Pralsetinib

This information from Lexicomp® 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
Gavreto

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat thyroid cancer.
- If your child has been given this drug for some other reason, talk with the doctor about the benefits and risks. Talk with the doctor if you have questions or concerns about giving this drug to your child.

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 has high blood pressure.
- If your child takes 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, or seizures. There are many drugs that must not be taken 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 blood work checked as you have been told by the doctor. Talk with the doctor.
- High blood pressure has happened with this drug. Have your child’s blood pressure checked as you have been told by the doctor.
- This drug may lower the ability of the bone marrow to make blood cells that the body needs. If blood cell counts get very low, this can lead to bleeding problems, infections, or anemia. If you have questions, talk with the doctor.
- Your child may bleed more easily. Make sure your child is careful and avoids injury. Be sure your child has a soft toothbrush. Rarely, some bleeding problems have been deadly.
- Your child may have more chance of getting infections. Have your child wash hands often. Avoid crowds and people with infections, colds, or flu.
- Talk with the doctor before your child gets any vaccines. Use of some vaccines with this drug may either raise the chance of very bad infection or make the vaccine not work as well.
- This drug may affect how wounds heal. If your child has surgery, you may need to stop giving this drug before surgery. Start giving it again after surgery as you
are told by the doctor. Call the doctor right away if your child has a wound that
does not heal or any other wound problems.

- This drug may affect growth in children and teens in some cases. They may
  need regular growth checks. Talk with the doctor.

- This drug may affect fertility. Fertility problems may lead to not being able to
  get pregnant or father a child.

- If your child is of childbearing age, a pregnancy test will need to be done before
  starting this drug to make sure she 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.

- Birth control pills and other hormone-based birth control may not work as well
  to prevent pregnancy. Have your child use birth control without hormones in it
  like a condom. Have your child do this while taking this drug and for some time
  after the last dose. Ask the doctor how long your child must use birth control. If
  your child becomes pregnant, call the doctor right away.

- Males with a partner who may get pregnant must use birth control while taking
  this drug and for some time after the last dose. Ask your child’s doctor how
  long 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 high blood pressure like very bad headache or dizziness, passing out, or change in eyesight.

- Signs of liver problems like dark urine, feeling tired, not hungry, upset stomach or stomach pain, light-colored stools, throwing up, or yellow skin or eyes.

- Signs of bleeding like throwing up or coughing up blood; vomit that looks like coffee grounds; blood in the urine; black, red, or tarry stools; bleeding from the gums; abnormal vaginal bleeding; bruises without a cause or that get bigger; or bleeding you cannot stop.

- Signs of electrolyte problems like mood changes, confusion, muscle pain or weakness, a heartbeat that does not feel normal, seizures, not hungry, or very bad upset stomach or throwing up.

- 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.

- Chest pain.

- Swelling.

- Fever, chills, or sore throat.

- A burning, numbness, or tingling feeling that is not normal.

- Redness or irritation of the palms of hands or soles of feet.

- Severe lung problems have happened with this drug. Rarely, this has been deadly. Call the doctor right away if your child has signs of lung problems like shortness of breath or other trouble breathing, cough, or fever.

- Patients with cancer who take this drug may be at greater risk of getting a severe health problem called tumor lysis syndrome (TLS). This may lead to death. Call your child’s doctor right away if your child has a fast or abnormal heartbeat; any passing out; trouble passing urine; muscle weakness or cramps; upset stomach, throwing up, diarrhea, or not able to eat; or feels sluggish.

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:

- Feeling dizzy, tired, or weak.
- Diarrhea or constipation.
- Stomach pain.
- Upset stomach.
- Not hungry.
- Dry mouth.
- Mouth irritation or mouth sores.
- Back, bone, joint, muscle, or neck pain.
- Headache.
- Change in taste.

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.

- Give this drug on an empty stomach. Give at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after your child eats.
- 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.

**What do I do if my child misses a dose?**
• Give a missed dose as soon as you think about it on the same day your child missed the dose.

• If you do not think about the missed dose until the day of your child’s next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your child’s normal time.

• Do not give 2 doses on the same day.

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

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

• 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 information should not be used to decide whether or not to take this medicine or any other medicine. Only the healthcare provider has the knowledge and
training to decide which medicines are right for a specific patient. This information does not endorse any medicine as safe, effective, or approved for treating any patient or health condition. This is only a brief summary of general information about this medicine. It does NOT include all information about the possible uses, directions, warnings, precautions, interactions, adverse effects, or risks that may apply to this medicine. This information is not specific medical advice and does not replace information you receive from the healthcare provider. You must talk with the healthcare provider for complete information about the risks and benefits of using this medicine.

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If you have any questions, contact a member of your healthcare team directly. If you're a patient at MSK and you need to reach a provider after 5:00 PM, during the weekend, or on a holiday, call 212-639-2000.

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

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