Health Facts for You



Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF) Medicines Anti-Fibrotic Therapy

The name of your medicine is:

Pirfenidone (Esbriet®) and Nintedanib (Ofev®) are used to treat Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF). They help to slow the rate that scar tissue forms in the lung.

Decreasing scar tissue growth may help prevent decline in lung function due to IPF. All patients with IPF can use these medicines if there are no other medical reasons that would prevent it.

For concerns or more information about this medicine, check with your health care team.

How to Use

These come in capsule or tablet form. You take them by mouth. Take medicine as told by your doctor.

It is best to take each dose with a full meal to decrease stomach upset. Swallow the medicines whole. **Do not** open, split, or crush.

Do not take if you plan to become or are pregnant.

Please keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Do not share your medicines with other people.

Before Using This Medicine

Tell your health care team if you:

- Have liver disease
- Have severe kidney disease
- Are or may become pregnant
- Cannot have regular blood draws
- Smoke or vape

- Have a skin problem
- Take medicine called Fluvoxamine or Ciprofloxacin
- Are allergic to either of these
- Have a history of blood clots
- Have coronary artery disease (CAD)
- Have a bleeding or bruising disorder
- Take blood thinners
- Take NSAID medicines regularly

Common Dosing for IPF

Pirfenidone (Esbriet®)

Week 1 - Take 1 (267 mg) – 3 times a day Week 2 - Take 2 (534 mg) – 3 times a day Week 3 - Take 3 (801 mg) – 3 times a day Take this dose unless told otherwise by your doctor.

Nintedanib (Ofev®)

150 mg - 2 times a day

Note: You may need to decrease your dose to 100 mg twice a day if told by your doctor.

Lab Work

You will need to have blood draws when taking either of these medicines. Lab tests will check liver function.

Side Effects

Call your doctor right away if you notice any of these side effects, that do not go away:

- Loose stools or diarrhea
- Dizziness
- Upset stomach or throwing up
- Headache
- Belly pain
- Loss of appetite
- Weight loss

When to Call

Call your health care team if you:

- Have minor symptoms and they become worse
- Have skin problems
- Have kidney problems
- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant

Your health care team may have given you this information as part of your care. If so, please use it and call if you have any questions. If this information was not given to you as part of your care, please check with your doctor. This is not medical advice. This is not to be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. Because each person's health needs are different, you should talk with your doctor or others on your health care team when using this information. If you have an emergency, please call 911. Copyright © 9/2022. University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#7769