

Tagrisso (osimertinib) basics

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Treats lung cancer. Tagrisso (osimertinib) is an effective, relatively well-tolerated, oral medication for certain forms of lung cancer that have progressed on other treatments, but is very expensive and may not be available through your local pharmacy.

What to expect when starting

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



Tips from pharmacists

- You can take Tagrisso (osimertinib) with or without food.
- Contact your doctor right away if you experience unexplained shortness of breath, worsening cough, or abnormal heartbeat.
- If you have trouble swallowing the pill, use 2 ounces of non-carbonated water to help it break into small pieces and swallow immediately. Use another 4-8 ounces of water to rinse and drink any remaining residue.
- Due to the seriousness of cancer, you should talk with your doctor or pharmacist before starting any new medications or supplements including non-prescription medications, natural products, and vitamins.
- Tagrisso (osimertinib) can cause harm to a fetus. Use birth control during and for 6 weeks (females) or 4 months (males) after treatment, and talk to your doctor if you think you are pregnant.

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Inflamed lung tissue

Rare, serious cases of inflamed lung tissue, called interstitial lung disease or pneumonitis, can occur with Tagrisso (osimertinib), and can be fatal. Talk to your doctor if you have trouble breathing, have trouble catching your breath, cough, or fever.

Fast, chaotic heartbeats

Chaotic heartbeats can occur with Tagrisso (osimertinib). Your doctor may check your heart rhythm if you are at high risk for this effect or if you have had heart trouble in the past. Report to your doctor if you notice a racing or irregular heart beat.

Heart muscle disease

Heart disease including heart attack or heart failure can develop with Tagrisso (osimertinib). Your doctor may check your heart function if you are at high risk for this. If you don't respond well to this medication due to heart issues, your doctor may switch you to another medication.