

## PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION

### READ THIS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF YOUR MEDICINE

Pr **TAFINLAR**<sup>®</sup>

#### **Dabrafenib (as dabrafenib mesylate) Capsules**

Read this carefully before you start taking **TAFINLAR** and each time you get a refill. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about this drug. Talk to your healthcare professional about your medical condition and treatment and ask if there is any new information about **TAFINLAR**.

#### **Serious Warnings and Precautions**

TAFINLAR should only be prescribed and managed by a doctor who is experienced in the use of anti-cancer drugs. Serious side effects include:

- Taking TAFINLAR may cause severe fever
- TAFINLAR can harm an unborn baby
- Birth control using hormones (pills, injections, or patches) may not work as well while you are taking TAFINLAR
- TAFINLAR has not been studied in patients with moderate or severe liver problems
- Patients taking TAFINLAR have reported secondary cancers

Other serious side effects when taking TAFINLAR with trametinib include:

- Serious bleeding
- Blood clots

TAFINLAR is not recommended for children and adolescents (less than 18 years of age).

#### **What is TAFINLAR used for?**

TAFINLAR can be taken by itself or with trametinib. When you take TAFINLAR with trametinib, read both leaflets.

TAFINLAR should only be used for people who have a cancer that has a certain change in a gene called "BRAF". Before taking TAFINLAR, you should have your cancer tested for this change. Your doctor will take a tumour tissue sample, to test whether TAFINLAR is suitable for you.

Taking TAFINLAR **by itself** is used to:

- treat a type of skin cancer called melanoma. This type of melanoma cannot be removed by surgery or has spread to other parts of the body.

Taking TAFINLAR **with trametinib** is also used to:

- treat a type of skin cancer called melanoma. This type of melanoma cannot be removed by surgery or has spread to other parts of the body.
- help prevent melanoma from coming back. This is after the skin cancer was completely removed by surgery.
- treat a type of lung cancer. This type of cancer is called non-small cell lung cancer. These

drugs are used together when this cancer has spread to other parts of the body.

### **How does TAFINLAR work?**

TAFINLAR targets proteins made from the changed (mutated) BRAF gene. This slows down or stops growth of cancer cells.

### **What are the ingredients in TAFINLAR?**

Medicinal ingredient: Dabrafenib mesylate

Non-medicinal ingredients: Colloidal silicon dioxide, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose. *Capsule shell*: hypromellose, red iron oxide, titanium dioxide. *Printing ink*: black iron oxide, shellac, propylene glycol.

### **TAFINLAR comes in the following dosage forms:**

Capsules: 50 mg and 75 mg

### **Do not use TAFINLAR if you:**

- are allergic to dabrafenib mesylate, or any of the other ingredients in TAFINLAR
- do not have a particular change (mutation) in a gene called BRAF or if the mutation in BRAF is not known.

**To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take TAFINLAR. Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including:**

***Fever (high temperature > 38.5°C):*** Taking TAFINLAR may cause fever. Fever may happen more often or may be more severe when TAFINLAR is taken with trametinib. **Stop taking TAFINLAR and tell your doctor immediately if you get a fever.** In some cases, people with fever may develop severe chills, dehydration, low blood pressure, dizziness and kidney problems. If the fever is severe, your doctor may recommend that you stop taking TAFINLAR while they treat the fever with other medicines. Once the fever is controlled, your doctor may recommend that you start taking TAFINLAR again.

***Bleeding problems:*** TAFINLAR, when taken with trametinib, can cause serious bleeding problems, including in your brain, stomach, or bowel, and can lead to death. In some cases, people may develop brain tumours. Call your doctor and get medical help right away if you have any unusual signs of bleeding including:

- headaches, dizziness, or feeling weak
- coughing up blood or blood clots
- vomiting blood or your vomit looks like “coffee grounds”
- red or black stools that look like tar

***Blood clots:*** TAFINLAR, when taken with trametinib, can cause blood clots in your arms and legs, which can travel to your lungs or other parts of the body and can lead to death. Get medical help right away if you have any of the following symptoms:

- chest pain
- sudden shortness of breath or trouble breathing
- pain in your legs with or without swelling
- swelling in your arms or legs, especially one larger than the other
- a cool or pale arm or leg

**Changes in your skin: If you notice any skin lesions or experience serious skin reactions while taking this medicine, talk to your doctor as soon as possible.**

You may develop a different type of skin cancer called cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma. Usually this cancer does not spread and can be removed with surgery. You can continue treatment with TAFINLAR.

You may also develop new skin cancers (melanomas). These are usually removed by surgery. You can continue treatment with TAFINLAR.

Your doctor will check your skin for any new cancers before you start taking TAFINLAR. Your doctor will also check your skin every 2 months while you take TAFINLAR. Your doctor will check your skin again every 2 or 3 months for 6 months after you stop taking TAFINLAR.

Check your skin regularly while taking TAFINLAR for any of the following:

- new wart
- skin sore or reddish bump that bleeds or does not heal
- new moles or change in size or colour of an existing mole

**Tell your doctor as soon as possible** if you get any of these symptoms - either for the first time or if they get worse or if you experience any of the following symptoms:

- rash, red skin, blistering of the lips, eyes, or mouth, skin peeling, with or without fever (Stevens-Johnson syndrome)
- widespread rash, fever and enlarged lymph nodes (drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS)).

**Inflammatory disease (sarcoidosis): TAFINLAR, when taken with trametinib, can cause an inflammatory disease mainly affecting the skin, lung, eyes and lymph nodes.** Common symptoms may include coughing, shortness of breath, swollen lymph nodes, visual disturbances, fever, fatigue, pain and swelling in the joints, and tender bumps on your skin. **Tell your doctor if you get any of these symptoms.**

**Eye problems: TAFINLAR can cause an eye problem called uveitis. This could damage your vision if it is not treated. Uveitis may develop rapidly; symptoms include:**

- eye redness and irritation
- blurred vision
- eye pain
- increased sensitivity to light
- floating spots in front of your eyes

**Contact your doctor immediately** if you get these symptoms. **It is very important to tell your doctor immediately if you develop these symptoms**, especially if you have a painful, red eye that does not clear up quickly. They may arrange for you to see a specialist eye doctor for a complete eye examination.

**Liver problems: When TAFINLAR is taken with trametinib, it can cause problems with your liver. This may develop into serious conditions such as hepatitis and liver failure. These conditions may be fatal.** Your doctor will monitor you periodically. Signs that your liver may not be working properly may include:

- loss of appetite

- feeling sick (*nausea*)
- being sick (*vomiting*)
- pain in your stomach (*abdomen*)
- yellowing of your skin or the whites of your eyes (*jaundice*)
- dark-coloured urine
- itching of your skin

**Decrease in white blood cells (neutropenia):** TAFINLAR, when taken with trametinib, can cause a decrease in a certain kind of white blood cells. This may lead to infection, which can be life-threatening. Decrease in white blood cells may also lead to unexpected bruising or bleeding. Your doctor will monitor you for signs of low blood cells. Signs that certain white cell counts are low may include:

- symptoms of infection (fever, chills, sore throat)
- bruise or bleed easily
- cold

**Non-skin cancers:** You may develop non-skin cancers while taking TAFINLAR. Your doctor will monitor you for signs of non-skin cancers.

**Heart problems:** TAFINLAR has an effect on the electrical activity of the heart known as QT prolongation.

**High blood sugar (Diabetes):** TAFINLAR may cause an increase in blood sugar levels or worsening of diabetes. If you are diabetic your doctor may monitor your blood sugar more frequently while you are on TAFINLAR.

**Driving and using machines:** TAFINLAR can have side effects that may affect your ability to drive or use machines.

Avoid driving or using machines if you have problems with your vision or if you feel tired or weak, or if your energy levels are low.

Discuss with your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you are unsure about anything. Your disease, symptoms and treatment situation may affect your ability to drive or use machines.

#### **Other warnings you should know about:**

**BEFORE you use TAFINLAR either by itself or with trametinib talk to your doctor if you:**

- are pregnant, may be pregnant or are planning to become pregnant. You must use reliable non-hormonal birth control while receiving TAFINLAR and for at least 2 weeks after you stop TAFINLAR or for at least 16 weeks after stopping TAFINLAR with trametinib treatment. Pills, patches and injections are not effective in preventing pregnancies because they may not work as well while you are taking TAFINLAR; therefore, you should use an alternative effective method of birth control. You must make sure that you do not get pregnant while receiving TAFINLAR. If you do get pregnant, inform your doctor immediately. TAFINLAR can harm an unborn baby.
- are breastfeeding. Do not breastfeed if you are taking TAFINLAR. If you wish to restart breastfeeding after TAFINLAR treatment, you must discuss this with your doctor. Your doctor will tell you when it is safe to breastfeed.
- are a male (who has had a vasectomy or not) with a female partner who is pregnant or may

become pregnant. You should use condoms with spermicide during sexual intercourse while taking TAFINLAR and for at least 2 weeks after stopping TAFINLAR or for at least 16 weeks after stopping TAFINLAR with trametinib treatment.

- are a male. Men who take TAFINLAR may have a reduced count of sperm that may not return to normal levels after you stop taking TAFINLAR.
- have or have had a heart rhythm disorder such as irregular heartbeat, prolongation of the QT interval or any risk factors for Torsade de Pointes (dangerous rapid fluttering of the heart) such as diabetes, low potassium, magnesium or calcium levels, or a history of low heart rate, fainting, or loss of consciousness.
- have heart valve problems.
- have elevated blood sugar levels (*diabetes*).
- have any liver problems. Your doctor may take blood samples to monitor your liver function while you are taking TAFINLAR.
- have or have ever had any kidney problems.
- plan to have surgery, dental or other medical procedures.
- have any other medical conditions.

**BEFORE you use TAFINLAR with trametinib** also talk to your doctor if you have:

- had bleeding problems or blood clots.
- heart problems such as heart failure or problems with the way your heart beats.
- unexplained stomach pain (*pancreatitis*)
- eye problems including blockage of the vein draining the eye (*retinal vein occlusion*) or swelling in the eye which may be caused by fluid leakage.
- any skin problems including rash or acne-like rash.
- high blood pressure (*hypertension*).
- a low number of white blood cells (*neutropenia*).
- any lung or breathing problems, including difficulty in breathing often accompanied by a dry cough, shortness of breath and fatigue (*pneumonitis*).

**Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take, including any drugs, vitamins, minerals, natural supplements or alternative medicines.**

TAFINLAR may decrease the effect of hormonal contraceptives. You may be at risk of getting pregnant if you are taking a hormonal contraceptive. You should use a different or additional non-hormonal method of contraception while you are taking TAFINLAR.

Do not start, stop or change any medicine without talking to your doctor, nurse or pharmacist first.

**The following may interact with TAFINLAR:**

- birth control using hormones such as pills, injections, or patches
- warfarin, to thin the blood
- medicines to treat fungal infections, such as ketoconazole
- some antibiotic medicines, such as clarithromycin or rifampin
- dexamethasone
- some medicines to treat HIV, such as ritonavir
- medicines to treat seizures, such as phenytoin, phenobarbital, or carbamazepine
- the anti-depressant medicine nefazodone
- medicines called statins used to treat high cholesterol

- the lipid lowering medicine gemfibrozil
- some medicines (called proton pump inhibitors) that reduce stomach acid (e.g. esomeprazole)
- the herbal product, St. John's wort
- medicines known to cause heart rhythm changes

Tell your doctor if you are taking any of these. Your doctor may decide to adjust your dose. Keep a list of the medicines you take, so you can show it to your doctor when you get a new medicine.

**How to take TAFINLAR:**

Always take TAFINLAR exactly as your doctor has told you to. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

***How to take TAFINLAR either by itself or with trametinib:***

Take TAFINLAR on an empty stomach at least one hour before or at least two hours after a meal.

Swallow the TAFINLAR capsules whole with a full glass of water, one after the other.

Take TAFINLAR at about the same time two times each day. Do not take the morning and evening doses of TAFINLAR at the same time.

If you take TAFINLAR with trametinib, take trametinib with either the morning or the evening dose of TAFINLAR. Take trametinib at about the same time each day and do not take more than one dose of trametinib a day.

Always take TAFINLAR exactly as your doctor has told you to. Your doctor may decide that you should take a lower dose if you get side effects or to temporarily interrupt the treatment.

Take TAFINLAR for as long as your doctor recommends.

**Usual dose:**

***Taking TAFINLAR by itself:*** the usual dose of TAFINLAR is two 75 mg capsules (150 mg), twice a day.

***Taking TAFINLAR with trametinib:*** the usual dose is two 75 mg capsules of TAFINLAR (150 mg) twice a day with 2 mg of trametinib once a day.

**Overdose:**

If you think you have taken too much TAFINLAR, contact your healthcare professional, hospital emergency department or regional poison control centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

**Missed Dose:**

If the missed dose is less than 6 hours late, take it as soon as you remember. If the missed dose is more than 6 hours late, skip that dose and take your next dose at the usual time. Then continue to take your capsules at regular times as usual. **Do not take a double dose to make up for a missed dose.**

## What are possible side effects from using TAFINLAR?

These are not all the possible side effects you may feel when taking TAFINLAR. If you experience any side effects not listed here, contact your healthcare professional.

### Side effects that can occur when you take TAFINLAR are:

#### Very common side effects - these may affect more than 1 in 10 people:

- Thickening of the outer layers of the skin (*hyperkeratosis*)
- Skin effects such as rough scaly patches of skin (*actinic keratosis*), brown or yellow to red thickening of skin (*seborrhoeic keratosis*), skin tags (*acrochordon*), or redness of the skin (*erythema*)
- Skin effects such as rash, dryness, wart-like growths, or redness and/or swelling
- Possible peeling of the palms, fingers and soles of the feet which may be accompanied by tingling sensation and burning pain (*palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia syndrome*)
- Papilloma (a type of harmless (*benign*) skin cancer)
- Headache
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhoea
- Decreased appetite
- Chills
- Feeling weak, sick and tired (*asthenia, including malaise and fatigue*)
- Lack of energy (*fatigue*)
- Fever (*pyrexia*)
- Joint pain (*arthralgia*), muscle pain (*myalgia*), or pain in the hands or feet (*pain in extremity*)
- Cough
- Unusual hair loss or thinning (*alopecia*)
- Itching (*pruritus*)
- Constipation
- Nasal inflammation (*nasopharyngitis*)
- Tiredness, chills, sore throat, joint or muscle aching (flu-like illness)

#### Common side effects - affects less than 1 in 10 but more than 1 in 100 people:

- Inflammation of the fatty layer underneath the skin (*panniculitis*)
- Increased sensitivity of the skin to sun (*photosensitivity*)
- Kidney disorder that may result in decreased urine output (*kidney failure*)
- Inflammation of the kidney (*nephritis*)

#### Common side effects that may show up in your blood tests:

- Low phosphorus (*hypophosphataemia*)
- Increase in sugar (*glucose*)

Refer to the trametinib Patient Medication Information for possible side effects when TAFINLAR is taken with trametinib including heart problems, eye problems and rash.

**In addition to the above, other side effects that can occur when you take TAFINLAR with trametinib are:**

#### Very common side effects - these may affect more than 1 in 10 people:

- Swelling of the hands, ankles or feet (*oedema periphera*)
- Stomach ache (*abdominal pain*)
- High blood pressure (*hypertension*)
- Urinary tract infections
- Rash, dry skin, itching, acne-like problem (*dermatitis acneiform*)
- Dizziness
- Bleeding (*haemorrhage*)
- Weight decreased
- Muscle spasms
- Low blood pressure (*hypotension*)

**Very common side effects that may show up in your blood tests**

- Abnormal blood test results related to the liver
- Low levels of a type of white blood cells (*neutropenia*)
- Low sodium (*hyponatremia*)

**Common side effects – affects less than 1 in 10 but more than 1 in 100 people:**

- Night sweats
- Shortness of breath (*dyspnoea*)
- Tiredness, chest discomfort, light headedness, pain, palpitations (*ejection fraction decreased*)
- Slow heart rate (*bradychardia*)
- Eyesight problems
- Dry mouth
- Sore mouth or mouth ulcers (*stomatitis*)
- Inflammation of the mucous membranes
- Swelling of the face (*face oedema*), localized tissue swelling (*lymphoedema*)
- Low levels of water or fluid (*dehydration*)
- Infection of the skin (*cellulitis*)
- Inflammation of the follicles in the skin (*folliculitis*)
- Nail disorders such as nail bed changes, nail pain, infection and swelling of the cuticles (*paronychia*)
- Skin rash with pus-filled blisters (*rash pustular*)
- Excessive sweating (*hyperhidrosis*)
- Skin cracking
- Weight increased
- Swelling in the eye caused by leaking fluid. This can cause blurred vision. (*chorioretinopathy*)

**Common side effects that may show up in your blood tests**

- Low levels of red blood cells (*anaemia*) and of a type of white blood cells (*leukopenia*)
- Increase in creatine phosphokinase, an enzyme found mainly in heart, brain and skeletal muscle
- Increase in some substances (enzymes) produced by the liver
- Decrease in the number of blood platelets (cells that help blood clot) (*thrombocytopenia*)

**Uncommon side effects – affects less than 1 in 100 but more than 1 in 1000 people:**

- Lung inflammation (*pneumonitis*)



- Swelling around the eyes (*periorbital oedema*)
- Splitting of the light-sensitive membrane in the back of the eye from its supporting layers (*retinal detachment*)
- Inflammatory disease mainly affecting the skin, lungs and eyes (*sarcoidosis*)

| <b>Serious side effects and what to do about them</b>  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Symptom / effect</b>  | <b>Talk to your healthcare professional</b> | <b>Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help</b> |
| <b>VERY COMMON</b>   |   |  |
| <b>Dermatitis acneiform:</b> Skin rash, acne-like rash, redness of the face, dry or itching skin   | ✓   |  |
| <b>Fever</b> (high temperature >38.5°C) that may be accompanied by rigors, chills, low blood pressure or kidney problems   |   | ✓  |
| <b>Serious bleeding problems:</b> headaches, dizziness or feeling weak, coughing up blood or blood clots, vomiting blood or vomit looking like “coffee grounds”, red or black stools that look like tar          |   | ✓  |
| <b>Uveitis</b> (red, swollen eye): eye pain, burning or sensitive to light. Blurred vision. Headache.  |   | ✓  |
| <b>Hyponatremia:</b> tiredness, confusion, muscle twitching, convulsions   |   | ✓  |
| <b>VERY COMMON (when TAFINLAR is taken with trametinib)</b>  |   |  |
| <b>Oedema:</b> generalised swelling  |   | ✓  |
| <b>COMMON</b>  |   |  |
| <b>New primary melanoma</b> (mole which has irregular shape, border, or colour, is growing, or changing shape or colour, new skin lesion)  | ✓   |  |
| <b>Cutaneous squamous cell cancer including keratoacanthomas:</b> skin sore, wart, or reddish bump that bleeds or does not heal  | ✓   |  |
| <b>Eye problems:</b> redness, pain, blurred vision, floating spots, light sensitivity  | ✓   |  |
| <b>Tubulointerstitial nephritis:</b> high or low urine output, drowsiness, confusion, nausea as a sign of an inflamed kidney   |   | ✓  |
| <b>COMMON (when TAFINLAR is taken with trametinib)</b>   |   |  |
| <b>Venous thromboembolism (blood clots):</b> chest pain, sudden shortness of breath or trouble breathing, pain in your legs with or without swelling, swelling in your arms and legs, or a cool, pale arm or leg |   | ✓  |
| <b>Acute pancreatitis:</b> acute, severe upper stomach pain  |   | ✓  |
| <b>UNCOMMON</b>  |   |  |

| <b>Serious side effects and what to do about them</b>  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Symptom / effect</b>  | <b>Talk to your healthcare professional</b> | <b>Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help</b> |
| <b>Allergic Reactions:</b> rash, hives, swelling of the face, lips, tongue, or throat, difficulty swallowing or breathing  |   | ✓  |
| <b>Pancreatitis</b> (inflammation of the pancreas causing strong abdominal pain)   | ✓   |  |
| <b>UNCOMMON (when TAFINLAR is taken with trametinib)</b>   |   |  |
| <b>Gastrointestinal complications:</b> severe stomach pain, chills, fever, nausea, vomiting of blood, black or bloody stools, holes in the intestinal wall   |   | ✓  |
| <b>Sarcoidosis</b> (inflammatory disease mainly affecting the skin, lungs and eyes): coughing, shortness of breath, swollen lymph nodes, visual disturbances, fever, fatigue, pain and swelling in the joints, tender bumps on your skin | ✓   |  |

If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, talk to your healthcare professional.

### **Reporting Side Effects**

You can report any suspected side effects associated with the use of health products to Health Canada by:

- Visiting the Web page on Adverse Reaction Reporting (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada.html>) for information on how to report online, by mail or by fax; or
- Calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.

*NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.*

### **Storage:**

Store TAFINLAR between 15°C to 30°C.

Keep out of reach and sight of children.

### **If you want more information about TAFINLAR:**

- Talk to your healthcare professional
- Find the full product monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals and includes this Patient Medication Information by visiting the Health Canada website (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/drug-products/drug-product-database.html>); the manufacturer's website [www.novartis.ca](http://www.novartis.ca), or by calling 1-800-363-8883.

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