PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

# Larotrectinib

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

Vitrakvi

## Brand Names: Canada

Vitrakvi

## What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat cancer.

## What do I need to tell the doctor BEFORE my child takes this drug?

- If your child is allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell the doctor about the allergy and what signs your child had.
- If your child takes any other drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins). There are many drugs that interact with this drug, like certain drugs that are used

for HIV, infections, or seizures.

- If your child is taking St. John's wort. Do not give St. John's wort with this drug.

### If your child is breast-feeding a baby:

- Be sure your child does not breast-feed a baby while taking this drug and for 1 week after the last dose.

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

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

### What are some things I need to know or do while my child takes this drug?

- Tell all of your child's health care providers that your child is taking this drug. This includes your child's doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Have your child avoid tasks or actions that call for alertness until you see how this drug affects your child. These are things like riding a bike, playing sports, or

using items such as scissors, lawnmowers, electric scooters, toy cars, or motorized vehicles.

- Have your child's blood work and other lab tests checked as you have been told by the doctor.
- Avoid giving your child grapefruit and grapefruit juice.
- If the patient is a child, use this drug with care. The risk of some side effects may be higher in children.
- This drug may cause your child to not be able to get pregnant later in life. Talk with the doctor.
- If your child is of childbearing age, a pregnancy test will need to be done before starting this drug to make sure your child is not pregnant.

**If your child is or may be sexually active:**

- This drug may cause harm to the unborn baby if your child takes it during pregnancy.
- If your child may become pregnant, have your child use birth control while taking this drug. Your child will also need to use birth control for 1 week after the last dose unless you have been told otherwise. Be sure you know how long your child needs to use birth control. If your child gets pregnant, call the doctor right away.
- If your child's sex partner may become pregnant, have them use birth control while taking this drug. They will

also need to use birth control for 1 week after the last dose unless you have been told otherwise. Be sure you know how long they need to use birth control. If your child's partner gets pregnant, call the doctor right away.

## What are some side effects that I need to call my child's 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 child's doctor or get medical help right away if your child has 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 low calcium levels like muscle cramps or spasms, numbness and tingling, or seizures.
- 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.

- Feeling confused.
- Not able to focus.
- Hallucinations (seeing or hearing things that are not there).
- Memory problems or loss.
- Depression or other mood changes.
- Trouble speaking.
- Swelling.
- Shortness of breath.
- Low white blood cell counts have happened with this drug. This may lead to a higher chance of getting an infection. Call your child's doctor right away if your child has signs of infection like fever, chills, or sore throat.

## 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 child's doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother your child or do not go away:

- Constipation, diarrhea, stomach pain, upset stomach,

throwing up, or decreased appetite.

- Feeling dizzy, sleepy, tired, or weak.
- Trouble sleeping.
- Headache.
- Signs of a common cold.
- Cough.
- Stuffy nose.
- Nose or throat irritation.
- Weight gain.
- Back, bone, joint, muscle, or neck pain.
- Pain in arms or legs.

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

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

## How is this drug best given?

Give this drug as ordered by your child's doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

## All products:

- Give this drug with or without food.
- Keep giving this drug to your child as you have been told by your child's doctor or other health care provider, even if your child feels well.
- If your child throws up after taking this drug, do not repeat the dose.

## Capsules:

- Have your child swallow whole with water.
- Do not let your child chew or crush.

## Liquid (solution):

- Measure liquid doses carefully. Use the measuring device that comes with this drug. If there is none, ask the pharmacist for a device to measure this drug.

## What do I do if my child misses a dose?

- Give a missed dose as soon as you think about it.
- If it is less than 6 hours until the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to the normal time.
- Do not give 2 doses at the same time or extra doses.

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

### Capsules:

- Store at room temperature in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.

### Liquid (solution):

- Store in a refrigerator. Do not freeze.
- For 50 mL bottles, throw away any drug not used 31 days after you open the bottle.
- For 100 mL bottles, throw away any drug not used 90 days after you open the bottle.

### All products:

- 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 child's symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your child's doctor.

- Do not share your child's drug with others and do not give anyone else's drug to your child.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your child's 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

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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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