

Pharmacy

DRUG INFORMATION

Eltrombopag Tablet



What is Eltrombopag?

- Eltrombopag is used for the treatment of low platelet count in some patients with chronic immune thrombocytopenia, severe aplastic anemia and chronic hepatitis C.

How Is Eltrombopag Taken?

- Eltrombopag is taken once a day orally, on an empty stomach, at least two hours before or four hours after antacids, food high in calcium or supplements containing iron, calcium, aluminum, magnesium, selenium and zinc.
- The tablet should be swallowed whole. Do not chew or crush the tablets. Inform your doctor or pharmacist if you have difficulty swallowing.
- If you miss or vomit a dose of Eltrombopag, skip the missed dose and take it at the next scheduled timing. Do not take more than one dose within 24 hours.

Can Eltrombopag Be Taken With Other Medications?

- Please inform your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking other medications, including Traditional Chinese Medicines, Jamu medicines or supplements.

What Are The Important Side Effects Of Eltrombopag?

- Medications prescribed by your doctor should be beneficial for your condition even though they may result in some inevitable side effects.

Side Effect	Management
Changes in the way the liver works	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please proceed to the A&E department immediately if you experience any yellowing of eye white and skin or tea-coloured urine, pale stools or severe abdominal pain.

Side Effect	Management
Increased risk of infections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce risk of infection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wash your hands after toileting. - Avoid crowds and people who are sick. Please proceed to the A&E department immediately if you experience signs of infection such as fever with a temperature of 38°C and above, chills and shivering. Avoid taking Paracetamol (Panadol®) to relieve fever. Be aware that taking Paracetamol may mask fever and hence delay treatment of infection.
Signs of blood clot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please proceed to the A&E department immediately if you experience tenderness or hardness over a vein, calf swelling and tenderness, sudden onset of cough, chest pain or shortness of breath.
Signs of a stroke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please proceed to the A&E department immediately if you experience sudden onset of severe headache, eyesight changes, slurred speech, loss of coordination, weakness or numbness in an arm or leg.
Signs of a heart attack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please proceed to the A&E department immediately if you experience chest pain spreading to arms, neck, jaw or back or if you are feeling sweaty and breathless.
Diarrhoea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform your doctor if this is severe and/or does not improve with medicine use.

Side Effect	Management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drink at least two litres (8 cups) of fluids every day when you are having diarrhoea. Avoid milk, dairy products, high fibre food or spicy food whilst you are having diarrhoea.
Nausea or vomiting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take small, frequent meals. Avoid smells that precipitate nausea. Take medicines for nausea or vomiting prescribed by your doctor. Avoid tight-fitting clothes around the waist.
Muscle aches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mild pain can be relieved by taking Paracetamol (Panadol®). Inform your doctor if pain is not controlled by Paracetamol (Panadol®). Avoid Paracetamol (Panadol®) when you are having fever. Taking regular warm baths may also help.
Headaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mild pain can be relieved by taking Paracetamol (Panadol®). Inform your doctor if pain is not controlled by Paracetamol (Panadol®). Avoid Paracetamol (Panadol®) when you are having fever. Inform your doctor if headache persists or if it is associated with vomiting, confusion or visual changes.

Side Effect	Management
Fatigue or tiredness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not drive or operate machinery if you are feeling tired. Inform your doctor if fatigue is persistent or worsens.
Cataract formation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please inform your doctor if you experience blurred vision, and/or sensitivity to light or other changes. Your doctor may also arrange eye checks for you.

If you develop rashes, facial swelling or shortness of breath after taking the medication, you could be allergic to the medication. Please seek medical attention immediately.

Are There Any Special Precautions That I Need To Take?

- You must not become pregnant during treatment with Eltrombopag and must use an effective method of contraception. You should take appropriate contraceptive measures during and up to one week after stopping treatment. If pregnancy occurs during your treatment, you must inform your doctor immediately
- You should not breast-feed during treatment.

What Else Can I Do To Help My Condition?

- Stay positive
Understand your condition and take an active role in managing it. Do not be afraid to talk about it with your doctor/ pharmacist/ family members. Repressed feelings can be harmful to your immediate well-being and long-term health.

How Do I Store Eltrombopag?

- Store your medication in a cool, dry place away from heat, moisture and direct sunlight.

If you have any problem with your treatment, please contact your doctor, pharmacist or nurse clinician.

Please keep all medications out of reach of children.

You can also find useful information with regards to your medication on this website:

<https://www.macmillan.org.uk/information-and-support>



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