



Treatment & medication

Imatinib

Other name: Glivec®.

What is it and how does it work?

A medicine (tyrosine kinase inhibitor) that inhibits the growth of cancer cells in a targeted manner (cytostatic drug).

What does it look like and how is it given?

A tablet that is taken by mouth (oral).

Short-term side effects (within 24 hours)

Nausea and vomiting

Long-term side effects

- Decrease in the number of white and red blood cells and platelets
- Risk of infections or bleeding
- Headache and dizziness
- Insomnia
- Inflammation of the eyes (conjunctivitis), increased tear production, blurred vision
- Gastrointestinal complaints, diarrhea, constipation, abdominal pain, reduced appetite
- Fluid accumulation (usually in the legs and around the eyes, sometimes elsewhere in the body)
- Skin rash, itching, scratchy sensations

- Muscle spasms and cramps, muscle pain and joint pain
- Fatigue
- Inflammation of the mucous membranes of the mouth
- Liver abnormalities

Special instructions

- If your child vomits within 30 minutes after taking the medicine, please check prinsesmaximacentrum.nl/regimens under the heading 'Medicine' to see what you should do.
- Ensure that your child takes this medicine right before or after a meal, with a large glass of water. This is to prevent irritation of the stomach and intestines.
- If you have forgotten to give the medicine, you must give it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, you do not do this. In that case, skip the missed dose and continue with the regular schedule.

This card lists the most common side effects and specifics of this medicine.
If you want a complete list, please ask the doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.