

Bicalutamide

Care Team Contact Information: _____

Pharmacy Contact Information: _____

Diagnosis: _____

- This treatment is often used for prostate cancer.
- It may also be used for other reasons.

Goal of Treatment: _____

- Treatment may continue for a certain time period, until it no longer works, or until side effects are no longer controlled.

Treatment Regimen

Treatment Name	How the Treatment Works	How the Treatment is Given
Bicalutamide (BY-kuh-LOO-tuh-mide): Casodex (KA-soh-dex)	Slows down or stops the growth of cancer cells by blocking certain hormones in the body.	Tablet(s) taken by mouth.

Treatment Administration and Schedule

Your bicalutamide dosing instructions:

- Bicalutamide comes in 1 tablet strength: 50 mg.
- Take bicalutamide 1 time a day, at the same time each day.
- Bicalutamide can be taken with or without food.
- Swallow bicalutamide tablets whole. Do not cut, crush, or chew the tablets.
- If you miss a dose of bicalutamide, take it as soon as you remember that day. If you miss your daily dose, take it at your regular time the next day. Do not take more than your prescribed dose of bicalutamide each day.
- If you take too much bicalutamide, call your care team right away.

Storage and Handling of Bicalutamide

- Store bicalutamide at room temperature between 68°F and 77°F (20°C and 25°C) in a dry location.
- Bicalutamide can cause harm to an unborn baby and loss of pregnancy (miscarriage). People who are or may be pregnant should wear gloves when handling bicalutamide.
- Keep bicalutamide and all medicines out of the reach of children and pets.
- Ask your care team how to safely throw away any unused bicalutamide.

Appointments

Appointments may include regular check-ups with your care team, lab visits, and imaging tests. It's important to keep your appointments whenever you can. If you miss any appointments, call your care provider as soon as possible to reschedule your appointment.

Supportive Care to Prevent and Treat Side Effects

Description	Supportive Care Taken at Home
Supportive care to prevent and treat side effects	

Common Side Effects

Side Effect	Important Information
Hot Flashes	Description: Hot flashes are sudden feelings of warmth that spread over your body, often leading to sweating and a rapid heartbeat. Hot flashes may last from a few seconds to several minutes and can be uncomfortable or disrupt daily activities. Recommendations: - Keep a journal to track frequency, duration, and triggers of hot flashes. - Dress in layers with lightweight clothing to adjust to temperature changes. - Stay cool by using fans, air conditioning, or cool cloths. - Avoid triggers such as hot drinks, spicy foods, caffeine, and alcohol. - Practice relaxation techniques like deep breathing, yoga, or meditation to reduce stress. - Maintain healthy habits with a balanced diet and regular exercise. Talk to your care team if you have: - Severe hot flashes
Pain	Description: Pain is an uncomfortable feeling that can happen anywhere in your body and can vary in intensity. It can be sharp, throbbing, aching, or burning, and it may feel like discomfort or pressure. Recommendations: - Keep a pain diary to track the frequency, duration, and intensity of your pain. - Your care team may recommend medicines for pain. Talk to your care team if you have: - Uncontrolled pain
Sensitivity to Sunlight (Photosensitivity)	Description: Sun sensitivity is when your skin becomes more reactive or sensitive to sunlight than usual. This can lead to conditions such as sunburn, rashes, or other skin problems, even after brief exposure. Recommendations: - Stay out of the sun as much as possible to reduce your risk of sunburn, especially between 10 AM and 4 PM, when ultraviolet (UV) rays are strongest. - Wear long-sleeved shirts with UV protection if possible. - Use broad-brimmed hats for extra sun protection. - Apply broad-spectrum sunscreen (UVA/UVB) with at least sun protective factor (SPF) 30, as directed. - Use lip balm with SPF 30 or higher. Talk to your care team if you have: - Severe or painful sunburns

Select Rare Side Effects

Side Effect	Talk to Your Care Team if You Have Any of These Signs or Symptoms	
Allergic Reaction	Stop taking bicalutamide and get medical help right away if you develop swelling of the face, tongue, lip, or throat.	
Heart Disease	Blockage of the arteries in the heart (ischemic heart disease) can happen during treatment with bicalutamide. Your care team will monitor you for signs and symptoms of heart problems during your treatment with bicalutamide. Call your care team or go to the nearest emergency room right away if you develop: - Chest pain or discomfort at rest or with activity - Shortness of breath	
Enlarged Breast and Breast Pain (Gynecomastia)	- Swelling or noticeable enlargement of your chest - Tenderness or sensitivity in the chest area	Discomfort or pain in the chest area
Low Red Blood Cell (RBC) Count and Hemoglobin (Hgb) (Anemia)	- Fatigue - Weakness - Pale or dull skin - Shortness of breath - Dizziness or lightheadedness	- Cold hands and feet - Irregular heartbeat - Headaches - Chest pain
Liver Problems	- Yellowing of your skin or the white part of your eyes (jaundice) - Severe nausea or vomiting	- Pain on the right side of your stomach area (abdomen) - Dark, tea-colored urine - Bleeding or bruising more easily than normal
Lung Problems	- Cough - Shortness of breath	Chest pain
High Blood Sugar (Hyperglycemia)	- Frequent urination - Drowsiness - Increased thirst - Loss of appetite - Blurred vision	- Fruity smell on your breath - Confusion - Nausea, vomiting, or stomach pain - It becomes harder to control your blood sugar
Falls and Bone Fractures	Bicalutamide treatment may increase your risk of falls and bone fractures.	

**Before starting treatment, ask your care team when to call 9-1-1 or seek emergency help.
If you experience any new, worsening, or uncontrolled side effects, contact your care team immediately.**

Intimacy, Fertility, and Pregnancy

- Treatment may **change how you feel about intimacy and your body**. However, physical closeness—such as holding hands and hugging—remains safe. It is common to have questions about intimacy. If needed, talk to your care team for guidance.
- Treatment can affect your **ability to have children**. It may damage your reproductive organs or stop them from working. If you are worried about fertility, talk to your care team before starting treatment.
- Treatment may **harm an unborn baby**. If your partner is able to become pregnant, use an effective method of birth control—such as condoms—during treatment and for 130 days after your last dose of bicalutamide.

Additional Information

- **Tell your care team about all the medicines you take.**
This includes prescriptions, over-the-counter drugs, vitamins, and herbal products. Before starting any new medicine, supplement, or vaccine, ask your care team first.
- **If you are receiving gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) therapy, you should continue with this treatment** during your treatment with bicalutamide unless you have had a surgery to lower the amount of testosterone in your body.
- **This Patient Education Sheet may not describe all possible side effects.**
Call your care team for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

Notes

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Scan the QR code below to access this education sheet.



Important notice: The Association of Cancer Care Centers (ACCC), Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association (HOPA), Network for Collaborative Oncology Development & Advancement, Inc. (NCODA), and Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) have collaborated in gathering information for and developing this patient education guide. This guide represents a brief summary of the medication derived from information provided by the drug manufacturer and other resources.

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