

# Decitabine/Cedazuridine and Venetoclax

**Care Team Contact Information:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pharmacy Contact Information:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Diagnosis:** \_\_\_\_\_

- This treatment is often used for acute myeloid leukemia (AML).
- 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
Decitabine/Cedazuridine (deh-SY-tuh-been and SEE-daz-YOOR-ih-deen): Inqovi (in-KOH-vee)	Stops cancer cells from making the instructions they need to grow and multiply, causing the cells to die.	Tablet taken by mouth.
Venetoclax (veh-NEH-toh-klax): Venclexta (ven-KLEK-stuh)	Slows down or stops the growth of cancer cells by blocking a specific protein that helps them survive.	Tablet(s) taken by mouth.

## Treatment Administration and Schedule

Treatment is typically repeated every 4 weeks. This length of time is called a “cycle”.

- Decitabine/cedazuridine is taken by mouth 1 each day on Day 1 to 5.
- Venetoclax is taken by mouth 1 time a day every day.
  - Your care team will start venetoclax at a low dose. Your dose will be increased daily up to the full dose. Follow your care team’s instructions carefully while increasing to the full dose.

Your decitabine/cedazuridine and venetoclax dosing instructions:

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## Treatment Administration and Schedule (Continued)

Treatment Name	Cycle 1								Next Cycle
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	...	Day 28	Day 1
Decitabine/Cedazuridine	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
Venetoclax	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

- Start taking decitabine/cedazuridine and venetoclax on the same day of each cycle.
- Take decitabine/cedazuridine at least 2 hours before or 2 hours after taking venetoclax. Do not take decitabine/cedazuridine and venetoclax at the same time.
- If you take too much decitabine/cedazuridine or venetoclax, call your care team or go to the nearest emergency room right away.

### Decitabine/Cedazuridine Information

- Decitabine/cedazuridine comes in 1 tablet strength: 35 mg decitabine and 100 mg cedazuridine.
- Take decitabine/cedazuridine 1 time a day at about the same time each day.
- Take decitabine/cedazuridine on an empty stomach at least 2 hours before or 2 hours after eating.
- Swallow decitabine/cedazuridine tablets whole. Do not cut, crush, or chew tablets.
- If you miss a dose of decitabine/cedazuridine take your dose as soon as possible if it is within 12 hours of your usual time. Then, continue taking decitabine/cedazuridine at your scheduled time. If you missed a dose by more than 12 hours, do not take additional doses to make up for the missed dose. Take your next scheduled dose on the following day at your usual time.

### Storage and Handling of Decitabine/Cedazuridine

- Store decitabine/cedazuridine at room temperature between 68°F and 77°F (20°C and 25°C).
- Decitabine/cedazuridine comes in a blister card in a child-resistant carton.
- Do not store decitabine/cedazuridine outside of the original blisters.
- If someone else is giving you your medication, they should wear gloves or pour the pills directly from the blister into a cap, a small cup, or your hand without touching them. They should wash their hands before and after handling the pills.
- Keep decitabine/cedazuridine and all medicines out of the reach of children and pets.
- Ask your care team how to safely throw away any unused decitabine/cedazuridine.

## Venetoclax Information

- Venetoclax comes in 3 tablet strengths: 10 mg, 50 mg, and 100 mg.
- Take venetoclax 1 time each day with a meal and water, around the same time each day.
- Swallow venetoclax tablets whole. Do not chew or break the tablets.
  - Tell your care team if you have trouble swallowing venetoclax tablets. Your care team may prescribe your dose in smaller sized tablets.
- If you miss a dose of venetoclax and it has been less than 8 hours, take your dose as soon as possible. If you miss a dose of venetoclax and it has been more than 8 hours, skip the missed dose and take the next dose at your usual time.

## Storage and Handling of Venetoclax

- Store venetoclax at or below 86°F (30°C).
- Keep venetoclax in its original packaging or container to protect from moisture.
- People who are or may become pregnant should avoid handling venetoclax. If handling is necessary, they should wear gloves.
- Keep venetoclax and all medicines out of the reach of children and pets.
- Ask your care team how to safely throw away any unused venetoclax.

## 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 Given at the Clinic or Hospital	Supportive Care Taken at Home
To help lower the risk of Tumor Lysis Syndrome (TLS)	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
To help prevent or treat nausea and vomiting	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
To help lower the risk of infections	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Other	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

## Common Side Effects

Side Effect	Important Information
Low White Blood Cell (WBC) Count and Increased Risk of Infection	<p>Description: WBCs help protect your body from infections. A low WBC count increases your risk of getting infections.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wash your hands often and bathe regularly.</li> <li>Avoid crowded places and close contact with people who are sick.</li> <li>Follow food safety and wound care advice from your care team.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher</li> <li>Chills</li> <li>New or worsening cough or sore throat</li> <li>Painful urination or signs of a urinary infection</li> <li>Feeling much more tired than usual</li> <li>Red, swollen, warm, or painful areas on the skin (possible skin infection)</li> </ul>
Low Platelet Count (Thrombocytopenia)	<p>Description: Platelets help your blood clot and wounds heal. A low platelet count increases your risk of bruising and bleeding.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blow your nose gently and avoid picking it.</li> <li>Brush your teeth gently with a soft toothbrush and keep good oral hygiene.</li> <li>Use an electric razor for shaving and a nail file instead of nail clippers.</li> <li>Avoid over-the-counter medicines that can increase bleeding risk (for example, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) like ibuprofen).</li> <li>Talk with your care team or dentist before medical or dental procedures — you may need to pause treatment.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A nosebleed lasting more than 5 minutes despite pressure</li> <li>A cut that continues to bleed</li> <li>Heavy gum bleeding when brushing or flossing</li> <li>Sudden or severe headache</li> <li>Blood in your urine or stool</li> <li>Blood in your spit after coughing</li> </ul>
Low Red Blood Cell (RBC) Count and Hemoglobin (Hgb)	<p>Description: RBCs and Hgb carry oxygen to your body's tissues and remove carbon dioxide. Low RBC or Hgb (anemia) can make you feel weak, very tired, or look pale.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aim for 7 to 8 hours of sleep each night.</li> <li>Do not drive, operate heavy machinery, or do other dangerous activities if you are very tired.</li> <li>Balance activity and rest — stay as active as you can, but rest when needed.</li> <li>Eat a balanced diet and follow any nutrition or supplement advice from your care team.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shortness of breath</li> <li>Dizziness or fainting</li> <li>Fast or irregular heartbeats</li> <li>Sudden or severe headache</li> </ul>

<p>Fatigue</p>	<p>Description: Fatigue is a constant and sometimes strong feeling of tiredness.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Routine exercise can help reduce fatigue. Talk with your care team to find the right type and amount of activity for you.</li> <li>• Ask family and friends for help with daily tasks and for emotional support.</li> <li>• Try healthy ways to feel better, such as meditation, journaling, yoga, or guided imagery, to reduce anxiety and improve well-being.</li> <li>• Aim for 7 to 8 hours of sleep each night. Limit daytime naps to help you sleep better at night.</li> <li>• Do not drive, operate heavy machinery, or do other potentially dangerous activities if you are very tired.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tiredness that affects your daily life or prevents you from doing normal activities</li> <li>• Tiredness that does not get better with rest</li> <li>• Dizziness or weakness along with severe tiredness</li> </ul>
<p>Swelling (Edema)</p>	<p>Description: Swelling and fluid retention can occur in different areas of the body, like the legs or hands. You might notice areas feel puffy or tighter than usual.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep a daily log of swelling and note any changes in size or location.</li> <li>• Elevate swollen limbs when resting.</li> <li>• Limit salt intake.</li> <li>• Stay active with regular, gentle exercises.</li> <li>• Avoid prolonged periods of sitting or standing without movement.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swelling that suddenly worsens or spreads to other areas</li> <li>• Pain, redness, or warmth in the affected area</li> <li>• Signs of shortness of breath or difficulty breathing</li> <li>• Swelling is persistent and does not improve with home management</li> <li>• Unexpected weight gain</li> </ul> <p>Note: Your care team may ask you to contact them if your weight increases by a certain amount over a certain time period.</p>

<p>Mouth Sores or Irritation (Mucositis or Stomatitis)</p>	<p>Description: Treatment can irritate the lining of the mouth. In some cases, this can cause redness, sores, pain, and swelling.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rinse your mouth after meals and at bedtime; rinse more often if sores develop.</li> <li>• Brush your teeth gently with a soft toothbrush or use a cotton swab after meals.</li> <li>• Use a mild, non-alcohol mouth rinse at least 4 times daily (after meals and at bedtime). Example: 1/8 teaspoon salt + 1/4 teaspoon baking soda in 8 oz warm water.</li> <li>• Avoid acidic, hot, spicy, rough, or crunchy foods and drinks that can irritate your mouth.</li> <li>• Avoid tobacco, alcohol, and alcohol-based mouthwash.</li> <li>• Your care team may prescribe medicines or mouth treatments to help with pain and healing.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Painful mouth sores or throat pain</li> <li>• Trouble eating or significant weight loss</li> </ul>
<p>Nausea and Vomiting</p>	<p>Description: Nausea is an uncomfortable feeling in your stomach or the need to throw up. You may or may not vomit.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eat smaller, more frequent meals.</li> <li>• Avoid fatty, fried, spicy, or highly sweet foods.</li> <li>• Eat bland foods at room temperature and drink clear liquids.</li> <li>• If you vomit, start with small sips of water, broth, or other clear liquids. If these stay down, try soft foods (such as gelatin, plain cornstarch pudding, yogurt, strained soup, or strained cooked cereal) and gradually return to solid foods.</li> <li>• Your care team may prescribe medicine for these symptoms.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vomiting for more than 24 hours</li> <li>• Nonstop vomiting</li> <li>• Signs of dehydration (very thirsty, dry mouth, dizziness, or dark urine)</li> <li>• Blood or coffee-ground-like appearance in your vomit</li> <li>• Severe stomach pain that does not go away after vomiting</li> </ul>

Low Appetite	<p>Description: Loss of appetite can lead to weight loss and low energy. Small changes in when and what you eat can help maintain strength and nutrition.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be as active as you can. Do light physical activity before a meal (check with your care team before starting an exercise program).</li> <li>• Note times of day when your appetite is best and eat your largest meal then.</li> <li>• Eat 5–6 small meals or snacks each day.</li> <li>• Choose high-protein foods (beans, chicken, fish, meat, yogurt, tofu, eggs). Eat protein first during meals.</li> <li>• Choose higher-calorie foods (avoid “low-fat,” “fat-free,” or “diet” options when trying to gain/maintain weight).</li> <li>• If you feel full quickly, avoid drinking 30 minutes before a meal and drink liquids between meals; choose calorie-containing drinks rather than diet drinks.</li> <li>• Have a bedtime snack that’s easy to digest (for example, peanut butter and crackers). If you have reflux, wait at least 1 hour before lying down.</li> <li>• Try nutritious beverages (high-protein shakes or smoothies) if solid food is unappealing.</li> <li>• Ask your care team about liquid nutrition supplements and ways to add protein or calories (protein powder, yogurt, ice cream).</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unintentional weight loss</li> <li>• Little or no appetite for several days</li> <li>• Excessive tiredness or low energy</li> </ul>
Diarrhea	<p>Description: Diarrhea is loose, watery stools or more frequent bowel movements than usual. It can cause dehydration and weakness.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep track of how often you go to the bathroom each day.</li> <li>• Drink 8 to 10 glasses of water or other fluids daily, unless your care team tells you otherwise.</li> <li>• Eat small meals of mild, low-fiber foods (such as bananas, applesauce, potatoes, chicken, rice, and toast).</li> <li>• If you have diarrhea, avoid high-fiber foods (such as raw vegetables, fruits, and whole grains), gas-producing foods (such as broccoli and beans), dairy (such as milk and yogurt), and spicy, fried, or greasy foods.</li> <li>• Your care team may recommend an antidiarrheal medicine such as loperamide (Imodium).</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 or more bowel movements than normal in 24 hours</li> <li>• Dizziness or lightheadedness while having diarrhea</li> <li>• Signs of dehydration (very thirsty, dry mouth, dizziness, or dark urine)</li> <li>• Bloody diarrhea</li> </ul>

<p>Constipation</p>	<p>Description: Constipation means hard, dry stools or fewer bowel movements than normal. It can cause discomfort or pain.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Track how often you have bowel movements each day.</li> <li>• Drink 8 to 10 glasses of fluids daily, unless your care team says otherwise.</li> <li>• Stay active and exercise regularly.</li> <li>• Eat more high-fiber foods (such as raw fruits, vegetables, and whole grains) unless advised otherwise.</li> <li>• Your care team may recommend laxatives such as polyethylene glycol (Miralax) or senna.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constipation lasting 3 or more days</li> <li>• No bowel movement 48 hours after using a laxative</li> </ul>
<p>Liver Problems</p>	<p>Description: Treatment can cause liver injury. Your care team may check your liver with blood tests before and during treatment.</p> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yellowing of your skin or the white part of your eyes (jaundice)</li> <li>• Severe nausea or vomiting</li> <li>• Pain on the right side of your stomach area (abdomen)</li> <li>• Dark, tea-colored urine</li> <li>• Bleeding or bruising more easily than normal</li> </ul>
<p>Kidney Problems</p>	<p>Description: Treatment can cause kidney problems, including damage to the kidneys and decreased kidney function. Your care team will monitor your kidney function during treatment.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drink 8 to 10 glasses of water or other fluids each day, unless your care team tells you otherwise.</li> <li>• Your care team may give you fluids and electrolytes with your treatment.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decrease in your amount of urine</li> <li>• Blood in your urine</li> <li>• Swelling of your ankles</li> <li>• Loss of appetite</li> </ul>
<p>Shortness of Breath</p>	<p>Description: Treatment may make you feel like it's a struggle to get enough air into your lungs.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drink 8 to 10 glasses of water each day to help with mucus.</li> <li>• Avoid and stop smoking.</li> <li>• Use a humidifier to make the air moist.</li> <li>• Try slow, deep breathing.</li> <li>• Use extra pillows to keep your head up when you sleep.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trouble breathing</li> <li>• Chest pain or tightness</li> <li>• Cough</li> </ul>

<p>Muscle or Joint Pain</p>	<p>Description: Muscle pain is soreness, aching, cramps, stiffness, tenderness, or weakness in one or more muscles. Joint pain is pain, stiffness, swelling, or reduced movement where two bones meet.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep a pain diary: note pain levels, locations, and activities that make it better or worse.</li> <li>• Do gentle exercise (walking, stretching, yoga) to maintain mobility and strength. Check with your care team before starting a new activity.</li> <li>• Use a warm compress for stiff muscles or a cold pack to reduce swelling and numb pain—use what helps the area.</li> <li>• Your care team may recommend or prescribe medicines, including over-the-counter pain relievers.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pain you cannot control with usual measures</li> <li>• Swelling, redness, or warmth in a joint</li> <li>• New weakness</li> <li>• Trouble walking or moving</li> </ul>
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Select Rare Side Effects

Side Effect	Talk to Your Care Team if You Have Any of These Signs or Symptoms
<p>Tumor Lysis Syndrome (TLS)</p>	<p>Tumor lysis happens when cancer cells break apart and release large amounts of substances into your bloodstream faster than your body can handle. TLS is a group of conditions that affect your heart, kidneys, and muscles.</p> <p>Drink plenty of water during treatment with venetoclax to help reduce your risk of getting TLS. Drink 6 to 8 glasses (about 56 ounces total) of water each day, starting 2 days before your first dose, on the day of your first dose of venetoclax, and each time your dose is increased to help reduce your risk of getting TLS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea</li> <li>• Urinating smaller amounts or dark-colored urine</li> <li>• Muscle cramps or twitching</li> <li>• Rapid heartbeats or chest pain</li> <li>• Confusion or weakness</li> <li>• Seizures</li> </ul>

**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, Pregnancy, and Breastfeeding

- 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 you are able to become pregnant:
    - Take a pregnancy test before starting treatment.
    - Use an effective method of birth control during treatment, for 30 days after your last dose of venetoclax, and for 6 months after your last dose of decitabine/cedazuridine.
    - If you think you might be pregnant or if you become pregnant, tell your care team right away.
  - If your partner is able to become pregnant, use an effective method of birth control—such as condoms—during treatment with venetoclax and for 3 months after your last dose of decitabine/cedazuridine.
- **Do NOT breastfeed** during treatment, for 1 week after your last dose of venetoclax, and for 2 weeks after your last dose of decitabine/cedazuridine.

## Handling Body Fluids and Waste

Some drugs you receive may stay in your urine, stool, sweat, or vomit for many days after treatment. Because many cancer drugs are toxic, your body waste may also be dangerous to touch. To help protect yourself, your loved ones, and the environment, **follow these instructions** for at least **48 hours** after each dose of **decitabine/cedazuridine**: (Note: Venetoclax does not require special handling of body fluids and waste.)

- People who are pregnant should avoid touching anything that may be soiled with body fluids from the patient.
- You can use your usual toilet. Always close the lid and flush to discard all waste. If you have a low-flow toilet, flush twice.
- If the toilet or seat is soiled with urine, stool, or vomit, clean the surface after each use before others use it.
- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds after using the toilet.
- If you need a bedpan, inform your caregiver so they can wear gloves and assist with cleanup. Wash the bedpan with soap and water daily.
- If you cannot control your bladder or bowels, use a disposable pad with a plastic back, a diaper, or a sheet to absorb waste.
- Wash any skin exposed to body waste with soap and water.
- Wash soiled linens or clothing separately from other laundry. If you don't have a washer, place them in a plastic bag until they can be washed.
- Wash your hands with soap and water after touching soiled linens or clothing.

## 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.
- **You should not receive a “live vaccine”** before, during, or after treatment, until your care team tells you it is okay. If you are not sure about the type of immunization or vaccine, ask your care team. These vaccines may not be safe or may not work as well during treatment.
- **You should not drink grapefruit juice, eat grapefruit, Seville oranges (often used in marmalades), or starfruit** during treatment with venetoclax. These products may increase the amount of venetoclax in your blood.
- **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.

This guide does not cover all existing information related to the possible uses, directions, doses, precautions, warnings, interactions, adverse effects, or risks associated with this medication and should not substitute for the advice of a qualified healthcare professional. Provision of this guide is for informational purposes only and does not constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation, or favoring of this medication by ACCC, HOPA, NCODA, or ONS, who assume no liability for and cannot ensure the accuracy of the information presented. All decisions related to taking this medication should be made with the guidance and under the direction of a qualified healthcare professional.

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