

How to use this medication

What is it



Boceprevir is a medication used to treat hepatitis C. It is always used with peginterferon and ribavirin.

Capsules



Boceprevir comes in 200 mg capsules. The normal dose is 4 capsules taken every 8 hours.

Take it every 8 hours



Boceprevir is taken every 8 hours. Your doctor will tell you when to start taking boceprevir. Boceprevir is taken for 24 to 44 weeks at a time.

Give it some time



Your doctor will do blood tests to see if boceprevir is working for you.

What you need to do

Don't get pregnant or breastfeed



Boceprevir is always used with other medications - peginterferon & ribavirin. Ribavirin can cause birth defects or stillbirth. The birth control pill may not work while taking boceprevir. If you are having sex, it is very important to use barrier methods (condom plus spermicidal agents). If possible it is best to abstain from sexual intercourse while taking boceprevir.

Get regular blood tests



It is important to have regular blood tests while taking boceprevir. This is to make sure the medicine isn't affecting your blood counts.

Drug interactions



There are several medications (prescription, over the counter, and herbal products) that are not safe to take with boceprevir. You should discuss this with your doctor or nurse.

Side effects & important facts

Shortness of breath & chest pain



Tell your doctor or nurse if you develop chest pain or shortness of breath.

Nausea, diarrhea & weight loss



Some people feel unwell and experience nausea when they take boceprevir. Boceprevir can also cause diarrhea. Let your doctor or nurse know if you are losing weight while taking boceprevir.

Altered food taste



Boceprevir may cause your food to taste different. This can sometimes cause weight loss.

Fatigue



Boceprevir can make you feel weak and tired.

When should I call my doctor

Please call if you need to stop

- If you feel sick and want to stop
- If you are concerned about any side effects
- If you want to or have already stopped the medicine



Other reasons to call your doctor or nurse:



If you develop a rash



Nausea or diarrhea



Shortness of breath or chest pain



Pregnant or planning pregnancy



If you start a new medicine