



## What is IRESSA®

Medicine Name	Description
Gefitinib	<p>250 mg pill: round, brown</p> <p>There are generic drugs of different forms</p> 

## How should you take your medicine?

Your doctor has determined your medicine dosage.

In your case, the dosage is as follows: one 250 mg pill a day, once a day, every day.








Swallow whole with a glass of water, do not crush the pills. Pills can be dissolved (without crushing) in half a glass of water (noncarbonated).

Dissolution in water can take up to 20 minutes.

At a set time, with or without meals.

If you forgot to take a dose or in case of vomiting, do not take an additional dose but wait for the time to take the next dose.

## Dosage – therapy regimen

Once a day, at a set time, with or without meals									
With no gaps	 D1	 D2	 D3	 D4	 D5	 D6	 D7	...	 D28

## How to get the medicine supply?

This medicine is available in local pharmacies.

Getting this medicine might take time. Be careful and order the medicine in advance. Store this product in its original packaging, away from sources of heat and moisture.

## What else do you need to know?

### Precautions and monitoring

Laboratory tests are necessary while taking your medication (blood test to monitor liver and kidney function, as well as clinical condition monitoring).

### Using contraceptives

This drug may harm an unborn baby. During the entire treatment, you and your partner need to use effective contraception methods (condoms combined with another method).

### Interactions with other medications and/or food

The occurrence of interactions between IRESSA® and your other treatments may have harmful consequences (reduced drug efficacy and tolerance). It is important to tell your pharmacist and doctor about all medications and/or other substances (foods, plants, probiotics, essential oils, nutritional supplements, etc.) that you are taking.

*Example:* Why taking IRESSA®, it is necessary to avoid using grapefruit or Saint John's wort.

## What are possible side effects?

**Only the most common side effects are listed below. There might be some other side effects. For additional information, refer to your medicine leaflet or seek advice from your doctor or pharmacist.**

### SIDE EFFECTS



Most common ones	<p><b>Digestive problems:</b> diarrhea, nausea (not severe), vomiting, inflammations inside the mouth (ulcers), abdominal pain, loss of appetite</p> <p><b>Skin problems:</b> redness, dryness, acne, itching, nail infection or peeling, hair loss, allergic reactions</p> <p><b>Eyes:</b> conjunctivitis, dry eyes</p> <p><b>Abnormal lab results:</b> abnormal liver and/or kidney function tests</p> <p><b>Others:</b> fatigue, respiratory problems</p>
Some patients require special attention	<p>Patients – slow cytochrome 2D6 metabolizers</p> <p>Lactose intolerant patients</p>
<b>WHEN TO ALERT THE MEDICAL TEAM?</b>	
Tell medical personnel if the following conditions are present and in the absence of specific medical advice	<p><b>Digestive problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Significant and/or rapid weight loss</li> <li>&gt; Very frequent diarrhea, bowel movement over 4 times a day</li> <li>&gt; Mouth pain or ulcers that prevent normal eating</li> <li>&gt; Severe abdominal pain</li> <li>&gt; Inability to drink for 24 hours and/or eat for about 48 hours</li> </ul> <p><b>Skin problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Significant blisters or severe peeling of the skin</li> </ul> <p><b>Respiratory problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Increasing constant cough or problems breathing</li> </ul> <p><b>Eye problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pain in the eyes, tearing or redness, blurred vision, or sun sensitivity</li> </ul>
<b>HOW TO PREVENT SIDE EFFECTS?</b>	
Weight	<b>Regularly check your weight</b> in case of digestive problems.
Skin care	<b>Opt for</b> mild soap and moisturizer, pat skin dry. <b>Avoid</b> using any skin irritating products. <i>For sun protection use</i> broad spectrum sunscreen and <b>avoid</b> sun exposure.
Nail care	<b>Avoid</b> fingernail and toenail injuries. <b>Avoid</b> using nail polishes, except protective polish specifically recommended to you by your medical team. <b>Opt for</b> straight shaped nails and don't cut your nails too short.
Oral hygiene	<b>Use</b> a soft toothbrush, <b>use</b> oral rinses containing baking soda. <b>Avoid</b> oral rinses that contain menthol or alcohol.
Hair loss	<b>Cut</b> your hair. <b>Find out</b> about wigs and how they are reimbursed. <b>Use</b> a small amount of mild shampoo (for babies). <b>Opt for</b> a soft brush. <b>Avoid</b> washing your hair too often. <b>Avoid</b> heat sources (hairdryer, heated curlers, hot smoothing iron), dyes, highlights, or perm.
Eyes	<b>Avoid</b> wearing contact lenses. <b>Avoid</b> driving in low light.
Fatigue	<b>Opt for</b> activities contributing to well-being, in particular adjusted and regular physical activities: walking, work in the garden, swimming, biking, sports... <b>Alternate</b> periods of activity and rest.
<b>HOW TO ADAPT YOUR DIET?</b>	
Diarrhea	<b>Opt for</b> a low fiber diet. It is preferable to <b>consume</b> starchy products, carrots, and bananas. <b>Avoid</b> using raw fruit and vegetables, dairy products, coffee, or alcohol. <b>Drink</b> more water.
Nausea	<b>Opt for</b> split nutrition consisting of several light meals, liquid and cold dishes. <b>Limit</b> consumption of fatty, fried, and spicy foods.
Inflammation inside mouth (ulcers)	<b>Avoid</b> sour, sticky, or very salty foods.
Loss of appetite	<b>Opt for</b> a higher calorie diet and "pleasure diet".

