

Olaparib oral SACT

Available as 50mg hard capsule.

Used for maintenance treatment of relapsed, platinum-sensitive, BRCA-mutation positive ovarian, fallopian tube and peritoneal cancer after response to second line or subsequent platinum-based chemotherapy (as per NICE TA381).

Drug Interactions

Strong CYP3A inhibitors including (but not limited to) itraconazole, telithromycin, clarithromycin, boosted protease inhibitors may increase olaparib exposure and may increase side effects.

Strong CYP3A inducers such as phenobarbital, phenytoin, rifampicin, rifabutin, rifapentine, carbamazepine, nevirapine and St John's wort can reduce olaparib exposure and may reduce effectiveness.

Olaparib can increase exposure to substrates of CYP3A4; examples may include simvastatin, cisapride, cyclosporine, ergot alkaloids, fentanyl, pimozone, sirolimus.

Patient counselling points

Swallow the capsule whole with a glass of water, at least one hour after food. Ideally food should be avoided for 2 hours after the dose is taken.

The dose is taken twice daily, at the same time every day, 12 hours apart.

Avoid grapefruit juice and Seville oranges.

Side effects

Drop in white blood cells (neutropenia) - Increased risk of infections. Contact your hospital doctor straight away if your temperature goes above 38°C.

Drop in platelets (thrombocytopenia) - Bruising or bleeding more easily. You may have nose bleeds, or bleeding gums after brushing your teeth. Or you may have lots of tiny red spots or bruises on your arms or legs (known as petechiae).

Nausea and vomiting –Your medical team may prescribe anti-sickness medication to help control feeling or being sick. Avoid strong odours, eat several small meals throughout the day and drink plenty of fluids.

Diarrhoea – Drink plenty of fluids. Your doctor may prescribe an anti-diarrhoeal, which should be carried with you at all times. If diarrhoea is persistent or severe, your doctor may interrupt treatment or reduce your dose.

Headaches, dizziness.

Reduced appetite.

Feeling tired (due to low levels of red blood cells) – Rest as you need to, eat a balanced nutritious diet and drink plenty of fluids.

Reference: Summary of Product Characteristics for Lynparza, last updated May 2015, Cancer Research UK, What is Olaparib, last updated December 2014.

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Drug Name Tablet (T)/Capsule (C)	Can be:		Mixed With	Route	Comment
	Dissolved	Opened		PO/feeding tube	
Olaparib (C)		NO	See comment	PO	Do not crush, dissolve or open the capsules. Not suitable to be given via feeding tubes