

Cabozantinib

Care Team Contact Information: _____

Pharmacy Contact Information: _____

Diagnosis: _____

- This treatment is often used for kidney cancer, liver cancer, thyroid cancer, and neuroendocrine tumors. It may also be used for other diagnoses.

Goal of Treatment: _____

- Treatment may continue for a certain time period, until it no longer works, or until side effects are no longer controlled.

Treatment Regimen

Treatment Name	How the Treatment Works	How the Treatment is Given
Cabozantinib (KA-boh-ZAN-tih-nib): Cabometyx (KA-boh-MEH-tix), Cometriq (koh-MEH-trik)	Slows down or stops the growth of cancer or tumor cells by blocking specific proteins involved in tumor growth and the formation of blood vessels.	Cabometyx is a tablet taken by mouth. Cometriq is a capsule taken by mouth.

Treatment Administration and Schedule:

Your cabozantinib dose:

- Cabozantinib is available as two brands: Cabometyx and Cometriq. Do not substitute cabozantinib capsules with cabozantinib tablets.
 - Cabometyx is a tablet that comes in 20 mg, 40 mg, and 60 mg strengths.
 - Cometriq is a capsule that comes in 20 mg and 80 mg capsule strengths. It is supplied as 60 mg, 100 mg, and 140 mg daily-dose cartons.
- Your care team will tell how many of each capsule or tablet to take. If needed, they may change your dose.
- Your dose might differ, but cabozantinib is usually given as:
 - Cabometyx: 40 mg (one 40 mg tablet) once a day OR 60 mg (one 60 mg tablet) once a day
 - Cometriq: 140 mg (one 140 mg daily-dose blister card containing one 80 mg capsule and three 20 mg capsules) once a day
- Cabozantinib should be taken on an empty stomach at least 1 hour before or at least 2 hours after eating at the same time each day.
 - Cometriq should be taken with a full glass of water (at least 8 ounces).
- Swallow cabozantinib whole. Do NOT crush, cut, dissolve, or open the capsules. If you can't swallow them, talk to your care team for options.

Treatment Administration and Schedule (Continued)

- If you miss a dose of cabozantinib:
 - If it's been less than 12 hours, take your dose.
 - If it's been more than 12 hours, skip the missed dose.
 - Do NOT take 2 doses at once.
 - Write down if you miss a dose and tell your care team.

Storage and Handling of Cabozantinib

- Store cabozantinib at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F in a dry location away from light.
- Caregivers who are pregnant should use gloves and avoid direct contact with the medication.
- Keep cabozantinib and all medicines out of the reach of children and pets.
- Ask your care team how to safely throw away any unused cabozantinib.

Appointments: Appointments may include regular check-ups with your care team, lab visits, and imaging tests. It's important to keep your appointments whenever you can. If you miss any appointments, call your care provider as soon as possible to reschedule your appointment.

Supportive Care to Prevent and Treat Side Effects

Description	Supportive Care Taken at Home
To help prevent or treat nausea or vomiting	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
Other	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>

Common Side Effects

Side Effect	Important Information
Low White Blood Cell (WBC) Count and Increased Risk of Infection	<p>Description: WBCs help protect the body against infections. If you have a low WBC count, you may be at a higher risk of infection.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wash your hands and bathe regularly. Avoid crowded places. Stay away from people who are sick. <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fever of 100.4 °F (38°C) or higher Chills Cough Sore throat Painful urination Tiredness that is worse than normal Skin infections (red, swollen, or painful areas)
Low Red Blood Cell (RBC) Count and Hemoglobin (Hgb)	<p>Description: RBCs and Hgb help bring oxygen to your body's tissues and take away carbon dioxide. If you have low RBC counts or Hgb, you may feel weak, tired, or look pale.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get 7 to 8 hours of sleep each night. Avoid operating heavy machinery when tired. Balance work and rest, staying active but resting when needed. <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shortness of breath Dizziness Fast or abnormal heartbeats Severe headache
Low Platelet Count	<p>Description: Platelets help the blood clot and heal wounds. If you have low platelet counts, you are at a higher risk of bruising and bleeding.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blow your nose gently and avoid picking it. Brush your teeth gently with a soft toothbrush and maintain good oral hygiene. Use an electric razor for shaving and a nail file instead of nail clippers. Avoid over-the-counter medications that may increase the risk of bleeding, such as NSAIDs. Talk with your care team or dentist before medical or dental procedures, as you may need to pause your treatment. <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nosebleed lasting over 5 minutes despite pressure Cut that continues to bleed Significant gum bleeding when flossing or brushing Severe headaches Blood in your urine or stool Blood in your spit after a cough

High Blood Pressure	<p>Description: Treatment can cause high blood pressure. It usually has no symptoms and can be dangerous if not treated. High blood pressure increases the risk of stroke, heart attack, and other health problems.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise regularly, controlling your weight, and limiting alcohol and sodium intake. • If you are already being treated for high blood pressure, your care team may change your blood pressure medicine. • Your care team may ask you to track your blood pressure. <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headaches • Dizziness or lightheadedness • Blurred vision • Trouble breathing • Nose bleeds • A pounding sensation in the chest, neck, or ears • Irregular heartbeats • Chest pain or pressure
Nausea and Vomiting	<p>Description: Nausea is an uncomfortable feeling in your stomach or the need to throw up. This may or may not cause vomiting.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eat smaller, more frequent meals. • Avoid fatty, fried, spicy, or highly sweet foods. • Eat bland foods at room temperature and drink clear liquids. • If you vomit, start with small amounts of water, broth, or other clear liquids when you are ready to eat again. If that stays down, then try soft foods (such as gelatin, plain cornstarch pudding, yogurt, strained soup, or strained cooked cereal). Slowly work up to eating solid food. • Your care provider may prescribe medicine for these symptoms. <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vomiting for more than 24 hours • Vomiting that's nonstop • Signs of dehydration (like feeling very thirsty, having a dry mouth, feeling dizzy, or having dark urine) • Blood or coffee-ground-like appearance in your vomit • Bad stomach pain that doesn't go away after vomiting
Diarrhea	<p>Description: Diarrhea is when you have loose, watery bowel movements more often than usual. The need to use the bathroom may occur urgently.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep track of how many times you go to the bathroom each day. • Drink 8 to 10 glasses of water or other fluids every day, unless your doctor tells you otherwise. • Eat small meals of mild, low-fiber foods like bananas, applesauce, potatoes, chicken, rice, and toast. • Stay away from foods with high fiber (like raw vegetables, fruits, and whole grains), foods that cause gas (like broccoli and beans), dairy foods (like yogurt and milk), and spicy, fried, and greasy foods. • Your care team might suggest a medicine for diarrhea. <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 or more bowel movements than normal in 24 hours • Dizziness or lightheadedness while having diarrhea • Bloody diarrhea

Liver Problems	<p>Description: Treatment can harm your liver. This may cause nausea, stomach pain, and bleeding or bruising. It can also turn your skin and eyes yellow and make your urine dark. Lab tests may be performed to monitor liver function.</p> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yellowing of your skin or the whites of your eyes • Severe nausea or vomiting • Pain on the right side of your stomach area (abdomen) • Dark urine (tea colored) • Bleeding or bruising more easily than normal
Mouth Irritation or Sores	<p>Description: This treatment can irritate the lining of the mouth. In some cases, this can cause redness, sores, pain, and swelling.</p> <div> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rinse your mouth after meals and at bedtime, and more often if sores develop. • Brush your teeth with a soft toothbrush or cotton swab after meals. • Use a mild, non-alcohol mouth rinse at least four times daily (after meals and at bedtime). A simple mixture is 1/8 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon baking soda in 8 ounces of warm water. • Avoid acidic, hot, spicy, or rough foods and drinks that may irritate your mouth. • If you have mouth sores, avoid tobacco, alcohol, and alcohol-based mouthwashes. • Your care team may prescribe medicine for these symptoms. </div> <div> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain or sores in your mouth or throat </div>
Taste Changes	<p>Description: Taste changes, such as loss of taste or taste sensitivity, may occur. Foods that used to taste good may no longer be appealing or certain tastes, such as metallic tastes, may become more noticeable.</p> <div> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose appealing foods based on appearance and smell. • Use plastic utensils if food tastes metallic. • Add spices or juices to enhance food flavors. • Suck on mints or chew gum to improve taste. • Brush your teeth before and after eating with a soft toothbrush. • Avoid smoking. </div> <div> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trouble eating • Weight loss </div>

Low Appetite	<p>Description: Treatment can cause a low appetite, which means you may not feel like eating much. It's important to eat enough so your body gets the nutrients it needs to heal and stay strong. Eating healthy foods helps you feel better and recover faster.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be as active as possible. Do some physical activity before a meal. Before starting an exercise program, talk with your care team. • Take note of the times during the day when your appetite is best. Do not limit food when your appetite is good. Eat your largest meal when you feel the hungriest, whether it is breakfast, lunch, or dinner. • Eat 5-6 small meals per day and snack anytime. • Choose foods high in protein, such as beans, chicken, fish, meat, yogurt, tofu, and eggs. During meals, eat high-protein foods first. • Choose foods that are high in calories. Do not select foods that are labeled "low-fat," "fat-free" or "diet." • If you feel full quickly when eating, do not drink any liquids 30 minutes before a meal so you have more room for solid food. Then, drink liquids between meals. Choose liquids with extra calories, not diet drinks. • Eat a bedtime snack. Choose something easy to digest, such as peanut butter and crackers. If you tend to experience reflux or heartburn, eat at least an hour before lying down. • If food is not appealing, try a nutritious beverage, such as a high-protein shake or smoothie, instead of solid food. • Ask your healthcare team to recommend a liquid nutrition supplement. Add a scoop of protein powder, yogurt, or ice cream for added protein and calories. <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weight loss • No appetite • Tiredness
Rash, redness, itching or peeling of your skin on your hands and feet (Hand-Foot Skin Reaction)	<p>Description: Hand-Foot Skin Reaction causes dryness, thickening, calluses, blisters, or cracking of the skin on the palms of your hands and soles of your feet.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands and feet moisturized with a non-scented moisturizing cream. • Applying urea 10% or 20% cream twice daily to the affected area may be helpful. • Avoid exposure to hot water on the hands and feet in showers or baths that may dry out the skin or by doing dishes. • Avoid tight-fitting shoes or socks. • Avoid excess rubbing on hands and feet unless putting on lotion • Wear gloves when working with your hands <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painful blisters or calluses on your hands or feet

Hair Color Changes	<p>Description: Treatment may cause changes in hair color. Hair usually returns to normal after treatment, but for some, the change may be permanent.</p> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excessive thinning or loss of hair • Hair color does not return to normal after treatment ends
Kidney Problems	<p>Description: Treatment can cause kidney problems, including damage to the kidneys and decreased kidney function. Your care team will monitor your kidney function during treatment.</p> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swelling in your hands, arms, legs, or feet
Fatigue	<p>Description: Fatigue is a constant and sometimes strong feeling of tiredness.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine exercise has been shown to decrease levels of fatigue. Work with your care team to find the right type of exercise for you. • Ask your family and friends for help with daily tasks and emotional support. • Try healthy ways to feel better, like meditation, writing in a journal, doing yoga, and using guided imagery to lower anxiety and feel good. • Make a regular sleep schedule and limit naps during the day so you can sleep better at night, aiming for 7 to 8 hours of sleep. • Don't use heavy machines or do things that need your full attention if you're very tired to avoid accidents. <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tiredness that affects your daily life • Tiredness all the time, and it doesn't get better with rest • Dizziness and weakness, along with being tired
Hormone Problems	<p>Description: Treatment can change how much hormones your adrenal and thyroid glands make. Your care team will check hormone levels at the beginning of treatment, at different times while you're being treated, or if you start showing symptoms.</p> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headaches that will not go away or unusual headaches • Eye sensitivity to light • Eye problems • Rapid heartbeat • Increased sweating • Extreme tiredness • Weight gain or weight loss • Feeling more hungry or thirsty than usual • Urinating more often than usual • Hair loss • Feeling cold • Constipation • Your voice gets deeper • Dizziness or fainting • Changes in mood or behavior, such as decreased sex drive, irritability, or forgetfulness

<p>Changes in Electrolytes and Other Laboratory Results</p>	<p>Description: Treatment may cause low blood calcium, magnesium, sodium, phosphate, and albumin. It may also cause high lactate dehydrogenase and triglycerides and changes (either high or low) in blood sugar and potassium. You care team will do blood tests to check you for these problems and will treat you if needed.</p> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muscle stiffness or muscle spasms • Numbness or tingling in your fingers, toes, or around your mouth • Seizures • Sudden weight gain • Swelling of your arms, hands, legs, and ankles
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Select Rare or Serious Side Effects

Side Effect	Talk to Your Care Team if You Have Any of These Signs or Symptoms	
A tear in your stomach or intestinal wall (perforation) or an abnormal connection between 2 parts of your body (fistula)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tenderness or pain in your stomach-area (abdomen) that is severe or that does not go away. 	
Blood Clots, Stroke, Heart Attack, and Chest Pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swelling or pain in your arms or legs Shortness of breath Feel lightheaded or faint Sweating more than usual Numbness or weakness of your face, arm or leg, especially on one side of your body 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes Sudden trouble walking Dizziness, loss of balance or coordination A sudden severe headache
Severe Jaw Bone Problems (Osteonecrosis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jaw pain Toothache 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sores on your gums
Brain Problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headaches Seizures Confusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes in vision Problems thinking

Before starting treatment, ask your care team when to call 9-1-1 or seek emergency help.

If you experience any new, worsening, or uncontrolled side effects, contact your care team immediately.

Intimacy, Pregnancy, and Breastfeeding

- Treatment may **change how you feel about intimacy and your body**. However, physical closeness—such as holding hands and hugging—remains safe. It is common to have questions about intimacy. If needed, talk to your care team for guidance.
- Treatment may **harm an unborn baby**.
 - If you might get pregnant, take a pregnancy test before starting treatment.
 - Use an effective method of birth control during treatment and for 4 months after your last dose.
 - If you think you might be pregnant or if you become pregnant, tell your care team right away.
 - If your partners could become pregnant, use an effective method of birth control—such as condoms—during treatment.
- Do NOT breastfeed** during treatment and for 4 months after your last dose.

Additional Information

- Tell your care team about all the medicines you take.**
This includes prescriptions, over-the-counter drugs, vitamins, and herbal products. Before starting any new medicine, supplement, or vaccine, ask your care team first.
- Avoid drinking grapefruit juice**, eating grapefruit or taking supplements that contain grapefruit or **St. John's wort** during treatment.
- Wound healing problems** have happened in some people who take cabozantinib. Tell your care team if you plan to have any surgery before or during treatment.
 - You should stop taking cabozantinib at least 3 weeks before planned surgery.
 - Your healthcare provider should tell you when you may start taking cabozantinib again after surgery.
- This Patient Education Sheet may not describe all possible side effects.**
Call your healthcare provider for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

Notes

Updated Date: August 23, 2025

Scan the QR code below to access this education sheet.



Important notice: The Association of Cancer Care Centers (ACCC), Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association (HOPA), Network for Collaborative Oncology Development & Advancement, Inc. (NCODA), and Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) have collaborated in gathering information for and developing this patient education guide. This guide represents a brief summary of the medication derived from information provided by the drug manufacturer and other resources.

This guide does not cover all existing information related to the possible uses, directions, doses, precautions, warnings, interactions, adverse effects, or risks associated with this medication and should not substitute for the advice of a qualified healthcare professional. Provision of this guide is for informational purposes only and does not constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation, or favoring of this medication by ACCC, HOPA, NCODA, or ONS, who assume no liability for and cannot ensure the accuracy of the information presented. All decisions related to taking this medication should be made with the guidance and under the direction of a qualified healthcare professional.

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