Venetoklax 400-Obinutuzumab start

for Haematological malignancy

Regimen schedule

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Obinutuzumab	X																				
Obinutuzumab		X																			
Obinutuzumab								X							X						
Venetoklax	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Day	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Obinutuzumab							
Obinutuzumab							
Obinutuzumab							
Venetoklax	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

About your treatment

Obinutuzumab is an antibody that inhibits the growth of cancer cells. Venetoclax blocks proteins that regulate cancer cell growth, thereby slowing it down. The first treatment cycle lasts 28 days. You receive infusions on days 1, 2, 8, and 15. Subsequently, you receive infusions every 28 days. You take venetoclax (Venclyxto) tablets daily. To reduce the risk of a severe reaction during the obinutuzumab infusion, you are given medication before the treatment begins. The risk of a reaction is highest during the initial treatments. Effects on blood counts—such as anemia (low hemoglobin), thrombocytopenia (low platelet count), and/or neutropenia (low count of neutrophil granulocytes, a type of white blood cell)—are common. Therefore, these levels are monitored regularly via blood tests during treatment. Excessively low levels may require the treatment to be paused or the dose to be reduced.

How to take the medicines

Swallow the tablets whole with water at mealtime. If you miss a dose, take it only if there are more than 8 hours left until your next scheduled dose.

You must not eat grapefruit, bitter orange or star fruit (carambola) during treatment.

Read more in the package leaflet.

Side effects - symptoms and tips

The side effects we list here are the most common and important. They can vary greatly from person to person, and even from time to time. Side effects may determine your dose or require you to stop taking the medicine.

Tell your doctor or nurse if you have any side effects. Often the symptoms can be prevented or alleviated.

Problems with stomach and intestines

Diarrhoea is common. You may also become constipated.

Tip: Drink a lot, a few glasses more than usual per day. If you have diarrhoea, avoid fatty, spicy and high-fibre foods. If you're constipated, try high-fibre foods and exercise. Talk to your doctor if you get diarrhoea or constipation - you may need medication.

Infection susceptibility

You will be susceptible to infection after treatment. This is because the level of white blood cells drops. Before each treatment, blood samples are taken to see if the blood cells have recovered. If the values are too low, the treatment must be postponed.

Tips: Try to avoid close contact with people who have a cold or stomach illness, for example. Wash your hands often with soap and water. Hand sanitizer can be useful.

Tumor lysis syndrome

An uncommon but serious side effect in which cancer cells break down too rapidly, releasing substances that can be harmful to the kidneys, among other organs. This can occur at the start of treatment; therefore, the Venetoclax dose is increased gradually, and blood tests are monitored frequently. In addition, you will receive medication to protect your kidneys during the initial phase of treatment. It is also important to pay close attention to fluid intake during the first few weeks of treatment while the dose is being increased.

Contact your clinic immediately at:

Acute

Call 112 in case of persistent acute chest pain, pressure on the chest or difficulty breathing/shortness of breath

Contact your reception immediately at:

Fever above 38 degrees, or temperature lower than 36 degrees.

Severe diarrhea, or diarrhea combined with fever.

Bruises, nosebleeds or other bleeding that you cannot stop.

Palpitation

Skin rash on most of the body, or skin rash with pain.

Sudden deterioration, regardless of symptoms.

Common advice

It is important not to get pregnant or make someone pregnant while you are being treated with cancer drugs, as the drugs can affect the foetus. Therefore, use safe contraceptives. Sometimes double protection is needed, as side effects such as diarrhoea or the direct effect of cancer drugs may mean that the contraceptive pill is not enough protection on its own.

General information about cancer

Useful information about cancer is available from both 1177 Vårdguiden and Cancerfonden:

www.1177.se

www.cancerfonden.se