Sorafenib (sor AF e nib)

Patient Education

US Brand Names: Nexavar
Therapeutic Category: targeted therapy

What is this medicine used for?
Used to treat cancer. More specifically this particular drug used to treat renal cell carcinoma (cancer of the kidney).

How does it work?
Targeted therapy such as Sorafenib reacts with certain proteins on the surface of a cell in your body. This medicine can be made to target a protein on a certain type of cancer cell. Some targeted therapies will affect a cancer cell and/or normal cells.

What should my doctor or nurse know before I take this medication?
- If you are allergic to any medicines.
- If you are taking other over-the-counter or prescription medicines, including vitamins and herbal remedies.
- If you are, or may be pregnant.
- If you are breast feeding.

How is this drug given?
- This medicine can be used alone or in combination with other cancer medicine.
- This medicine is given in an oral pill form. Ask your doctor or nurse how you will be taking this medication.

What are the general precautions when taking this medicine?
- Talk with your doctor or nurse before taking aspirin, aspirin-containing products, over-the-counter or prescription medications, including vitamins and herbal remedies.
- Drink 8 to 10 glasses of non-caffeinated liquid every day (unless told otherwise by your doctor or nurse).

How is this drug given?
- This medicine can be used alone or in combination with other cancer medicine.
- This medicine is taken by mouth.
- Take Sorafenib on an empty stomach (one hour before or two hours after eating).
What are the common side effects of this medicine?
Most common side effects are:

- Fatigue
- Decreased wound healing.
- May cause hand and foot syndrome: skin rash, redness, numbness, tingling, painful swelling, & blistering.
- May cause an increase in your blood pressure (hypertension). Your blood pressure will be monitored while you are taking this medication.

Danger signals to report immediately to your doctor or nurse:

- Signs or symptoms of infection. This includes a fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or greater, chills, severe sore throat, ear or sinus pain, cough, increased sputum or change in color, painful urination, mouth sores, wound that will not heal, anal itching or pain, pain in your heels that prevent you from walking.
- Severe nausea or vomiting or diarrhea not controlled by medication.
- Not able to eat or drink.
- Bleeding from your nose, mouth, gums, or in your urine or bowel movements. Bruising that does not heal.
- Feeling extremely tired, weak, dizzy or light headed.
- Report any numbness, tingling sensations, or swelling with the absence of pain in feet and hands.
- Report any blistering or puffiness of hands and feet that interfere with daily activities.
- Headaches or blurred vision (related high blood pressure).

How should I store this medicine?

- Keep all medicine out of reach of children and pets.
- Consult your pharmacist for instructions on storage and disposal of this medication.

What do I do if I miss a dose?
Contact your doctor or nurse. Do not make up a skipped dose without discussing with your health care team.

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