

Breast oncology

Abemaciclib

Your treatment

Your treatment is taken continuously and supplied on a 4 week cycle.

Each cycle consists of:

Abemaciclib tablets taken TWICE a day (morning and evening) with or without food. Take with a glass of water and swallow whole.

If you vomit after taking a dose, do not repeat the dose. Take your next dose at your normal time.

You will have routine blood tests whilst on treatment as advised by your medical team. The frequency of these blood tests may decrease once you are established on treatment.

Occasionally we may not be able to go ahead with your treatment until your blood counts are back to a safe level. If this happens, your treatment may be delayed a week or the dose reduced.

You should continue taking your hormone (endocrine) therapy even if your abemaciclib is withheld.

You must not take your treatment unless you have had your blood checked and been given the go-ahead by the doctor, nurse clinician or pharmacist.

Avoid having grapefruit or grapefruit juice while taking abemaciclib. Some medicines and herbal remedies may interact with abemaciclib. Please consult your doctor or pharmacist if you are starting any new medications.

This treatment can have serious or possibly life-threatening side effects. It is very important that you report side effects straight away. Don't delay, if you feel unwell, please ring:

The Christie Hotline on 0161 446 3658 (lines open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week).

Possible side effects

See Cancer Research UK consent.

Additional information from The Christie NHS Foundation Trust

Blood clots

People with cancer are at a higher risk of developing bloods clots. The medical name for this is a thromboembolism or a deep vein thrombosis (DVT). The most common place to develop a clot is in the leg.



You must contact The Christie Hotline on **0161 446 3658** immediately if you experience any of the following:

- Pain, redness and swelling of your arm or leg(s). The area may feel warm to touch.
 - Breathlessness, pain in your chest or upper back, light headedness, coughing up blood.
- For any chest pain, please call **999** immediately.

You can help to prevent a clot by taking regular short walks to keep the blood moving, do simple exercises such as bending and straightening your toes every hour if you are unable to move around much and drink plenty of fluids. Most clots can be treated successfully using drugs to help thin the blood (anticoagulants).

Contacts

If you have any general questions or concerns about your treatment, please ring the service under which you are being treated.

Early breast cancer treatment (EBC)

- Adjuvant Abemaciclib service: the-christie.adjuvant.abemaciclib@nhs.net
- Secretary telephone number: **0161 446 3859**

Advanced breast cancer treatment (MBC):

- Please contact your consultant's secretary or your breast care nurse.

Written and approved by: Faye Coe, Suzanne Frank and Anne Armstrong.

If you need information in a different format, such as easy read, large print, BSL, braille, email, SMS text or other communication support, please tell your ward or clinic nurse.

The Christie is committed to producing high quality, evidence based information for patients. Our patient information adheres to the principles and quality statements of the Information Standard. If you would like to have details about the sources used please contact the-christie.patient.information@nhs.net

For information and advice visit the cancer information centres at Withington, Oldham, Salford or Macclesfield. Opening times can vary, please check before making a special journey.



Contact The Christie Hotline for
urgent support and specialist advice
The Christie Hotline: 0161 446 3658
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week