

Information for the treatment of Immune Thrombocytopenia in Adults



Avatrombopag

Second-line treatment

Avatrombopag is a Thrombopoietin Receptor Agonist (TPORA) that increases platelet counts in most ITP patients.

Thrombopoietin (TPO) is a hormone produced by the liver that naturally controls the development of megakaryocytes, the large cell-producing platelets in the bone marrow.

TPO receptor agonists (TPO-RAs) bind to the same receptor and prompt megakaryocytes in the bone marrow to produce more platelets.



BRAND NAMES Doptelet



HOW DOES THE TREATMENT WORK?

Avatrombopag stimulates the megakaryocytes in the bone marrow to produce more platelets.



HOW IS IT ADMINISTERED?

Oral Tablet



DOSAGE

The usual starting dose for adults is one 20 mg tablet with food at the same time each day.

The dose can be increased to a maximum of 40 mg daily.

With continued monitoring, some patients can switch to alternate daily dosing.

Note: there are no dietary restrictions with this medication.



TREATMENT RESPONSE

1 - 3 weeks



LIKELIHOOD OF AN INITIAL RESPONSE

Approximately 66% of patients have an initial response of a platelet count greater than 50,000 per microliter on day 8.



LIKELIHOOD OF A LONG-TERM RESPONSE? 3-5 years

This is yet unknown.



COMMON SIDE EFFECTS

Fever, easy bruising or bleeding (nosebleeds, bleeding gums), purple or red spots on your skin, feeling tired, headache, joint pain, cold symptoms such as runny or stuffy nose, sneezing, sore throat, nausea, stomach pain, or swelling in your hands or feet.

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RARE SIDE EFFECTS

Signs of a blood clot:

- chest pains, shortness of breath;
- fast heartbeats
- pain, swelling, and redness in one or both legs;
- stomach pain or tenderness;
- sudden fever or chills, yellowing of the skin or eyes, or
- bloody or tarry stools, coughing up blood or vomit that looks like coffee grounds.

Allergy or hypersensitivity:

- shortness of breath;
- wheezing or difficulty breathing;
- swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other areas of the body; or
- itching or hives

**These side effects were reported by patients in the initial trials. After you have received medical advice for any side effects you experience, you can report side effects to the Therapeutic Goods Administration online at www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.*



OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Treatment is required to be taken with food; however, there are no restrictions around the diet.

If the medication is not taken at the usual time, it is recommended to take the medication as soon as remembered. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose. DO NOT take a double dose to make up for the missed dose.

Some patients with an extreme response to lactose may encounter a reaction to this treatment.

Not recommended for use during pregnancy.

If no response is seen in this treatment, switching to a different TPORA is recommended.

REFERENCES

<https://itpaustralia.org.au/thanz-aus-nz-itp-guidelines/>
<https://www.mja.com.au/journal/2021/216/1/consensus-guidelines-management-adult-immune-thrombocytopenia-australia-and-new>

This information is for information purposes only. It is not intended to substitute professional medical advice and should not be solely relied on as health or personal advice. Always seek the guidance of your healthcare professional with any questions you may have regarding your health or specific treatments. OCT23

