Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Fitusiran

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

Qfitlia

Warning

- Blood clots have happened with this drug. This includes blood clots in the arms, legs, lungs, heart, brain, eyes, or head. Tell your doctor if you have ever had a blood clot. Talk to your doctor to see if you have a greater chance of blood clots while taking this drug. Get medical help right away if you have signs of a blood clot like chest pain or tightness; fast heartbeat; coughing up blood; shortness of breath; dizziness or passing out; or swelling, warmth, numbness, change of color, or pain in a leg or arm. Get medical help right away if you have numbness or weakness on 1 side of the body, trouble speaking or thinking, confusion, drooping on 1 side of the face, severe or long-lasting headache, or blurred eyesight.
- Have your blood work and other lab tests checked as you have been told by your doctor.
- Gallbladder problems have happened. In some cases, gallstones have led to having the gallbladder removed. If you have questions, talk with the doctor.
- Call your doctor right away if you have signs of gallbladder problems like pain in the upper right belly area, right shoulder area, or between the should blades; yellow skin or eyes; bloating; or very upset stomach or throwing up.

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to prevent and lower the number of bleeding episodes in people who have hemophilia.

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 have liver disease.
- If you are taking another drug to help with bleeding like rFVIIa, activated prothrombin complex concentrate (aPCC), factor VIII (FVIII), or factor IX (FIX). Ask your doctor if you are not sure if you are taking another drug to help with bleeding. Talk to your doctor about how to use other drugs for bleeding with this drug if needed.

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.
- Do not stop taking this drug without calling the doctor who ordered it for you.
- Call your doctor right away if you have unexplained bruising or bleeding or if bleeding does not stop after taking this drug. This may be a sign that your normal dose is not working as well.
- Birth control pills and other hormone-based birth control may raise the risk of blood clots if used with this drug. If you use hormone-based birth control, talk with your doctor about using some other kind of birth control, like a condom, before starting this drug and while taking it.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan on getting pregnant, or are breast-feeding. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks to you and the baby.

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 infection like fever, chills, very bad sore throat, ear or sinus pain, cough, more sputum or change in color of sputum, pain with passing urine, mouth sores, or wound that will not heal.

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:

- Nose or throat irritation.
- Signs of a common cold.
- Joint pain.
- Pain, redness, swelling, or other reaction where the injection was given.
- Headache.

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.

- It is given as a shot into the fatty part of the skin on the top of the thigh or the belly area.
- This drug may be given into the outer area of the upper arm if given by someone else.
- If you will be giving yourself the shot, your doctor or nurse will teach you how to give the shot.
- If stored in a refrigerator, let this drug come to room temperature before using it. Leave it at room temperature for at least 30 minutes. Do not heat this drug.
- Wash your hands before and after use.
- This drug is colorless to light yellow. Do not use if the solution turns dark yellow or any other color, is cloudy, leaking, or has flakes or particles.
- Do not shake.
- Do not use this drug if it has been dropped or if it is broken.
- Do not give into skin within 2 inches (5 cm) of the belly button.
- Do not give into skin that is tender, damaged, bruised, or scarred.
- Do not inject through clothes.
- Do not rub the site where you give the shot.
- Each pen or vial is for 1 use only. Throw away the used pen or vial after the dose is given.
- Throw away needles in a needle/sharp disposal box. Do not reuse needles or other items. When the box is full, follow all local rules for getting rid of it.

Talk with a doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions.

What do I do if I miss a dose?

- Take a missed dose as soon as you think about it.
- After taking a missed dose, start a new schedule based on when the dose is taken. Talk with your doctor if you have questions about how to start a new schedule.

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

Prefilled pens:

- Store in a refrigerator. Do not freeze.
- If needed, you may store unopened containers at room temperature for up to 3 months. If stored at room temperature and not used within 3 months, throw this drug away.

Vials:

- Store at room temperature or in a refrigerator. Do not freeze.

All products:

- Store in the outer carton to protect from light.
- Keep out of direct sunlight.
- Do not put this drug back in the refrigerator after it has been stored at room temperature.
- 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.
- This drug comes with an extra patient fact sheet called a Medication Guide. Read it with care. Read it again each time this drug is refilled. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with the doctor, 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.

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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.

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