

Sunitinib (Sutent[®])

General Information

Sunitinib is an anti-cancer medicine that stops cell growth and division. It is used to treat cancers in the stomach, pancreas or kidneys. It is now being studied for use on other cancers.

How is it Given?

- light brown capsule by mouth.

What Side Effects May Occur?

This is a partial list of the side effects you may have with this medicine. You may have some, all or none of those listed, or you may have other side effects not listed. Most side effects last only a short time.

Common:

- nausea (feel like throwing up) and vomiting (throwing up)
- diarrhea (loose stools)
- heartburn
- fatigue (tiredness)
- taste changes
- rash
- constipation (unable to have bowel movement)
- dry skin
- abdominal (stomach) pain
- loss of appetite
- change in liver tests. (You will need to have tests to make sure your liver is working well.)

- low blood counts. This may increase your chance of infection, anemia or bleeding.

Less Common:

- headache
- shortness of breath
- fever
- dehydration.

Special Notes

- Sunitinib may cause your skin to turn yellow or your hair to lighten or lose color. This is caused by the color of the medicine.
- Talk with your doctor about using birth control. You should not get pregnant or father a child while taking this medicine.
- Do not breastfeed while taking this medicine.
- Sunitinib may cause high blood pressure. Have your blood pressure checked often.
- Some medicines may interact with Sunitinib. Tell your doctor if you are taking any prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, herbals or natural products.
- Do not eat grapefruit or drink grapefruit juice while taking Sunitinib.

(over)

When to Call Your Doctor

Call your doctor if you have:

- yellow eyes or skin
- itchiness
- stomach pain
- dizziness
- fever
- dark yellow urine.

Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you want more complete medicine information or if you have questions.