

Possible Side Effects With ALK Inhibitors

Like any other treatment, ALK inhibitors come with side effects. Side effects may differ depending on the type of ALK inhibitor chosen and vary from patient to patient. Some of these side effects may be life-threatening. Recognising these side effects begins with awareness. The following describes some possible side effects with ALK inhibitors:



- Cough
- Shortness of breath/ dyspnoea
- Pneumonitis



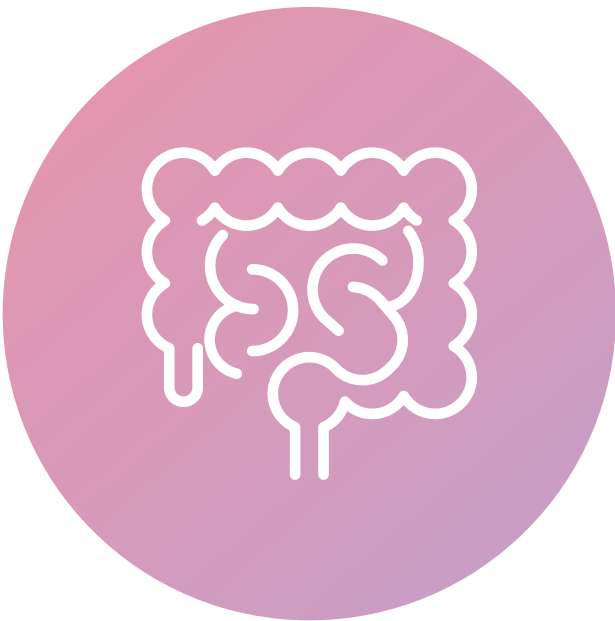
- Low heart rate/ bradycardia
- Hypertension



- Rash
- Photosensitivity
- Itching



- Cognitive and mood effects
 - Memory problems
 - Mood swings
 - Confusion
 - Hallucinations



- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea
- Constipation



- Anaemia
- Decreased white blood cell count
- High blood sugar
- High fats in the blood



- Liver injury



- Blurred vision
- Double vision
- Vision loss
- Flashes of light

For some people, side effects may continue during the early stages of treatment. For others, side effects could last throughout treatment. While some individuals don't experience any side effects from ALK inhibitors, many others do. Side effects may be mild or moderate and may affect daily activities. If you experience any side effects from ALK inhibitor treatment, speak to your doctor. If you experience severe side effects, go to an emergency department right away. If you are unsure about any symptoms, seek medical care. Always inform the medical team that you are being treated with ALK inhibitors for *ALK+* lung cancer.

Your doctor may adjust your medication dosage, usually by reducing the dose. Dose reduction is not uncommon in cancer treatment. Your doctor will adjust the dosage as needed.