Rarely, vismodegib can cause severe skin reactions (including Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis, or drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms), which can be life-threatening. Seek emergency care if you have a severe rash or a rash on your mouth, eyes, or genitals.

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

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Handling body fluids and waste

Since vismodegib 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 vismodegib, it is important to know 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 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 vismodegib 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 vismodegib. Determine pregnancy status within 7 days prior to initiation of treatment in women of reproductive potential. Women of childbearing age and potential should start using highly effective birth control before starting vismodegib, during therapy, and for a minimum of 24 months after the last dose of vismodegib.
- Men should wear condoms with a spermicide (even if they had vasectomy) during therapy and for a minimum of 3 months after the last dose of vismodegib to avoid drug exposure to pregnant partners and female partners of reproductive potential because the drug can be found in sperm.
- Effective contraception could include 1 or more of the following: oral contraceptive, barrier methods, etc.
- Do not breastfeed while taking vismodegib and for 24 months after the last dose of vismodegib.
- Men should not donate semen while taking vismodegib and for up to 3 months after the final dose.
- Please inform your care provider right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant while taking vismodegib.
- It is safe to hug and kiss, but the special precautions described above are required before sexual activity.

Blood product donation

- It is recommended that you do not donate blood or blood products (such as platelets) while receiving vismodegib and for at least 24 months after the last dose of vismodegib.

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Obtaining medication

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

_____ (PHARMACY OR SPECIALTY PHARMACY CONTACT INFO)

Additional resources

Product website: www.erivedge.com

Product prescribing information: www.gene.com/download/pdf/erivedge_prescribing.pdf

Product resources: www.gene.com/patients/medicines/erivedge

Updated – September 15, 2023

Additional instructions

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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