

Drug Monograph

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A - Drug Name

Enhertu trastuzumab deruxtecan

COMMON TRADE NAME(S): Enhertu™

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B - Mechanism of Action and Pharmacokinetics

Enhertu™ trastuzumab deruxtecan is a HER2 targeted antibody drug conjugate (ADC). It contains a humanized anti-HER2 IgG1 monoclonal antibody (trastuzumab) attached to the cytotoxic component, a topoisomerase I inhibitor (DXd), by a cleavable tetrapeptide based linker. Deruxtecan is composed of the linker and the topoisomerase I inhibitor. After binding to HER2 on cancer cells, trastuzumab deruxtecan is internalized, and the linker undergoes intracellular cleavage by lysosomal enzymes that are upregulated in tumour cells. The active topoisomerase I inhibitor that is released causes DNA damage and apoptosis.

Distribution

The C_{max} and AUC of ADC and DXd increased proportionally at various doses (3.2 - 8mg/kg). Interindividual variability is low to moderate.

Cross blood brain barrier? Yes

PPB 97% (DXd)

Metabolism

Similar to endogenous IgG, trastuzumab is expected to be degraded into small peptides and amino acids via catabolic pathways.

Main enzymes involved CYP3A4 via oxidative pathways (DXd)

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| | | |
|-------------|----------------------|---|
| | Active metabolites | DXd (after intracellular cleavage by lysosomal enzymes) |
| | Inactive metabolites | Unknown |
| Elimination | Half-life | 5.6 days |

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C - Indications and Status

Health Canada Approvals:

- Breast Cancer

(Includes conditional approvals)

Refer to the product monograph for a full list and details of approved indications.

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D - Adverse Effects

Emetogenic Potential:

High (based on Breast Advisory Committee expert opinion; a 2-3 drug antiemetic regimen is recommended in the product monograph)

Extravasation Potential: None

The following adverse effects were reported in $\geq 1\%$ of patients with unresectable or metastatic HER2 positive breast cancer who received at least one dose of trastuzumab deruxtecan in a randomized Phase III clinical trial. Severe or life-threatening adverse events are also included from other trials.

| ORGAN SITE | SIDE EFFECT* (%) | ONSET** |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Cardiovascular | Ejection fraction decreased (2%) | E D |
| Dermatological | Alopecia (37%) (<1% severe) | E D |
| | Rash, pruritus (8%) | E |
| | Skin hyperpigmentation (6%) | E D |

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| | | |
|-----------------------|---|-----|
| Gastrointestinal | Abdominal pain (21%) | E |
| | Anorexia, weight loss (29%) (2% severe) | E |
| | Constipation (34%) | E |
| | Diarrhea (29%) | E |
| | Dyspepsia (11%) | E |
| | Mucositis (20%) | E |
| | Nausea, vomiting (76%) (7% severe) | E |
| General | Fatigue (49%) | E |
| Hematological | Febrile neutropenia (<1%) | E |
| | Myelosuppression ± infection, bleeding (43%) (19% severe) | E |
| Hepatobiliary | ↑ LFTs (32%) (2% severe) | E |
| Hypersensitivity | Infusion related reaction (2%) (may be severe) | I |
| Metabolic / Endocrine | ↓ K (13%) | E |
| Musculoskeletal | Musculoskeletal pain (31%) (1% severe) | E |
| Nervous System | Dizziness (13%) | E |
| | Dysgeusia (6%) | E |
| | Headache (22%) | E |
| | Peripheral neuropathy (13%) | E D |
| Ophthalmic | Blurred vision (4%) | E |
| Respiratory | Cough, dyspnea (11%) | E |
| | Pneumonitis (11%) (1% severe) | E D |

* "Incidence" may refer to an absolute value or the higher value from a reported range.
 "Rare" may refer to events with < 1% incidence, reported in post-marketing, phase 1 studies, isolated data or anecdotal reports.

** I = *immediate* (onset in hours to days) E = *early* (days to weeks)
 D = *delayed* (weeks to months) L = *late* (months to years)

The most common side effects for Enhertu™ trastuzumab deruxtecan include nausea, vomiting, fatigue, myelosuppression ± infection, bleeding, alopecia, constipation, ↑ LFTs, musculoskeletal pain, anorexia, weight loss, diarrhea and headache.

Interstitial lung disease (ILD) and **pneumonitis** have been observed. Although Grade ≥ 3 events, including fatalities, occurred during clinical trials, most cases reported were Grade ≤ 2. The median onset was 6 months (range 1 to 23 months).

Decreases in **left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF)** have occurred with trastuzumab deruxtecan. LVEF should be monitored if clinically indicated. Interruption or discontinuation of treatment may be required depending on severity (see Dose Modifications section).

Neutropenia, including **febrile neutropenia** (1.2%), has been reported with trastuzumab deruxtecan. Approximately 17% of patients experienced Grade ≥ 3 neutropenia.

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E - Dosing

Refer to protocol by which the patient is being treated.

Screen for hepatitis B virus in all cancer patients starting systemic treatment. Refer to the [hepatitis B virus screening and management](#) guideline.

HER2-Positive Breast Cancer: Use only in patients with documented HER2-positive tumour status based on validated assays.

HER2-Low Breast Cancer: Use only in patients with documented or HER2-low tumour status (immunohistochemistry [IHC 1+] or IHC 2+ / in-situ hybridization [ISH] negative tumour status) based on validated assays.

Enhertu™ trastuzumab deruxtecan is **not interchangeable** with other trastuzumab products (e.g. Herceptin®, trastuzumab biosimilars, or Kadcyra® trastuzumab emtansine).

Adults:

Intravenous: 5.4 mg/kg every 3 weeks

Dosage with Toxicity:

| Dose Level | Trastuzumab Deruxtecan Dose* (mg/kg) |
|------------|---|
| 0 | 5.4 |
| -1 | 4.4 |
| -2 | 3.2 |
| -3 | Discontinue |

*Do not re-escalate a previously reduced dose.

Dose Modification for Toxicity:

| Toxicity / Grade | | Action |
|--|----------------|---|
| Interstitial lung disease (ILD)/ pneumonitis | Grade 1 | Hold*. Consider corticosteroid (e.g. >0.5 mg/kg/day prednisolone or equivalent). If resolved in ≤ 28 days, resume at same dose level. If resolved in > 28 days, resume at 1 dose level ↓. |
| | Grade ≥ 2 | Discontinue permanently. Initiate corticosteroids (e.g. ≥ 1 mg/kg/day prednisolone or equivalent) and continue for at least 14 days followed by gradual taper for at least 4 weeks. |
| Neutropenia | Grade 3 | Hold*. Resume at same dose level. |
| | Grade 4 | Hold*. Resume at 1 dose level ↓. |
| Febrile neutropenia | | Hold*. Resume at 1 dose level ↓. |

*Do not restart treatment until ILD/pneumonitis resolved to Grade 0, ANC $\geq 1 \times 10^9/L$, or febrile neutropenia resolved.

Dose Modification for Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction (LVEF) Decreased:

| | LVEF | | Absolute Decrease from Baseline | Action |
|--------------|----------|-----|---------------------------------|---|
| Asymptomatic | > 45% | AND | 10 - 20% | Continue dose. |
| | 40 - 45% | AND | < 10% | Continue dose. Reassess within 3 weeks. |
| | | AND | 10 - 20% | Hold dose. Reassess within 3 weeks. If LVEF recovered to within 10% from baseline, resume at same dose level. If not recovered to within 10% from baseline, discontinue permanently. |

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| | < 40% | OR | > 20% | Hold dose. Reassess within 3 weeks. If LVEF < 40% or absolute decrease > 20% from baseline confirmed, discontinue permanently. |
| Symptomatic | Any | | | Discontinue permanently |

Management of Infusion-Related Reactions (IRRs):

Enhertu™ trastuzumab deruxtecan has not been studied in patients with a history of severe hypersensitivity reactions to other monoclonal antibodies.

Stop or slow the infusion rate (e.g. by 50%) if infusion reactions occur. Discontinue for severe reactions.

Also refer to the CCO guideline for detailed description of [Management of Cancer Medication-Related Infusion Reactions](#).

Dosage with Hepatic Impairment:

| Bilirubin | | AST | Trastuzumab Deruxtecan Dose |
|-----------------|-----|-------|--|
| ≤ ULN | AND | > ULN | No dose adjustment. |
| >1 to 1.5 x ULN | AND | any | |
| >1.5 to 3 x ULN | AND | any | Insufficient data. Monitor closely for toxicity. |
| >3 to 10 x ULN | AND | any | No data available. |

Dosage with Renal Impairment:

Patients with moderate or severe renal impairment may be at increased risk of developing ILD/pneumonitis.

| Creatinine Clearance (mL/min) | Trastuzumab Deruxtecan Dose |
|--|---|
| ≥ 60 | No dose adjustment. |
| ≥ 30 to < 60 | No dose adjustment. Monitor closely for toxicity. |
| < 30 | No data available. |

Dosage in the elderly:

No dose adjustment is required in patients ≥ 65 years. No clinically relevant differences in efficacy were observed based on age. Some clinical studies suggested a difference in safety between patients ≥ 65 years compared to younger patients.

Dosage based on gender:

Gender has no significant effect on pharmacokinetic parameters of trastuzumab deruxtecan, or released topoisomerase I inhibitor, based on population pharmacokinetic analysis.

Dosage based on ethnicity:

Ethnicity has no significant effect on pharmacokinetic parameters of trastuzumab deruxtecan, or released topoisomerase I inhibitor, based on population pharmacokinetic analysis.

Children:

Safety and efficacy in children have not been established.

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F - Administration Guidelines

Enhertu™ trastuzumab deruxtecan is **not interchangeable** with other trastuzumab products (e.g. Herceptin, trastuzumab biosimilars, or Kadcyła® trastuzumab emtansine).

- Reconstitute each vial with sterile water for injection to a final concentration of 20 mg/mL and gently swirl. Do not shake the solution.
- Further dilute in 100 mL of D5W. Do NOT use sodium chloride solution.
- A polyvinylchloride (PVC) or polyolefin infusion bag is recommended. Invert infusion bag gently to mix.
- Administer as an IV infusion only with a 0.20 or 0.22 micron in line polyethersulfone (PES) or polysulfone (PS) filter. Do NOT administer as an IV push or bolus.
- Do not admix with other drugs or administer other drugs through the same IV line.
- Administer the first infusion over 90 minutes. If well tolerated, may give subsequent infusions IV over 30 minutes.
- If the diluted solution was stored refrigerated (2°C to 8°C), allow solution to reach room temperature before administration.
- If a planned dose is missed, administer as soon as possible. Adjust the schedule to maintain a 3-week interval between doses.
- Cover reconstituted drug and diluted solution to **protect from light** during storage and administration.
- Store unopened vials in a refrigerator at 2-8°C in the original carton. Do not freeze.

Also refer to the CCO guideline for detailed description of [Management of Cancer Medication-Related Infusion Reactions](#).

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G - Special Precautions

Contraindications:

- Patients with known hypersensitivity to this drug or any components of its components.

Other Warnings/Precautions:

- Enhertu™ trastuzumab deruxtecan is **not interchangeable** with other trastuzumab products (e.g. Herceptin®, trastuzumab biosimilars, Kadcyla® trastuzumab emtansine).
- Trastuzumab deruxtecan has not been studied in patients with a history of clinically significant cardiac disease, baseline LVEF < 50% or severe hypersensitivity reactions to other monoclonal antibodies.
- Patients with a previous history of ILD/pneumonitis or with moderate or severe renal impairment may be at a higher risk of developing ILD/pneumonitis.
- Patients should use caution when driving, operating machinery or performing tasks that require alertness if they experience fatigue and dizziness.

Other Drug Properties:

- Carcinogenicity: Unknown

Pregnancy and Lactation:

- Clastogenicity: Yes
- Mutagenicity: No
- Genotoxicity: Yes
- Embryotoxicity: Likely
- Teratogenicity: Likely

Enhertu™ trastuzumab deruxtecan is not recommended for use in pregnancy.

- Adequate contraception should be used by patients who can become pregnant and their partners during treatment, and for at least **7 months** after the last dose.
- Adequate contraception should be used by patients who produce sperm and their partners during treatment, and for at least **4 months** after the last dose.
- Excretion into breast milk: Likely
Breastfeeding is not recommended during treatment and for **7 months** after the last dose.
- Fertility effects: Probable
Toxicities in testes were observed in animal studies.

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H - Interactions

DXd is a substrate of P-gp, OATP1B1, OATP1B3, MATE2-K, MRP1, and BCRP.

No dose adjustment is required during coadministration with drugs that are inhibitors of OATP1B or CYP3A.

No clinically significant interactions are expected with inhibitors of P-gp, MATE2-K, MRP1, or BCRP transporters.

DXd does not inhibit or induce major CYP450 enzymes.

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I - Recommended Clinical Monitoring

Treating physicians may decide to monitor more or less frequently for individual patients but should always consider recommendations from the product monograph.

Refer to the [hepatitis B virus screening and management](#) guideline for monitoring during and after treatment.

Recommended Clinical Monitoring

| Monitor Type | Monitor Frequency |
|---|--|
| CBC | Baseline, before each dose and as clinically indicated |
| LVEF | Baseline and as clinically indicated |
| Renal function tests | Baseline and as clinically indicated |
| Liver function tests | Baseline and as clinically indicated |
| Clinical toxicity assessment for infection, bleeding, fatigue, hypersensitivity or infusion reactions, GI, respiratory and dermatological effects | At each visit |

Grade toxicity using the current [NCI-CTCAE \(Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events\) version](#)

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J - Supplementary Public Funding

New Drug Funding Program ([NDFP Website](#))

- Trastuzumab Deruxtecan - Unresectable Locally Advanced or Metastatic Breast Cancer
- Trastuzumab Deruxtecan - HER2-low Unresectable Locally Advanced or Metastatic Breast Cancer

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K - References

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Product Monograph: Enhertu™ (trastuzumab deruxtecan). AstraZeneca Canada Inc, January 6, 2023.

Trastuzumab deruxtecan (interim monograph). BC Cancer Drug Manual. December 1, 2021.

August 2024 Reformatted Emetogenic Potential section

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L - Disclaimer

Refer to the [New Drug Funding Program](#) or [Ontario Public Drug Programs](#) websites for the most up-to-date public funding information.

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