

Amitzo®

Temozolomide

Capsule

Read this leaflet carefully before you start taking Amitzo®. This leaflet provides answers to the most common questions. If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist. This medicine has been prescribed for your current illness only. Do not take it in similar conditions and do not pass it on to others. The information in this leaflet was last updated on the date listed on the bottom of the page. More recent information on the medicine may be available. You should ensure that you speak to your doctor or pharmacist to obtain the most up-to-date scientific information on the medicine. The latest version of this leaflet is available on www.nanoalvand.com.

What is in this leaflet

1. What Amitzo® is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Amitzo®
3. How to take Amitzo®
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Amitzo®
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Amitzo® is and what it is used for

Amitzo® contains a medicine called temozolomide. This medicine is an antitumor agent.

Amitzo® is used for the treatment of specific forms of brain tumors:

- In adults with newly-diagnosed glioblastoma multiforme. Amitzo® is first used together with radiotherapy (concomitant phase of treatment) and after that alone (monotherapy phase of treatment).
- In children 3 years and older and adult patients with malignant glioma, such as glioblastoma multiforme or anaplastic astrocytoma. Amitzo® is used in these tumors if they return or get worse after standard treatment.

2. What you need to know before you take Amitzo®

Do not take Amitzo®

- If you are allergic to temozolomide or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- If you have had an allergic reaction to dacarbazine (an anticancer medicine sometimes called DTIC). Signs of allergic reaction include feeling itchy, breathlessness or wheezing, swelling of the face, lips, tongue or throat.
- If certain kinds of blood cells are severely reduced (myelosuppression), such as your white blood cell count and platelet count. These blood cells are important for fighting infection and for proper blood clotting. Your doctor will check your blood to make sure you have enough of these cells before you begin treatment.

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before taking Amitzo®,

- If you are a newly-diagnosed patient (glioblastoma multiforme); as you may be receiving Amitzo® for 42 days in combination with radiotherapy and hence should be observed closely for the development of a serious form of chest infection called *Pneumocystis jirovecii* pneumonia (PCP). In this case, your doctor will also prescribe medicine to help you prevent this type of pneumonia (PCP).
- If you have ever had or might now have a hepatitis B infection. This is because Amitzo® could cause hepatitis B to become active again, which can be fatal in some cases. Patients will be carefully checked by their doctor for signs of this infection before treatment is started.
- If you have low counts of red blood cells (anemia), white blood cells and platelets, or blood clotting problems before starting the treatment, or if you develop them during treatment. Your doctor may decide to reduce the dose, interrupt, stop or change your treatment. You may also need other treatments. In some cases, it may be necessary to stop treatment with Amitzo®. Your blood will be tested frequently during treatment to monitor the side effects of Amitzo® on your blood cells. As you may have a small risk of other changes in blood cells, including leukemia.
- If you have nausea (feeling sick in your stomach) and/or vomiting which are very common side effects of Amitzo® (see section 4), your doctor may prescribe you a medicine (an anti-emetic) to help prevent vomiting. If you vomit frequently before or during treatment, ask your doctor about the best time to take Amitzo® until the vomiting is under control. If you vomit after taking your dose, do not take a second dose on the same day.
- If you develop fever or symptoms of an infection, contact your doctor immediately.
- If you are older than 70 years of age, you might be more prone to infections, bruising or bleeding.
- If you have liver or kidney problems, your dose of Amitzo® may need to be adjusted.

Children and adolescents

Do not give this medicine to children under the age of 3 years because it has not been studied. There is limited information in patients over 3 years of age who have taken Amitzo®.

Other medicines and Amitzo®

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

Female

If you are pregnant, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine. This is because you must not be treated with Amitzo® during pregnancy unless clearly indicated by your doctor.

Effective contraceptive precautions must be taken by female patients who are able to become pregnant during treatment with Amitzo®, and for at least 6 months following completion of treatment.

You should stop breast-feeding while receiving treatment with Amitzo®.

Male

Amitzo® may cause permanent infertility. Male patients should use effective contraception and not father a child for at least 3 months after stopping treatment. It is recommended to seek advice on conservation of sperm prior to treatment.

Driving and using machines

Amitzo® may make you feel tired or sleepy. In this case, do not drive or use any tools or machines or cycle until you see how this medicine affects you (see section 4).

Amitzo® contains lactose

This medicine contains lactose (a kind of sugar). If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact your doctor before taking this medicine.

Amitzo® contains sodium

This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per capsule, that is to say essentially "sodium-free".

3. How to take Amitzo®

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Dosage and duration of treatment

Your doctor will work out your dose of Amitzo®. This is based on your size (height and weight) and if you have a recurrent tumor and have had chemotherapy treatment in the past.

You may be given other medicines (anti-emetics) to take before and/or after taking Amitzo® to prevent or control nausea and vomiting.

Patients with newly-diagnosed glioblastoma multiforme

If you are a newly-diagnosed patient, treatment will occur in two phases:

- treatment together with radiotherapy (concomitant phase) first
- followed by treatment with only Amitzo® (monotherapy phase).

During the concomitant phase, your doctor will start Amitzo® at a dose of 75 mg/m² (usual dose). You will take this dose every day for 42 days (up to 49 days) in combination with radiotherapy. The Amitzo® dose may be delayed or stopped, depending on your blood counts and how you tolerate your medicine during the concomitant phase.

Once the radiotherapy is completed, you will interrupt treatment for 4 weeks. This will give your body a chance to recover.

Then, you will start the monotherapy phase.

During the monotherapy phase, the dose and way you take Amitzo® will be different. Your doctor will work out your exact dose. There may be up to 6 treatment periods (cycles). Each one lasts 28 days. You will take your new dose of Amitzo® alone once daily for the first 5 days (dosing days) of each cycle. The first dose will be 150 mg/m². Then you will have 23 days without Amitzo®. This adds up to a 28-day treatment cycle.

After Day 28, the next cycle will begin. You will again take Amitzo® once daily for 5 days followed by 23 days without Amitzo®. The Amitzo® dose may be adjusted, delayed or stopped depending on your blood counts and how you tolerate your medicine during each treatment cycle.

Patients with tumors that have returned or worsened (malignant glioma, such as glioblastoma multiforme or anaplastic astrocytoma) taking Amitzo® only

A treatment cycle with Amitzo® lasts 28 days.

You will take Amitzo® alone once daily for the first 5 days. This daily dose depends on whether or not you have received chemotherapy before.

If you have not been previously treated with chemotherapy, your first dose of Amitzo® will be 200 mg/m² once daily for the first 5 days. If you have been previously treated with chemotherapy, your first dose of Amitzo® will be 150 mg/m² once daily for the first 5 days.

Then, you will have 23 days without Amitzo®. This adds up to a 28-day treatment cycle.

After Day 28, the next cycle will begin. You will again receive Amitzo® once daily for 5 days, followed by 23 days without Amitzo®.

Before each new treatment cycle, your blood will be tested to see if the Amitzo® dose needs to be adjusted. Depending on your blood test results, your doctor may adjust your dose for the next cycle.

How to take Amitzo®

Take your prescribed dose of Amitzo® once a day, preferably at the same time each day.

Take the capsules on an empty stomach (1 hour before or 2 hours after a meal); for example, at least one hour before you plan to eat breakfast. Swallow the capsule(s) whole with a glass of water. Do not open, crush or chew the capsules. If a capsule is damaged, avoid contact of the powder with your skin, eyes or nose. If you accidentally get some in your eyes or nose, flush the area with water. Depending on the prescribed dose, you may have to take more than one capsule together, eventually with different strengths (content of active substance, in mg).

You should make sure you fully understand and remember the following:

- how many capsules you need to take every dosing day. Ask your doctor or pharmacist to write it down.
- which days are your dosing days.

Review the dose with your doctor each time you start a new cycle, since it may be different from the last cycle.

Always take Amitzo® exactly as your doctor has told you. It is very important to check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure. Errors in how you take this medicine may have serious health consequences.

If you take more Amitzo® than you should

If you accidentally take more Amitzo® capsules than you were told to, contact your doctor, pharmacist or nurse immediately.

If you forget to take Amitzo®

Take the missed dose as soon as possible during the same day. If a full day has gone by, check with your doctor. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose, unless your doctor tells you to do so.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Contact your doctor **immediately** if you have any of the following:

- A severe allergic (hypersensitive) reaction (hives, wheezing or other breathing difficulty)
- Uncontrolled bleeding
- Seizures (convulsions)
- Fever
- Chills
- Severe headache that does not go away

Amitzo® treatment can cause a reduction in certain kinds of blood cells. This may cause you to have increased bruising or bleeding, anemia (a shortage of red blood cells), fever, and reduced resistance to infections. The reduction in blood cell counts is usually short-lived. In some cases, it may be prolonged and may lead to a very severe form of anemia (aplastic anemia). Your doctor will monitor your blood regularly for any changes, and will decide if any specific treatment is needed. In some cases, your Amitzo® dose will be reduced or treatment stopped.

Other side effects that have been reported are listed below:

Very Common side effects (may affect more than 1 in 10 people)

- loss of appetite, difficulty speaking, headache
- vomiting, nausea, diarrhea, constipation
- rash, hair loss
- tiredness

Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- infections, oral infections
- reduced number of blood cells (neutropenia, lymphopenia, thrombocytopenia)
- allergic reaction
- increased blood sugar
- memory impairment, depression, anxiety, confusion, inability to fall asleep or stay asleep
- impaired coordination and balance
- difficulty concentrating, change in mental status or alertness, forgetfulness
- dizziness, impaired sensations, tingling sensations, shaking, abnormal taste
- partial loss of vision, abnormal vision, double vision, painful eyes
- deafness, ringing in the ears, earache
- blood clot in lung or legs, high blood pressure
- pneumonia, shortness of breath, bronchitis, cough, inflammation of your sinuses
- stomach or abdominal pain, upset stomach/heartburn, difficulty swallowing
- dry skin, itching
- muscle damage, muscle weakness, muscle aches and pain
- painful joint, back pain
- frequent urination, difficulty withholding your urine
- fever, flu-like symptoms, pain, feeling unwell, a cold or the flu
- fluid retention, swollen legs
- liver enzyme elevations
- loss of weight, weight gain
- radiation injury

Uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)

- brain infections (meningoencephalitis herpetic) including fatal cases
- wound infections
- new or reactivated cytomegalovirus infections
- reactivated hepatitis B virus infections
- secondary cancers including leukemia
- reduced blood cell counts (pancytopenia, anemia, leukopenia)
- red spots under the skin
- diabetes insipidus (symptoms include increased urination and feeling thirsty), low potassium level in the blood
- mood swings, hallucination
- partial paralysis, change in your sense of smell
- hearing impairment, infection of the middle ear
- palpitations (when you can feel your heart beat), hot flushes
- swollen stomach, difficulty controlling your bowel movements, hemorrhoids, dry mouth
- hepatitis and injury to the liver (including fatal liver failure), cholestasis, increased bilirubin
- blisters on body or in mouth, skin peeling, skin eruption, painful reddening of the skin, severe rash with skin swelling (including palms and soles)
- increased sensitivity to sunlight, urticaria (hives), increased sweating, change in skin color
- difficulty in urinating
- vaginal bleeding, vaginal irritation, absent or heavy menstrual periods, breast pain, sexual impotence
- shivering, face swelling, discoloration of the tongue, thirst, tooth disorder
- dry eyes

5. How to store Amitzo®

- Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
- Do not use Amitzo® after the expiry date.
- Store below 30°C.
- Store in the original package in order to protect from moisture. Keep the bottle tightly closed.
- Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

The active substance is temozolomide.

The other ingredients (excipients) are lactose anhydrous, tartaric acid, stearic acid, sodium starch glycolate, and colloidal silicon dioxide.

Amitzo® is available as hard gelatin capsules in 5 strengths: 5 mg, 20 mg, 100 mg, 140 mg, 180 mg, and 250 mg.

5 capsules of Amitzo® are in a bottle and each bottle is packaged in one box with a leaflet.

Not all strengths may be marketed.

Last revision: September 2022



Manufactured by Nano Fanavaran Darouei Alvand (NanoAlvand)

Address: West 7th St., Simin Dasht Industrial Area, Karaj, Alborz, Iran.

Tel: +9826-36671187

Fax: +9826-36671187

URL: www.nanoalvand.com

E-mail: info@nanoalvand.com

