

# Avatrombopag (Doptelet<sup>®</sup>)

## Information for patients

This leaflet answers some common questions patients ask about treatment with avatrombopag. Further information and education will be provided by the clinician starting you on treatment. Please also read the patient information leaflet in the product.

### 1. What is avatrombopag and what is it used for?

Avatrombopag belongs to a group of medicines called thrombopoietin receptor agonists. The brand name is Doptelet<sup>®</sup>. The medicine helps to increase the number of platelets in your blood. Platelets are blood components that help the blood to clot and so prevent bleeding.

Avatrombopag is used to reduce the risk of bleeding during surgery and other procedures (including endoscopy). It is given to adults who have low numbers of platelets because of chronic liver disease.

### 2. What to watch out for with avatrombopag treatment

Before taking avatrombopag you should tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including:

- any allergies, especially if you have any known reactions to treatments which increase platelet production
- if you are at risk of blood clots in your veins or arteries or if you have previously had blood clots
- if you have another blood condition known as myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS); taking avatrombopag may worsen MDS
- if you have severe liver disease
- if you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant
- if you are breastfeeding or planning to breastfeed

You should also tell your healthcare provider about all medicines you take, including prescription medicines, over-the-counter medicines, vitamins and herbal supplements.

It is important to note that some patients will still require platelet transfusions despite having taken avatrombopag.

### 3. How to take avatrombopag

You will receive a call from a clinician to let you know when to start treatment with avatrombopag once a date for your procedure is confirmed. Do not start treatment before you receive confirmation. The medication will be delivered to you by the hospital pharmacy if you are unable to collect it.

Avatrombopag is available in 20 mg tablets. The usual recommended dose is either 40 mg (2 tablets) or 60 mg (3 tablets) every day for 5 days in a row.

- Your dose will depend on your platelet counts
- Your clinician will tell you how many tablets to take and when to take them

You will be instructed to begin taking avatrombopag 9 days (or more if instructed by your clinician) before you are scheduled for your procedure. Swallow the tablet whole – do not chew, break up or crush the tablet.

If you miss a dose, take the missed dose as soon as possible on the same day and return to your normal schedule the following day. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten tablet.

If you take too much avatrombopag, call us using the contact details below or go to the nearest emergency department as soon as possible. If you are able to, take your avatrombopag pack or patient information leaflet with you.

### 4. Possible side effects

The most common side effects of taking avatrombopag is tiredness and headaches. Less common side effects include low red blood cell count, bone pain, muscle aches and fever. However, these are not the only possible side effects and more are listed in the package leaflet.

Avatrombopag may cause serious side effects, including blood clots.

The signs of a blood clot include:

- swelling, pain, heat, redness, or tenderness in your leg
- sudden shortness of breath, especially with sharp pain in the chest or rapid breathing
- pain in the tummy, swollen tummy or blood in your stools

If you notice any of these or experience any side effects please contact us. You may be at an increased risk of developing blood clots if you have certain blood clotting conditions. This includes any side effect not listed in the package leaflet.

### Further information and support

If you need to speak to someone outside the scheduled clinic appointments you can contact the Hepatology Team by telephone or email:

**During normal working hours (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5.30pm):**

ACLD Clinical Nurse Specialists Team: [kch-tr.kchaclid@nhs.net](mailto:kch-tr.kchaclid@nhs.net)

Liver Pharmacy Team: [kch-tr.liverpharmacy@nhs.net](mailto:kch-tr.liverpharmacy@nhs.net)

**Monday to Friday after 5.30pm or weekends:**

Call 020 3299 9000 (switchboard) and ask for the on-call liver registrar.

## References:

- Doptelet Summary of Product Characteristics
- Doptelet Patient Information Leaflet (PIL)

## MyChart

Our MyChart app and website lets you securely access parts of your health record with us, giving you more control over your care. To sign up or for help, call us on **020 3299 4618** or email **kings.mychart@nhs.net**. Visit **www.kch.nhs.uk/mychart** to find out more.

## PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) is a service that offers support, information and assistance to patients, relatives and visitors. They can also provide help and advice if you have a concern or complaint that staff have not been able to resolve for you. They can also pass on praise or thanks to our teams.

Tel: **020 3299 4618**

Email: **kings.pals@nhs.net**

**If you would like the information in this leaflet in a different language or format, please contact our Interpreting and Accessible Communication Support on 020 3299 4618 or email kings.access@nhs.net**