1. What is lusutrombopag and what is it used for?

Lusutrombopag belongs to a group of medicines called thrombopoietin receptor agonists. The brand name is Mulpleo®. 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.

Lusutrombopag 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 lusutrombopag treatment

Before taking lusutrombopag 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 severe liver disease
- if your spleen has been removed
- if you are having interferon treatment
- 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 lusutrombopag.
3. How to take lusutrombopag

You will receive a call from a clinician who will tell you when to start treatment with lusutrombopag 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.

Lusutrombopag comes as a course of 7 tablets, with one tablet taken once a day, with or without food, for 7 days.

You will be instructed to begin taking lusutrombopag 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 lusutrombopag, 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 lusutrombopag pack or patient information leaflet with you.

4. Possible side effects

The most common side effect of taking lusutrombopag is headaches. Other common side effects include nausea, blood clot in the liver and rash. However, these are not the only possible side effects.

Lusutrombopag 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. However, these are not the only possible side effects and more are 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.kchacld@nhs.net

Liver Pharmacy Team: 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:

- Mulpleo Summary of Product Characteristics
- Mulpleo Patient Information Leaflet (PIL)
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.

PALS at King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London SE5 9RS
Tel: 020 3299 3601
Email: kch-tr.palsdh@nhs.net

PALS at Princess Royal University Hospital, Farnborough Common, Orpington, Kent BR6 8ND
Tel: 01689 863252
Email: kch-tr.palspruh@nhs.net

If you would like the information in this leaflet in a different language or format, please contact our Communications and Interpreting telephone line on 020 3299 4826 or email: kch-tr.accessibility@nhs.net