



## WHAT IS ABIRATERONE ACETATE?

- An anti hormonal drug used to treat some prostate cancers.
- Prescribed by your oncologist or cancer specialist; can be renewed by your registered physician. Prescribed by your hospital specialist at least once per year.
- Available from community pharmacies on presentation of your prescription.




2 dosages:

- **500 mg tablet:** purple, oval, with "AA" on one side and "500" on the other
- **1000 mg tablet:** film-coated, white to off-white, oval, with a score line
- *Generic medicines may have a different form, dosage or colour*



- Do not store above 25°C, and keep out of the sight and reach of children.
- Do not take the tablets out of the blister pack to put them in a pillbox.
- Wash your hands carefully before and after handling the tablets.
- Do not throw away opened packs, please return them to your pharmacist.

## HOW TO TAKE THIS MEDICINE

<b>When?</b>	.....:.....	<b>= 1 dose per day at a set time not at mealtimes</b> (at least one hour before and two hours after a meal)
<b>How?</b>		Swallow the tablets whole, with water, at the same time every day. Do not chew, cut, crush or dissolve them.

You can use your **medical diary**\* and a **calendar** to note doses.

Do not stop taking or change how you take your treatment without consulting your doctor.

\*\* This leaflet is not a prescription, please refer to your most recent prescription.

## IF YOU FORGET TO TAKE YOUR MEDICINE OR VOMIT



- **If you forget to take your medicine**, do not take the missed dose. Take your next dose at the usual time, do not take a double dose. Keep a record in your medical diary\*.
- **If you throw up**, do not take another dose. Take your next dose at the usual time, do not take a double dose. Keep a record in your medical diary\*.

## INTERACTION WITH OTHER MEDICINES AND OTHER INTERACTIONS



Check with your doctor or pharmacist that the medicines (prescribed or over-the-counter), other substances (foods, spices and plants, including **St. John's Wort**, probiotics, essential oils, food supplements, etc.) and derivative products you use are **compatible with your treatment**. The molecules they contain, their dose and how often they are taken can interact with your treatment and affect its effectiveness and the occurrence of side effects.



- You and your partner must use effective methods of contraception (condoms and another method) throughout treatment.







Male fertility can be affected during treatment with abiraterone acetate.

Your doctor can tell you more about the possibility of sperm banking before starting treatment.

Patient diary available (in French) at [www.omedit-fiches-cancer.fr](http://www.omedit-fiches-cancer.fr)

## WHAT SIDE EFFECTS CAN OCCUR WITH ABIRATERONE ACETATE?

Like all medicines, abiraterone acetate may cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Side effects	Prevention
 Rash	Use soap-free gel or a dermatological bar. Avoid hot water. Pat dry. Use moisturiser (cream or milk). Avoid sun exposure, particularly between noon and 4pm. Wear protective clothing, even under a parasol (UVA reflection). Use SPF 50+ sun cream, applied 30 minutes before exposure and reapplied every 2 hours.
 Diarrhoea	Monitor your weight. Drink sweet beverages: water, tea with sugar, soda. Avoid water containing magnesium (CONTREX®, HEPAR®), coffee, iced drinks. Eat foods low in fibre (carbohydrates, carrots, bananas); avoid food that can stimulate digestion (dairy products, raw fruit/vegetables, grains, fatty foods, spices). Wash your hands regularly. Contact your doctor if you also have fever or if symptoms continue for more than 5 days.
 High blood pressure	Headaches, dizziness, and tinnitus are the first warning signs of high blood pressure. Measure your blood pressure (resting and sitting down, in the morning before breakfast and in the evening before going to bed; take three measurements two minutes apart); keep a record of your results. Exercise regularly (suitable activities) (30 minutes 3 times per week). Limit salt (max. 5 g per day) and alcohol. Eat a diet low in saturated fats (animal fats) and high in fibre.
 Risk of urinary tract infection (UTI)	Limit contact with people with infections. Wash your hands regularly. Disinfect all wounds thoroughly. Contact your doctor in case of temperature > 38°C, cough, shortness of breath/pain on breathing, pain when urinating/smelly urine, change in type/frequency of bowel movements (diarrhoea, constipation), or in case of redness, pain or discharge around your central line, feeding tube or urinary catheter.
 Swelling of the face or limbs	Eat a diet low in salt. Avoid tight clothing. If your legs swell, raise your feet when sitting. Wear compression stockings; put them on when getting up in the morning. Weigh yourself regularly. Consult your doctor if this type of swelling occurs.
	<p>Only the most common side effects are listed here. For more information, read the Patient Leaflet included with your medicine or ask your doctor or pharmacist.</p> <p>You can also ask your <a href="#">Regional Pharmacovigilance Centre</a> and report any side effects online: <a href="#">signalement-sante-gouv-fr</a></p>



Remember to go for the lab tests prescribed by your doctor.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU EXPERIENCE SIDE EFFECTS

- Take the medicine prescribed to counteract the side effects, as prescribed.
- Follow the preventive measures.

**Contact your doctor rapidly** in case of:

- Muscle weakness, muscle contractions
- Pounding heart (palpitations), chest pain
- Shortness of breath
- Unexpected weight gain
- Swollen feet, ankles or legs
- Yellowing of the skin or eyes, darker urine or severe vomiting
- Any persistent or worsening side effect



**Useful contacts:**

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**Note:**

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