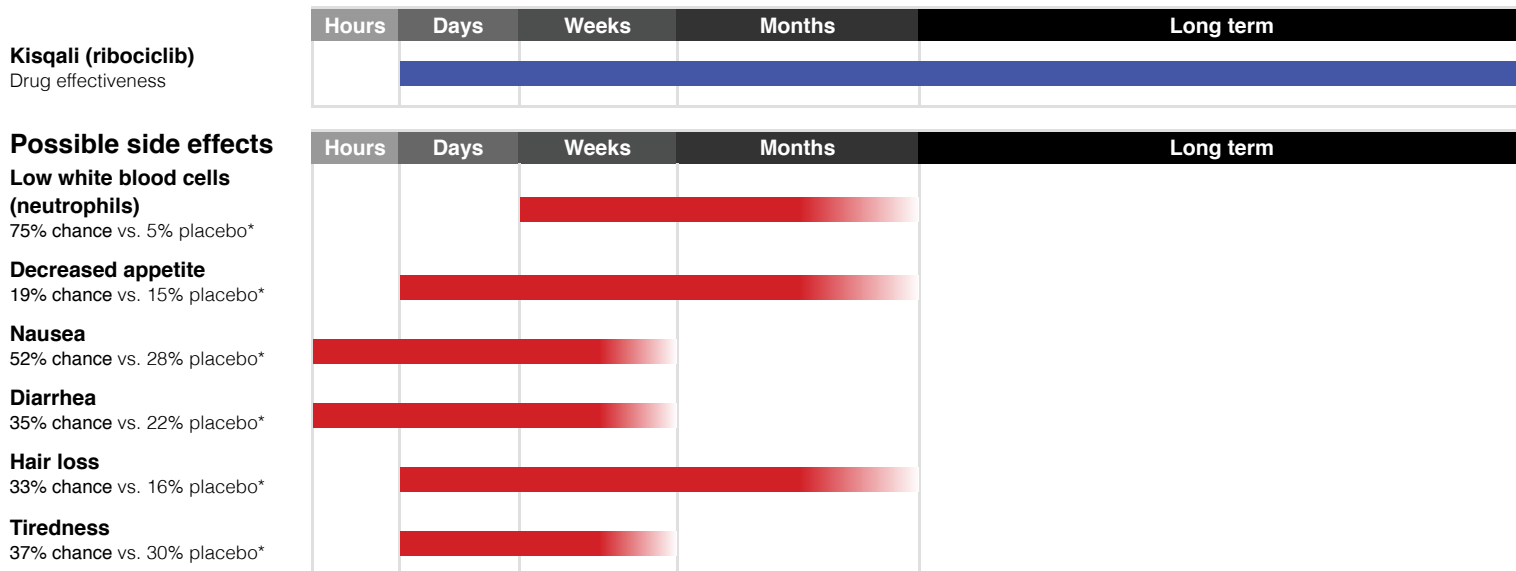


Kisqali (ribociclib) basics

Helps treat advanced or metastatic breast cancer. Kisqali (ribociclib) is a first-line endocrine-based therapy for advanced stages of breast cancer in postmenopausal women, but it requires frequent monitoring with blood tests since it can cause some serious side effects.

What to expect when starting

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



* Placebo is a sugar pill with no medicinal benefit.

Tips from pharmacists

- Take Kisqali (ribociclib) for 21 days with Femara followed by 7 days of rest without treatment. Take both medications at the same time each day in the morning.
- Take Kisqali (ribociclib) with or without food. Swallow the pill whole and do not break it in any way.
- If you throw up after taking the medication or miss a dose, wait until the next day at your usual time to take a dose.
- Your doctor will monitor your blood counts and heart health at least once every 2 weeks to make sure it is safe for you to continue taking Kisqali (ribociclib).
- Avoid drinking or eating pomegranate and grapefruit products.

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Heart rhythm problems

Kisqali (ribociclib) can interfere with your heart's rhythm and cause an abnormal heartbeat. This is a serious condition that can potentially happen within the first 4 weeks of starting the medication and can be life-threatening if left untreated. Your doctor will monitor your heart rhythm and electrolyte levels before you start and while you are on treatment. If you have a history of certain heart problems, your doctor may choose an alternative treatment option for you.

Liver damage

Kisqali (ribociclib) can potentially cause liver damage. Your doctor will have you get blood tests done to check your liver function before and during treatment. Let your doctor know if you experience nausea, vomiting, dark-colored urine, yellowing of skin, or stomach pain as these may be possible signs of liver damage.

Low white blood cells

The most common side effect of Kisqali (ribociclib) is neutropenia, or low white blood cells, which can lower your ability to fight off infections. Let your doctor know if you experience a fever while taking Kisqali (ribociclib) since this may be a sign you have an infection. Your doctor will have you get blood tests done regularly to check your white blood cell levels.