

capivasertib

Pronunciation: ka-PEE-vah-SER-tib

Other Name(s): Truqap™

Appearance: tablet

This handout gives general information about this cancer medication.

You will learn:

- who to contact for help
- what the medication is
- how it is given
- what to expect while on medication



This handout was created by Ontario Health (Cancer Care Ontario) together with patients and their caregivers who have also gone through cancer treatment. It is meant to help support you through your cancer treatment and answer some of your questions.

This information does not replace the advice of your health care team. Always talk to your health care team about your treatment.

Who do I contact if I have questions or need help?

My cancer health care provider is: _____

During the day I should contact: _____

Evenings, weekends and holidays: _____

What is this treatment for?

Capivasertib is used to treat certain types of breast cancer. It is usually given together with another medication.

What should I do before I start this treatment?

Tell your health care team if you have or had significant medical condition(s), especially if you have / had:

- kidney or liver problems
- diabetes or hyperglycemia (high levels of sugar in your blood)
- diarrhea or loose stools, or any conditions that cause these symptoms (such as irritable bowel syndrome)
- history of rash or other skin problems
- any allergies.



Remember To:

- ✓ Tell your health care team about all of the other medications you are taking.
- ✓ Keep taking other medications that have been prescribed for you, unless you have been told not to by your health care team.

You will have a blood test to check for hepatitis B before starting treatment. See the [Hepatitis B and Cancer Medications](#) pamphlet for more information.

How is this treatment given?

- This medication is usually taken 2 times a day (about 12 hours apart) by mouth. You will take the medication for 4 days, followed by a 3-day break (with no capiwasertib) each week. Talk to your health care team about how and when to take your medication.
- Swallow the tablets whole with a full glass of water, with or without food.
- Do not crush or chew capiwasertib tablets.
- DO NOT eat or drink grapefruit, starfruit, pomegranate, Seville oranges or their juices (or products that contain these) while on this treatment. These may increase the amount of the medication in your blood and increase the side effects.
- If you forget to take a dose of your capiwasertib:
 - If it has been less than 4 hours from the missed dose, take the dose as usual. Then take your next dose at the normal scheduled time.
 - If it has been longer than 4 hours, do not take the dose. Take your next dose at the normal scheduled time. Do not take extra (double up) to make up for the missed dose.
- If you vomit (throw up) after taking your medication, do not take an extra dose. Take your next dose at the normal scheduled time.

- **Warning:** If you take too much of this medication by accident, or if you think a child or a pet may have swallowed your medication, you must call the Ontario Poison Control Center right away at: 1-800-268-9017.

Other medications you may be given with this treatment

To Treat Diarrhea

Capiwasertib in your treatment regimen can cause diarrhea. Diarrhea is when you have loose bowel movements (watery poo) or you need to go poo (have bowel movements) more often than usual. Diarrhea may start a few days after your treatment begins.

You may be given a medication called loperamide (Imodium®) to help treat your diarrhea. Take this medication only if you need it.

Keep your loperamide with you all the time. When diarrhea starts, take the loperamide right away.

Other important things for you to know about this treatment

This treatment may cause Hand-Foot Syndrome

Hand-foot syndrome is a side-effect of capivasertib treatment that affects the skin on your hands and the bottoms of your feet. It usually starts with tingling or swelling of your skin. Your skin can become painful, red and numb. In worse cases, your skin may start to peel and you can get blisters or sores. This may start days or weeks after your treatment begins.

You can help to prevent symptoms of hand-foot syndrome by doing these things:

- Keep your skin moist, especially in the skin folds.
- Gently apply moisturizer cream or lotion to the inside of your hands and bottom of your feet as needed. Choose a fragrance-free cream that contains lanolin (like Bag Balm®, Udderly Smooth®) or urea 10% (like Uremol 10®).
- Do not let your hands and feet get too hot. Wash sweat from your skin. Bathe or shower in lukewarm water and gently pat yourself dry.
- Do not do activities that cause rubbing or pressure on your skin, like heavy-duty washing, gripping tools, typing, playing musical instruments, and driving.
- Wear gloves while cleaning to protect your skin from things like laundry detergent, bleach, cleaning products, and dish soap.
- Wear loose fitting clothes and loose fitting, comfortable shoes with cushioned soles. Do not walk in bare feet.
- Drink 6–8 glasses of liquids each day unless your health care team told you otherwise.

DO this while on treatment

- ✓ DO check with your health care team before getting any vaccinations, surgery, dental work or other medical procedures.
- ✓ DO test your blood sugar regularly if you are taking any medications for diabetes. This treatment may cause changes in your blood sugar levels.

DO NOT do this while on treatment

- ✗ DO NOT take any other medications, such as vitamins, over-the-counter (non-prescription) drugs or substances, or natural health products without checking with your health care team.
- ✗ DO NOT start any complementary or alternative therapies, such as acupuncture or homeopathic medications, without checking with your health care team.
- ✗ DO NOT use tobacco products (such as smoking cigarettes or vaping) or drink alcohol while on treatment without talking to your health care team first. Smoking and drinking can make side effects worse and make your treatment not work as well.
- ✗ DO NOT eat or drink grapefruit, starfruit, pomegranate, Seville oranges or their juices (or products that contain these) while on this treatment. These may increase the amount of the medication in your blood and increase the side effects.

Will this treatment interact with other medications or natural health products?

Yes, this medication can interact with other medications, vitamins, foods, traditional medicines and natural health products. Interactions can make this medication not work as well or cause severe side effects.

Tell your health care team about all of your:

- prescription and over-the-counter (non-prescription) medications
- other drugs and substances, such as cannabis/marijuana (medical or recreational)
- natural health products such as vitamins, herbal teas, homeopathic medicines, and other supplements, or traditional medicines

Check with your health care team before starting or stopping any of them.



Talk to your health care team **BEFORE** taking or using these :

- Anti-inflammatory medications such as ibuprofen (Advil[®] or Motrin[®]), naproxen (Aleve[®]) or Aspirin[®].
- Over-the-counter products such as dimenhydrinate (Gravol[®])
- Natural health products such as St. John's Wort
- Traditional medicines
- Supplements such as vitamin C
- Grapefruit juice
- Alcoholic drinks
- Tobacco
- All other drugs or substances, such as marijuana or cannabis (medical or recreational)

What to do if you feel unwell, have pain, a headache or a fever

- ✓ **Always** check your temperature to see if you have a fever **before** taking any medications for fever or pain (such as acetaminophen (Tylenol®) or ibuprofen (Advil®)).
 - Fever can be a sign of infection that may need treatment right away.
 - If you take these medications before you check for fever, they may lower your temperature and you may not know you have an infection.

How to check for fever:

Keep a digital (electronic) thermometer at home and take your temperature if you feel hot or unwell (for example, chills, headache, mild pain).

- You have a fever if your temperature taken **in your mouth (oral temperature)** is:
 - 38.3°C (100.9°F) or higher at any time

OR

 - 38.0°C (100.4°F) or higher for at least one hour.



If you do have a fever :

- ✓ **Try to contact your health care team. If you are not able to talk to them for advice, you MUST get emergency medical help right away.**
- ✓ Ask your health care team for the [Fever](#) pamphlet for more information.

If you do not have a fever but have mild symptoms such as headache or mild pain:

- ✓ Ask your health care team about the right medication for you. **Acetaminophen (Tylenol®)** is a safe choice for most people.



Talk to your health care team before you start taking ibuprofen (Advil[®], Motrin[®]), naproxen (Aleve[®]) or ASA (Aspirin[®]), as they may increase your chance of bleeding or interact with your cancer treatment.



Talk to your health care team if you already take **low dose aspirin** for a medical condition (such as a heart problem). It may still be safe to take.

How will this treatment affect sex, pregnancy and breastfeeding?

Talk to your health care team about:

- How this treatment may affect your sexual health
- How this treatment may affect your ability to have a baby, if this applies to you

This treatment may harm an unborn baby. Tell your health care team if you or your partner are pregnant, become pregnant during treatment, or are breastfeeding.

- If there is **any** chance of pregnancy happening, you and your partner together must use **2 effective forms of birth control** at the same time until at least **4 weeks** after your last treatment dose. Talk to your health care team about which birth control options are best for you.
- Do not use hormonal birth control (such as birth control pills), unless your health care team told you that they are safe. Talk to your health care team about the safest birth control for you.
- Do not breastfeed while on this treatment.

How to safely store and handle this medication

- Keep capivasertib tablets in the original packaging at room temperature in a dry place, away from heat.
- Keep out of sight and reach of children and pets.
- Do not throw out any unused capivasertib tablets at home. Bring them to your pharmacy to be thrown away safely.

How to safely touch oral anti-cancer medication

If you are a patient:

- Wash your hands before and after touching your oral anti-cancer medication.
- Swallow each pill whole. Do not crush or chew your pills.

If you are a caregiver:

- Wear nitrile or latex gloves when touching tablets, capsules or liquids.
- Wash your hands before putting on your gloves and after taking them off, even if your skin did not touch the oral anti-cancer medication.
- Throw out your gloves after each use. Do not re-use gloves.
- Do not touch oral anti-cancer medications if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

What to do if anti-cancer medication gets on your skin or in your eyes

If medication gets on your skin:

- Wash your skin with a lot of soap and water.
- If your skin gets red or irritated, talk to your health care team.

If medication gets in your eyes:

- Rinse your eyes with running water right away. Keep water flowing over your open eyes for at least 15 minutes.

What are the side effects of this treatment?

The following table lists side effects that you may have when getting capivasertib. The table is set up to list the most common side effects first and the least common last. It is unlikely that you will have all of the side effects listed and you may have some that are not listed.

Read over the side effect table so that you know what to look for and when to get help. Refer to this table if you experience any side effects while on capivasertib.

Very Common Side Effects (50 or more out of 100 people)	
Side effects and what to do	When to contact health care team
Diarrhea (May be severe) What to look for? - Loose, watery, unformed stool (poo) that may happen days to weeks after you get your treatment. What to do? If you have diarrhea: - Take anti-diarrhea medication if your health care team prescribed it or told you to take it. - Do not eat foods or drinks with artificial sweetener (like chewing gum or 'diet' drinks), coffee and alcohol, until your diarrhea has stopped. - Eat many small meals and snacks instead of 2 or 3 large meals. - Drink at least 6 to 8 cups of liquids each day, unless your health care team has told you to drink more or less. - Talk to your health care team if you can't drink 6 to 8 cups of liquids each day when you have diarrhea. You may need to drink special liquids with salt and sugar, called Oral Rehydration Therapy. - Talk to your health care team if your diarrhea does not improve after 24 hours of taking diarrhea medication or if you have diarrhea more than 7 times in one day. Ask your health care team for the Diarrhea pamphlet for more information.	Talk to your health care team if no improvement after 24 hours of taking diarrhea medication or if severe (more than 7 times in one day)

Common Side Effects (25 to 49 out of 100 people)	
Side effects and what to do	When to contact health care team
Rash; dry, itchy skin (May be severe) What to look for? - You may have cracked, rough, flaking or peeling areas of the skin. - Your skin may look red and feel warm, like a sunburn. - Your skin may itch, burn, sting or feel very tender when touched. What to do? To prevent and treat dry skin: - Use fragrance-free skin moisturizer. - Protect your skin from the sun and the cold. - Use sunscreen with UVA and UVB protection and a SPF of at least 30. - Avoid perfumed products and lotions that contain alcohol. - Drink 6 to 8 cups of non-alcoholic, non-caffeinated liquids each day, unless your health care team has told you to drink more or less. Rash may be severe in some rare cases and cause your skin to blister or peel. If this happens, get emergency medical help right away.	Talk to your health care team if it does not improve or if it is severe
Nausea and vomiting (Generally mild) What to look for? - Nausea is feeling like you need to throw up. You may also feel light-headed. - You may feel nausea within hours to days after your treatment. What to do? To help prevent nausea: - It is easier to prevent nausea than to treat it once it happens. - If you were given anti-nausea medication(s), take them as prescribed, even if you do not feel like throwing up. - Drink clear liquids and have small meals. Get fresh air and rest. - Do not eat spicy, fried foods or foods with a strong smell. - Limit caffeine (like coffee, tea) and avoid alcohol.	Contact your healthcare team if nausea lasts more than 48 hours or vomiting lasts more than 24 hours

Common Side Effects (25 to 49 out of 100 people)	
Side effects and what to do	When to contact health care team
If you have nausea or vomiting: • Take your rescue (as-needed) anti-nausea medication(s) as prescribed. • Ask your health care team for the Nausea & Vomiting pamphlet for more information. • Talk to your health care team if: ◦ nausea lasts more than 48 hours ◦ vomiting lasts more than 24 hours or if it is severe	

Less Common Side Effects (10 to 24 out of 100 people)	
Side effects and what to do	When to contact health care team
Fatigue What to look for? • Feeling of tiredness or low energy that lasts a long time and does not go away with rest or sleep. What to do? • Be active. Aim to get 30 minutes of moderate exercise (you are able to talk comfortably while exercising) on most days. • Check with your health care team before starting any new exercise. • Pace yourself, do not rush. Put off less important activities. Rest when you need to. • Ask family or friends to help you with things like housework, shopping, and child or pet care. • Eat well and drink at least 6 to 8 glasses of water or other liquids every day (unless your health care team has told you to drink more or less). • Avoid driving or using machinery if you are feeling tired. Ask your health care team for the Fatigue pamphlet for more information.	Talk to your health care team if it does not improve or if it is severe

Less Common Side Effects (10 to 24 out of 100 people)	
Side effects and what to do	When to contact health care team
Mouth sores What to look for? • Round, painful, white or gray sores inside your mouth that can occur on the tongue, lips, gums, or inside your cheeks. • In more severe cases they may make it hard to swallow, eat or brush your teeth. • They may last for 3 days or longer. What to do? To help prevent mouth sores: • Take care of your mouth by gently brushing and flossing regularly. • Rinse your mouth often with a homemade mouthwash. • To make a homemade mouthwash, mix 1 teaspoonful of baking soda and 1 teaspoonful of salt in 4 cups (1L) of water. • Do not use store-bought mouthwashes, especially those with alcohol, because they may irritate your mouth. If you have mouth sores: • Avoid hot, spicy, acidic, hard or crunchy foods. • Your doctor may prescribe a special mouthwash to relieve mouth sores and prevent infection. • Talk to your health care team as soon as you notice mouth or lip sores or if it hurts to eat, drink or swallow. Ask your health care team for the Oral Care (Mouth Care) pamphlet for more information.	Talk to your health care team as soon as you notice mouth or lip sores or if it hurts to eat, drink or swallow
High blood sugar (May be severe) What to look for? • You may feel thirsty. • You may pee more often than usual. • You may feel tired or sleepy.	Contact your health care team as soon as possible (office hours)

Less Common Side Effects (10 to 24 out of 100 people)	
Side effects and what to do	When to contact health care team
What to do? • Your health care team may do a blood test to check your blood sugar level. • You may be told to change your diet or given medication to lower your blood sugar. • If you have diabetes, check your blood sugar regularly. Your health care team may ask you to check it more often than usual.	
Low appetite What to look for? • Loss of interest in food or not feeling hungry. • Weight loss. What to do? • Try to eat your favourite foods. • Eat small meals throughout the day. • You may need to take meal supplements to help keep your weight up. • Talk to your health care team if you have no appetite. Ask your health care team for the Loss of Appetite pamphlet for more information.	Talk to your health care team if it does not improve or if it is severe

Other rare, but serious side effects are possible with this treatment.

If you have **any** of the following, talk to your cancer health care team or get emergency medical help right away:

- Severe rash with blistering or peeling of your skin or any unusual changes in your skin; you may also have fever, chills, body aches or swollen glands
- Symptoms of an allergic reaction such as itchiness, rash, swollen lips, face or tongue, chest and throat tightness
- Symptoms of kidney problems such as swelling in your hands, ankles, feet or other areas of your body, pain in your lower back, and changes in urination (peeing) such as less urine than usual
- Symptoms of having very high blood sugar such as confusion or trouble staying awake, unusual fatigue or sleepiness, fast and deep breathing, and breath that smells fruity

For more information on how to manage your symptoms ask your health care provider, or visit: <https://www.cancercareontario.ca/symptoms>.

Notes

October 2025 New drug information sheet

The information set out in the medication information sheets, regimen information sheets, and symptom management information (for patients) contained in the Drug Formulary (the "Formulary") is intended to be used by health professionals and patients for informational purposes only. The information is not intended to cover all possible uses, directions, precautions, drug interactions or side effects of a certain drug, nor should it be used to indicate that use of a particular drug is safe, appropriate or effective for a given condition.

A patient should always consult a healthcare provider if he/she has any questions regarding the information set out in the Formulary. The information in the Formulary is not intended to act as or replace medical advice and should not be relied upon in any such regard. All uses of the Formulary are subject to clinical judgment and actual prescribing patterns may not follow the information provided in the Formulary.