

Gefitinib

250 mg Film-coated Tablets

Read this entire leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have further question, ask your doctor or your pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.

What is in this leaflet:

1. What Gefitinib® is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you are given Gefitinib®
3. How Gefitinib® is used
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Gefitinib®
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Gefitinib® is and what it is used for

Gefitinib, the active substance of Gefitinib®, is a selective inhibitor of the tyrosine kinase activity of the epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR). EGFR is involved in the growth and spread of cancer cells.

Gefitinib® is used for treatment of locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer with activating mutations of epidermal growth factor receptor.

2. What you need to know before you are given Gefitinib®

Do not take Gefitinib®:

- if you are allergic to gefitinib or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- if you are breast-feeding.

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Gefitinib®:

- if you have ever had any other lung problems. Some lung problems may get worse during treatment with Gefitinib®.
- if you have ever had problems with your liver.

Important safety information

Serious cases of keratitis and ulcerative keratitis. Keratitis and ulcerative keratitis have been reported following treatment with epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) inhibitors for cancer. In rare cases, this has resulted in corneal perforation and blindness. Patients undergoing treatment with EGFR inhibitors who present with acute or worsening signs and symptoms suggestive of keratitis should be referred promptly to an ophthalmology specialist. Treatment should be interrupted or discontinued if ulcerative keratitis is diagnosed.

Monitoring requirements

- Monitor for worsening of dyspnea, cough and fever. Discontinue if interstitial lung disease confirmed.
- Monitor liver function. Consider discontinuing if severe changes in liver function occur.

Hepatic impairment

Caution is advised in moderate to severe impairment due to cirrhosis—monitor for adverse events (risk of increased drug plasma concentrations).

No dosage adjustment is needed in patients with moderate to severe hepatic impairment due to liver metastases: Patients with moderate to severe impairment (Child-Pugh B or C) due to cirrhosis should be closely monitored for adverse effects.

Renal impairment

No dose adjustment of Gefitinib® is needed in patients with a creatinine clearance greater than 20 mL/minute. Caution is advised in those patients with a creatinine clearance of 20 mL/minute or less.

Children and adolescents

Gefitinib® is not indicated in children and adolescents under 18 years.

Other medicines and Gefitinib®

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken, or might take any other medicines. In particular, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- Phenytoin or carbamazepine (for epilepsy).
- Rifampicin (for tuberculosis).
- Itraconazole (for fungal infections).
- Barbiturates (a type of medicine used for sleeping problems).
- Herbal remedies containing St John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*, used for depression and anxiety).

- Proton-pump inhibitors, H₂-antagonists and antacids (for ulcers, indigestion, heartburn and to reduce acids in the stomach).

These medicines may affect the way Gefitinib® works.

- Warfarin (a so-called oral anticoagulant, to prevent blood clots). If you are taking a medicine containing this active substance, your doctor may need to do blood tests more often.

If any of the above applies to you, or if you are not sure, check with your doctor or pharmacist before taking Gefitinib®.

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

Talk to your doctor before taking this medicine if you are pregnant, may become pregnant or are breast-feeding. It is recommended that you avoid becoming pregnant during treatment with Gefitinib® because Gefitinib® could harm your baby.

Do not take Gefitinib® if you are breast-feeding.

Driving and using machines

You may feel weak while taking treatment with Gefitinib®. If this happens, do not drive or use any tools or machines.

3. How Gefitinib® is used

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

- The recommended dose is one 250 mg tablet per day.

- Take the tablet at about the same time each day.

- You can take the tablet with or without food.

- Do not take antacids (to reduce the acid level of your stomach) 2 hours before or 1 hour after taking Gefitinib®.

If you have trouble swallowing the tablet, dissolve it in half a glass of still (non-fizzy) water. Do not use any other liquids. Do not crush the tablet. Swirl the water until the tablet has dissolved. This may take up to 20 minutes. Drink the liquid straight away. To make sure that you have drunk all of the medicine, rinse the glass very well with half a glass of water and drink it.

If you take more Gefitinib® than you should

If you have taken more tablets than you should, talk to a doctor or pharmacist straight away.

If you forget to take Gefitinib®

What to do if you forget to take a tablet depends on how long it is until your next dose.

- If it is 12 hours or more until your next dose: take the missed tablet as soon as you remember. Then take the next dose as usual.

- If it is less than 12 hours until your next dose: skip the missed tablet. Then take the next tablet at the usual time.

Do not take a double dose (two tablets at the same time) to make up for a forgotten dose.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

Tell your doctor immediately if you notice any of the following side effects- you may need urgent medical treatment:

- Allergic reaction (common), particularly if symptoms include swollen face, lips, tongue or throat, difficulty to swallow, hives, nettle rash and difficulty breathing.
- Serious breathlessness, or sudden worsening breathlessness, possibly with a cough or fever. This may mean that you have an inflammation of the

lungs called 'interstitial lung disease'. This may affect about 1 in 100 patients taking Gefitinib® and can be life-threatening.

- Severe skin reactions (rare) affecting large areas of your body. The signs may include redness, pain, ulcers, blisters, and shedding of the skin. The lips, nose, eyes and genitals may also be affected.

- Dehydration (common) caused by long term or severe diarrhea, vomiting, nausea or loss of appetite.

- Eye problems (uncommon), such as pain, redness, watery eyes, light sensitivity, changes in vision or ingrowing eyelashes. This may mean that you have an ulcer on the surface of the eye (cornea).

Common or very common

Alopecia, angioedema, appetite decreased, asthenia, cystitis (burning sensations during urination and frequent, urgent need to urinate), dehydration, diarrhea, dry, red or itchy eye, dry mouth, eye inflammation, fever, haemorrhage, hypersensitivity, interstitial lung disease (discontinue), nail disorder, nausea, proteinuria (protein in urine), rash pustular, skin reactions, stomatitis, vomiting, epistaxis, haematuria, elevations in blood creatinine, red or sore mouth, increase of a liver enzyme known as alanine aminotransferase in a blood test (if too high, your doctor may tell you to stop taking Gefitinib®), red and sore eyelids, bleeding (such as nose bleed or blood in your urine), increase of bilirubin and the other liver enzyme known as aspartate aminotransferase in a blood test (if too high, your doctor may tell you to stop taking Gefitinib®), increase of creatinine levels in a blood test (related to kidney function)

Uncommon

Corneal erosion, gastrointestinal perforation, hepatic disorders, pancreatitis, skin reaction on the palms of the hands and soles of the feet including tingling, numbness, pain, swelling or reddening (known as palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia syndrome or hand and foot syndrome)

Rare or very rare

Cutaneous vasculitis, severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs), severe hepatic and renal toxicity, hemorrhagic cystitis (burning sensations during urination and frequent, urgent need to urinate with blood in the urine).

5. How to store Gefitinib®

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Store below 30°C.

Keep in the original package in order to protect from light and moisture.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information



What Gefitinib® contains

- The active substance is Gefitinib. Each tablet contains 250 mg of Gefitinib.

- The other ingredients (excipients) are: lactose monohydrate, microcrystalline cellulose, croscarmellose sodium, polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP), sodium lauryl sulfate (SLS), magnesium stearate

Contents of the pack

Each bottle contains 30 film-coated tablets.

 Sobhan Oncology Co.	
Leaflet	Gefitib
Color	PANTONE 295 U 
Size	210 mm x 310 mm Tolerance: 1±mm
Grammage	58-70 g/m ²
File Name	GTBT-0000-LF-01
date	07.12.03