

CRIZOTINIB¹

Available as 200mg and 250mg hard capsules

Used for adults with previously treated ALK-positive advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)

Drug interactions

Systemic antifungals e.g. ketoconazole ,voriconazole, itraconazole

Antibiotics – rifampicin and macrolides e.g. erythromycin, clarithromycin

Carbamazepine, phenobarbitone, phenytoin and St John's Wort

Oestrogens and progestogens – effectiveness of oral contraceptive pill may be reduced

Immunosuppressant drugs e.g. ciclosporin, tacrolimus, sirolimus

Cardiac medicines e.g. digoxin, verapamil, amiodarone, diltiazem, beta blockers

Fentanyl

Patient counselling points

- Swallow capsules whole preferably with water at about the same time each day with or without food.
- Avoid grapefruit juice as it may affect drug levels.
- If a dose is missed, then it should be taken as soon as the patient remembers if it is more than 6 hours before the next dose.
- Caution should be exercised when driving or operating machines as patients may experience vision disorder, dizziness, or fatigue while taking crizotinib.

Side effects

Patients should be counselled to report immediately to their doctor any signs that might indicate a serious side effect to crizotinib has occurred including:

- Feeling more tired than usual, skin and whites of eyes turning yellow, urine turns dark or brown (tea like) colour, pain on the right side of the stomach, itching or bruising more easily than usual (**signs of liver dysfunction**).
- Difficulty in breathing, especially if associated with cough or fever (**signs of lung inflammation**).
- Light-headedness, fainting, or chest discomfort (**signs of electrical changes or abnormal heart beat**).

¹ Indicates where the cost of the medicine will be greater than £1000 per cycle (may be up to £5000 per cycle) of treatment

Other very common side effects include:

Vision disorder – reversible. Contact your hospital if this occurs.

GI systems: nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, constipation, decreased appetite and taste disturbances

Oedema (water retention); Neuropathy; Dizziness

Fatigue – Rest as you need to, eat a balanced nutritious diet and plenty of fluids

Bone marrow suppression (fever/infections) – contact your hospital.

Ref. Crizotinib SPC. Accessed via eMC www.medicines.org.uk (accessed on 4 June 2013)