



# Tasigna<sup>®</sup>

(nilotinib) 200mg capsules

**Important  
Information About  
How to Take Your  
Medication**

# Important Things to Know About TASIGNA

## What **IS** TASIGNA?

**TASIGNA is a medicine that is available by prescription only.**

TASIGNA is a prescription medicine used to treat a type of leukemia called Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid leukemia (Ph+ CML) in adult patients who either:

- Are newly diagnosed
- Are no longer benefiting from previous other treatments, including Glivec® (imatinib)
- Have taken other treatments, including imatinib, and cannot tolerate them

## What to do

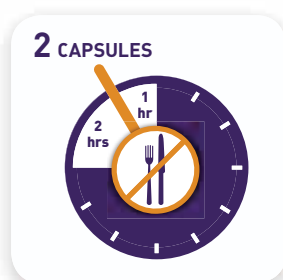
- **Take 2 capsules twice every day**, around the same time each day, as prescribed by your doctor. This is different from Glivec, which is taken once daily by most patients. Please keep this in mind  
*Glivec is imatinib*
- **Swallow the capsules whole, followed by a full glass of water.** Do not chew the capsules



- **Take each dose about 12 hours apart.** For example, if you take the first dose at 10 AM, wait until 10 PM before you take the second dose
- **Take TASIGNA when it is first prescribed.** Whatever is left of your previous medication should be discarded

## What **NOT** to do

- **Do NOT take TASIGNA with food.** Taking food with TASIGNA will increase the amount of TASIGNA circulating in your blood, and can cause dangerous side effects such as QT prolongation (see page 6)



- No food should be eaten for at least 2 hours before and 1 hour after taking a dose. This is also different from Glivec, which should be taken with food. Please keep this in mind

- **Do NOT consume grapefruit or grapefruit juice at any time during treatment with TASIGNA.**

Grapefruit interacts with an enzyme in the body that may increase the amount of TASIGNA circulating in your blood, possibly to a harmful level



- Please ask your doctor about any other foods that should be avoided with TASIGNA
- **Do NOT take any other medicines without talking to your doctor or pharmacist.** This includes over-the-counter and herbal remedies (eg, St. John's wort). The doctor will decide if any changes need to be made to the medicines that you are taking

## What should I do if I forget to take TASIGNA?

- If you miss a dose, take your next dose as scheduled. Do not take a double dose to make up for the forgotten capsules

## What should I do if I take more TASIGNA than I should?

- If you have taken more TASIGNA than prescribed, or if someone else accidentally takes your medication, contact a doctor or the hospital for advice right away. Show them the pack of capsules. Medical treatment may be necessary

## What should I do if I am sick and vomit after taking a dose of TASIGNA?

- If you are sick and experience vomiting after taking TASIGNA, you should NOT take another dose. Speak to your doctor immediately

## Tell your doctor if:

- You have a heart disorder or are taking medication for the heart
- You have QT prolongation or a family history of it
- You know that you suffer from low blood levels of electrolytes, such as potassium or magnesium
- You experience fainting or have an irregular heartbeat while taking TASIGNA
  - These can be signs of QT prolongation
- You are pregnant, breast-feeding, or lactose intolerant

## REMEMBER:

- **TASIGNA can cause a possible life-threatening heart problem called QT prolongation**
  - QT prolongation can cause an irregular heartbeat and even lead to sudden death in some patients
- Your heart should be checked with a test called an “ECG” before starting treatment
- Your doctor should check the levels of electrolytes (potassium and magnesium) in your blood
- You can **lower your risk of QT prolongation** with TASIGNA. Follow these important safety rules:
  - Take TASIGNA on an empty stomach.  
**DO NOT TAKE TASIGNA WITH FOOD**
  - Avoid grapefruit and grapefruit products
  - Avoid medicines that are strong CYP3A4 inhibitors (your doctor will determine if any of your medicines are strong CYP3A4 inhibitors)
  - Avoid other medicines or supplements that can also cause QT prolongation
- Call your doctor right away if you faint or have an irregular heartbeat while taking TASIGNA
  - These can be symptoms of QT prolongation
- Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have any side effects during treatment with TASIGNA

### Notes:

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