Selumetinib

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
Koselugo

What is this drug used for?
- It is used to treat neurofibromatosis type 1 (NF1).

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 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.
- Your child will need to get heart function tests while taking this drug. Talk with the doctor.
- Have your child get an eye exam as you have been told by the doctor.
- Talk with the doctor before you give your child other sources of vitamin E. This drug has vitamin E in it.
- Avoid giving your child grapefruit and grapefruit juice.
- Diarrhea is common with this drug and can be severe. Call the doctor to find out what to do if your child has diarrhea or stomach cramps. Your child will need to take care not to become dehydrated. Do not try to treat diarrhea without first checking with the doctor.
- It is common to get a rash with this drug. Sometimes skin reactions can be severe. Call the doctor right away if your child has a rash over a large area, blisters, peeling, or a rash that bothers your child or does not go away. Call the doctor right away if your child has redness or irritation of the palms of hands or soles of feet.
- 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.

Have your child use birth control 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.

If your child’s partner may get pregnant, they must use birth control while taking this drug and for some time after the last dose. Ask the doctor how long they must 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 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 skin infection like oozing, heat, swelling, redness, or pain.

- Muscle pain or weakness, dark urine, or trouble passing urine.

- Fever, chills, or sore throat.

- Nosebleed.

- Blood in the urine.

- Heart failure (weak heart) has happened with this drug. If your child has or has ever had heart failure, talk with your child’s doctor. Get medical help right away.
if your child has signs of heart failure like shortness of breath, a big weight
 gain, coughing up white or pink mucus, fast heartbeat, waking up at night more
 than normal, or swelling in the arms or legs while taking this drug.

- Eye problems have happened with this drug. Some types of eye problems may
  need to be treated right away to lower the chance of long-lasting eyesight loss.
  Call your child’s doctor right away if your child has any changes in eyesight, eye
  pain, or very bad eye irritation.

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:

- Pimples (acne).
- Dry skin.
- Stomach pain.
- Mouth irritation or mouth sores.
- Change in nails.
- Hair loss.
- Change in color of hair.
- Pain in arms or legs.
- Back pain.
- Neck pain.
- Feeling tired or weak.
- Headache.
- Not hungry.
- Constipation, diarrhea, throwing up, and upset stomach are common with this
drug. If these happen, talk with your child’s doctor about ways to lower these
side effects. Call your child’s doctor right away if any of these effects bother
your child, do not go away, or are severe.
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 a meal.
- Have your child swallow whole. Do not let your child chew, break, open, or dissolve.
- Give this drug with a full glass of water.
- 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.
- 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?**

- Store at room temperature in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.
- Store in the original container. Do not take out the antimoisture cube or packet.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and
• 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.

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