

Possible Side Effects (continued):

High Blood Pressure or Heart Problems

What to do:

- Keep track of your blood pressure when you start this medicine or if your dose changes. Call your doctor if your blood pressure is higher than normal (above 150/90).
- Tell your doctor if you feel more tired, lightheaded, dizzy or have headaches or swollen ankles.
- Call your doctor if you have an abnormal heartbeat or you have shortness of breath.

Rash

What this means: You may develop a rash in one area or over large areas of your skin.

What to do:

- Call your doctor if you get a rash. Tell your doctor when the rash started, the location of your rash, if it is itchy or painful and if the rash has spread or is getting worse.
- Your doctor may tell you take an over-the-counter medicine to help with this problem.

Changes in Bowel Movements

What to do:

- Call your doctor if you have **diarrhea** more than 4 times a day or for more than 1 or 2 days or if you feel lightheaded or dizzy.
- Call your doctor for **constipation** if you do not have a bowel movement for 2 days or become uncomfortable because you are unable to have a bowel movement.
- Drink plenty of fluid during the day.

Muscle Pain

What to do:

- Talk to your doctor before you take any over-the-counter pain medicine.
- Drink plenty of water during the day.
- Get plenty of rest.
- Call your doctor if the muscle pain makes you unable to do your normal daily activities.

This is not a complete list of all possible side effects. Tell your doctor if you have these or any other side effects that you think are caused by this medicine. Your James health care team will give you further help to manage side effects.

PATIENT EDUCATION

Taking Your Treatment Home

What you need to know about your Anti-Cancer Medicine

Ibrutinib (Imbruvica)

This brochure has important information on how to use, handle, and store your medicine, what side effects to look for and how to manage them.

What it looks like: Oblong, white tablets or capsules. 70 mg capsules or 140 mg, 280 mg, 420 mg or 560 mg tablets.

How to handle and store:

- **There are special safe handling instructions for this medicine.** Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse about the precautions you need to follow when you take this medicine at home.
- Store in a closed container in a dry place such as a cabinet away from light, heat, and moisture.
- **Do not** store in your bathroom or refrigerator.
- Keep this medicine away from children and **do not** share it with anyone.

The James



How to take:

- Swallow the capsule or tablet whole with a full glass of water at the same time each day. Take this medicine 1 time each day.
- **Do not** take more capsules or tablets than ordered by your doctor.
- **Do not** crush, break, chew, or open the capsules or tablets.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is less than 12 hours before your next dose, skip your missed dose. **Do not double up on doses.**

Disposal:

- Talk with your doctor or pharmacist about how to get rid of prescription medicines safely.

Precautions:

- Tell your doctor if you have had a recent surgery, trauma or infection.
- Tell your doctor or pharmacist about any medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins and herbal products, such as fish oil or vitamin E.
- **Do not get pregnant while on this medicine.** Talk with your doctor about what birth control to use.
- **Do not take St. John's Wort.**
- **Do not eat grapefruit or drink grapefruit juice.**
- This can increase your risk of side effects.

Possible Side Effects

You can find more information on side effects in the Patient Education booklet, *Treatment with Chemotherapy and Anti-Cancer Medicines*.

Bleeding/Bruising/Black Stools**What to do:**

- Call your doctor if you bruise more easily, if your stools are black or tarry, or if you have other unusual bleeding such as bright red blood in your stools or nose bleeds that do not stop.
- Call your doctor if you have sudden or severe stomach pain.
- **Do not** use aspirin, ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) or naproxen (Aleve) for regular aches and pains.

Low White Blood Cells/Preventing Infection

What this means: You may be at risk of getting an infection.

What to do:

- Call your doctor if you have a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius) or higher.
- Wash your hands often.
- Wear a mask and stay away from people who are sick or do not feel well.
- Ask your doctor if you should get a flu shot or pneumococcal vaccine.

Continued on back...