

## For the Patient: **LUVALE**

Other Names: Treatment of ALK-positive Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) with Alectinib

**LU = LU**ng  
**AV = AdV**anced  
**ALE = ALE**ctinib

### **ABOUT THIS MEDICATION**

#### **What is this drug used for?**

Alectinib is a drug given to treat Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer that is anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK) mutation-positive. It is a capsule which is taken by mouth.

#### **How does this drug work?**

Alectinib works by interfering with certain enzymes called tyrosine kinases that are important in transmitting the chemical signals needed for essential processes like cell division and replication in cancer cells.

### **INTENDED BENEFITS**

This treatment is being given to slow down the growth of cancer cells in your body. This treatment can help with controlling some of the symptoms the cancer may be causing and may delay or prevent new symptoms from starting.

### **LUVALE TREATMENT SUMMARY**

#### **How is this drug given?**

- Alectinib is taken twice a day, continuously, as long as you are benefiting from treatment and not having too many side effects.
- Alectinib should be swallowed whole and should be taken with food.

#### **What will happen when I get the drug?**

- A blood test is done within one month of starting treatment.
- A blood test is also done every 2 weeks for the first three months of treatment, and each time you see your oncologist.
- The dose of your treatment may be changed based on your blood test results and/or other side effects.

## **SIDE EFFECTS AND MANAGEMENT:**

- Your oncologist will review the risks of treatment and possible side effects with you before starting treatment.
- The pharmacist will review how to take the medication and possible side effects with you on the day you first pick up your medication.
- Unexpected and unlikely side effects can occur with any drug treatment. *The ones listed below are particularly important for you to be aware of.* Please refer to the patient information handout entitled “**For the Patient: Alectinib**” for a complete list of possible side effects and their management.

<b>SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS</b>	<b>MANAGEMENT</b>
<b>Slow heart beat</b> rarely occurs	Minimize your risk of slow heart beat by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Always checking with your doctor and pharmacist about drug interactions when starting a new medication, herbal product or supplement.</li> </ul> Tell your doctor immediately or get emergency help if you feel faint, lightheaded or dizzy.
<b>Liver failure</b> rarely occurs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular blood tests will be done throughout your treatment to monitor your liver function.</li> </ul> See your oncologist as soon as possible if you have signs of liver problems such as yellow eyes or skin, white or clay-colored stools.
<b>Lung problems</b> rarely occur	Tell your doctor immediately or get emergency help if you have difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, cough or tightness in the chest.
<b>Muscle problems</b> rarely occur	See your oncologist as soon as possible if you get new or worsening signs/symptoms of muscle problems, including unexplained muscle pain or muscle pain that doesn't go away, muscle tenderness or weakness.
<b>Stomach or intestine perforation (tear)</b> rarely occurs	Seek immediate emergency help if you experience severe stomach or abdominal pain, fever, chills or changes in bowel habits.

<b>OTHER SIDE EFFECTS</b>	<b>MANAGEMENT</b>
<b>Eye problems</b> , such as seeing floaters or blurry/double vision sometimes occur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use caution when driving or operating machinery, especially at night.</li> <li>• Tell your doctor at your next visit, especially if the changes don't go away or get worse.</li> </ul>

OTHER SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
Your <b>skin may sunburn</b> more easily than usual	Refer to <i>Your Medication: Sun Sensitivity and Sunscreens*</i> or the <i>BC Health Guide</i> for more information. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After sun exposure, if you have severe sunburn or a skin reaction such as itching, rash or swelling, contact your doctor.</li> </ul>
<b>Sugar control</b> may sometimes be affected in diabetic patients	Check your blood sugar regularly if you are diabetic.
<b>Diarrhea</b> may sometimes occur	To help diarrhea: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drink plenty of liquids.</li> <li>• Eat and drink often in small amounts.</li> <li>• Avoid high fibre foods as outlined in <i>Food Ideas to Help with Diarrhea During Chemotherapy*</i>.</li> <li>• <b>NOTE:</b> if lactose in milk usually gives you diarrhea, the lactose in the capsule may be causing your diarrhea. Take LACTAID® tablets just before your alectinib dose.</li> </ul>
<b>Constipation</b> may sometimes occur	To help with constipation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drink plenty of liquids.</li> <li>• Try the ideas in <i>Suggestions for Dealing with Constipation</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>Nausea</b> and <b>vomiting</b> may occur. Most people have little or no nausea	To help with nausea or vomiting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drink plenty of liquids.</li> <li>• Eat and drink often in small amounts.</li> <li>• Try the ideas in <i>Food Choices to Help Control Nausea*</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>Tiredness</b> and lack of energy may sometimes occur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not drive a car or operate machinery if you are feeling tired.</li> <li>• Try the ideas in <i>Your Bank to Energy Savings: Helping People with Cancer Handle Fatigue*</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>Skin rashes</b> may sometimes occur	If itching is very irritating, call your doctor. Otherwise, be sure to mention it at your next visit.

\* Please ask your pharmacist for a copy

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PATIENT**

### **What other drugs can interact with LUVALE?**

- Other drugs may *interact* with alectinib. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before you start or stop taking any new prescription or non-prescription drugs, including natural health products.

### **Other important things to know:**

- If you miss a dose of alectinib, skip the missed dose and go back to your usual dosing times.
- If you vomit the dose of alectinib, skip the missed dose and go back to your usual dosing times. Do not take any doses to make up for the missed dose.
- The drinking of alcohol (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of this treatment.
- Alectinib may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use birth control while you are being treated with alectinib and for 3 months after stopping treatment. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breast feed during treatment.
- Store alectinib capsules out of the reach of children, at room temperature, away from heat, light and moisture.
- Tell all doctors or dentists you see that you are being treated with alectinib before you receive any treatment from them.

**If you experience symptoms or changes in your body that have not been described in “*For the Patient: Alectinib*” but worry you, or if any symptoms are severe, contact: \_\_\_\_\_ at telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_**