Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Avutometinib and Defactinib

This information from UpToDate® Lexidrug™ explains what you need to know about this medication, including what it's used for, how to take it, its side effects, and when to call your healthcare provider.

Brand Names: US

Avmapki Fakzynja Co-Pack

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat ovarian cancer.

What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take this drug?

- If you are allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell your doctor about the allergy and what signs you had.
- If you take any drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins) that must not be taken with this drug, like certain drugs that are used for HIV, infections, depression, or stomach problems. There are many drugs that must not be taken with this drug.
- If you are breast-feeding. Do not breast-feed while you

take this drug and for 2 weeks after your last dose.

This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with this drug.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all of your drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe for you to take this drug with all of your drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug without checking with your doctor.

What are some things I need to know or do while I take this drug?

- Tell all of your health care providers that you take this drug. This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Have your blood work checked and eye exams as you have been told by your doctor.
- Other drugs may be given with this drug to help avoid side effects.
- Avoid lots of sun, sunlamps, and tanning beds. Use sunscreen with a high SPF and wear clothing that protects you from the sun.
- If you have upset stomach, throwing up, diarrhea, or decreased appetite, talk with your doctor. There may be

ways to lower these side effects.

- Avoid grapefruit and grapefruit juice.
- High triglyceride levels have happened with this drug. Tell your doctor if you have ever had high triglyceride levels.
- This drug may affect fertility. Fertility problems may lead to not being able to get pregnant or father a child. If you plan to get pregnant or father a child, talk with your doctor before taking this drug.
- This drug may cause harm to an unborn baby. A pregnancy test will be done before you start this drug to show that you are NOT pregnant.
- If you may become pregnant, use birth control while taking this drug and for 1 month after your last dose. If you get pregnant, call your doctor right away.
- If your sex partner may become pregnant, use birth control while taking this drug and for 4 months after your last dose. If your partner gets pregnant, call the doctor right away.

What are some side effects that I need to call my doctor about right away?

WARNING/CAUTION: Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side

effects when taking a drug. Tell your doctor or get medical help right away if you have any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Signs of liver problems like dark urine, tiredness, decreased appetite, upset stomach or stomach pain, light-colored stools, throwing up, or yellow skin or eyes.
- Signs of high blood pressure like very bad headache or dizziness, passing out, or change in eyesight.
- Signs of low potassium levels like muscle pain or weakness, muscle cramps, or a heartbeat that does not feel normal.
- Signs of a urinary tract infection (UTI) like blood in the urine, burning or pain when passing urine, feeling the need to pass urine often or right away, fever, lower stomach pain, or pelvic pain.
- Fever, chills, or sore throat; any unexplained bruising or bleeding; or feeling very tired or weak.
- Swelling.

- Sunburn.
- A burning, numbness, or tingling feeling that is not normal.
- Call your doctor right away if you have signs of a blood clot like chest pain or pressure; coughing up blood; shortness of breath; swelling, warmth, numbness, change of color, or pain in a leg or arm; or trouble speaking or swallowing.
- Call your doctor right away if you have severe stomach pain that lasts or gets worse. Call your doctor right away if stomach pain happens with fever, upset stomach or throwing up, change in bowel movements, tender stomach, very bad dizziness or passing out, or blood in the stool.
- Eye problems are common with this drug. Sometimes, eye problems can be severe. Tell your doctor right away if you have new or worsening eye problems like dry eyes; eye pain, redness, swelling, irritation, discharge, or crusting; more tears; or change in eyesight. Tell your doctor right away if lights bother your eyes or it feels like something is in your eye.
- Skin reactions are common with this drug. Sometimes, skin reactions can be severe or life-threatening. Get medical help right away if you have signs like a rash or

itching; pimples (acne); dry, red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin; blisters or sores in your mouth; or signs of skin infection like oozing, heat, or pain.

- This drug may cause muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness. A severe muscle problem (rhabdomyolysis) leading to kidney problems may happen. Call your doctor right away if you have new or worsening muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness. Call your doctor right away if you have signs of kidney problems like dark, reddish urine or trouble passing urine.

What are some other side effects of this drug?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother you or do not go away:

- Constipation, diarrhea, stomach pain, upset stomach, throwing up, or decreased appetite.
- Heartburn.
- Mouth irritation or mouth sores.
- Feeling dizzy, tired, or weak.
- Dry mouth.
- Weight loss.
- Hair loss.

- Joint swelling.
- Headache.
- Change in taste.
- Signs of a common cold.
- Change in nails.

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

You may report side effects to the FDA at 1- 800-332-1088. You may also report side effects at https://www.fda.gov/medwatch.

How is this drug best taken?

Use this drug as ordered by your doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

Avmapki Fakzynja Co-Pack (capsules and tablets):

- This combination pack has 2 separate drugs in it. The 2 drugs are taken differently. Be sure you know how to take each drug. If you have questions, talk with your doctor or pharmacist.

- Take with food.
- Swallow whole. Do not chew, break, or crush.
- If you throw up after taking a dose, do not repeat the dose. Take your next dose at your normal time.

Capsules:

- Do not open the capsules.
- This drug is not taken every day. Be sure you know how much time to have between doses. Take this drug on the same days each week. If you do not understand what your dose is and how often to take it, talk with your doctor.

Tablets:

- Do not take antacids within 2 hours before or 2 hours after taking this drug.

What do I do if I miss a dose?

Capsules:

- Take a missed dose as soon as you think about it.
- If it has been more than 24 hours since the missed dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your normal time.
- Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses.

Tablets:

- Take a missed dose as soon as you think about it.
- If it has been more than 6 hours since the missed dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your normal time.
- Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses.

How do I store and/or throw out this drug?

- Store in a refrigerator. Do not freeze.
- Store in original container.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.

General drug facts

- If your symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your doctor.
- Do not share your drugs with others and do not take anyone else's drugs.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please

talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.

- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. Check with your pharmacist. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

Consumer Information Use and Disclaimer

This generalized information is a limited summary of diagnosis, treatment, and/or medication information. It is not meant to be comprehensive and should be used as a tool to help the user understand and/or assess potential diagnostic and treatment options. It does NOT include all information about conditions, treatments, medications, side effects, or risks that may apply to a specific patient. It is not intended to be medical advice or a substitute for the medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment of a health care provider based on the health care provider's examination and assessment of a patient's specific and unique circumstances. Patients must speak with a health care provider for complete information about their health, medical questions, and treatment options, including any

risks or benefits regarding use of medications. This information does not endorse any treatments or medications as safe, effective, or approved for treating a specific patient. UpToDate, Inc. and its affiliates disclaim any warranty or liability relating to this information or the use thereof. The use of this information is governed by the Terms of Use, available at https://www.wolterskluwer.com/en/know/clinical-effectiveness-terms.

Last Reviewed Date

2025-06-11

Copyright

© 2026 UpToDate, Inc. and its affiliates and/or licensors. All rights reserved.

If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.

Avutometinib and Defactinib - Last updated on May 18, 2025
All rights owned and reserved by Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center