

Myleran (busulfan) basics

Helps treat chronic myeloid leukemia. Myleran (busulfan) can work during the later stages of chronic myeloid leukemia when other medicines have failed, but it can potentially have dangerous risks, such as lowering your blood cell count.

What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.



† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

Tips from pharmacists

- Myleran (busulfan) can be taken with or without food; however, it is important to stay consistent. Always take with food or on an empty stomach, and take it with a full glass of water.
- Swallow the tablet whole, and do not chew, break or crush it.
- Myleran (busulfan) can cause nausea and loss of appetite. Avoid spicy or acidic foods, and try to eat smaller portions of food throughout the day. If your appetite doesn't return or you have trouble keeping down food, talk to your doctor about medications that can help you.
- Myleran (busulfan) can interfere with how other medicines work. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before taking any new over the counter medicines.
- Report any difficulty breathing, persistent cough, or congestion to your doctor.
- Store Myleran (busulfan) in the original container at room temperature and protect it from light.

Risks and warnings

The FDA has identified these as possible serious or life-threatening risks with this medication. Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Low blood cell count

Myleran (busulfan) can cause very low counts of blood cells, including those that fight infection and stop bleeding. You will need to have blood tests done to make sure your blood cells don't drop too low, especially when you're first starting to take Myleran (busulfan). Tell your doctor if you have any infection symptoms (such as fever, sore throat, or mouth/throat swelling) that don't go away. Talk to your doctor or go to the emergency room right away if you have unusual bleeding that doesn't go away.

Rare lung problems

Myleran (busulfan) can cause serious damage to your lungs, which can be life-threatening. This condition can occur anywhere from 8 months to 10 years after starting Myleran (busulfan). Symptoms generally include a slow onset of cough, shortness of breath, and fever. Talk to your doctor right away if you begin to notice any of these symptoms.

Seizures

Seizures have been reported with the use of high doses of Myleran (busulfan). Your doctor will manage and/or prevent these symptoms with the use of seizure medications. Be sure to tell your doctor about any history of seizures, head trauma, or other medications you are taking that could be associated with seizures.