BITROZIGA® (ABIRATERONE ACETATE) F. C. TABLET

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Read this patient information carefully before you start taking Bitroziga® because it answers some common questions about Bitroziga®. This medication is prescribed for your current condition, therefore do not use it in similar cases and do not recommend it to others.
To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Noavaran Daroui Kimia Co. at +982166433514 or send email to medical@kimia-pharma.co

Read this patient information carefully before you start taking Bitroziga® because it contains important information for you. This leaflet does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment.

Composition
Each film-coated tablet Bitroziga® 250 mg contains: Abiraterone acetate 250 mg.
Each film-coated tablet Bitroziga® 500 mg contains: Abiraterone acetate 500 mg.

Mechanism of action
Abiraterone is an androgen biosynthesis inhibitor.

Pharmacokinetic
Absorption
Following oral administration of Bitroziga®, the median time to reach maximum plasma concentrations is 2 hours. Taking Bitroziga® with meals result in increased and highly variable exposures of Bitroziga®. Therefore, no food should be consumed for at least two hours before the dose of Bitroziga® is taken and for at least one hour after the dose of Bitroziga® is taken.
Distribution
Bitroziga® is highly bound (>99%) to the human plasma proteins. The apparent steady-state volume of distribution is 19,669 ± 13,358 L.
Metabolism
CYP3A4 and SULT2A1 are the enzymes involved in the formation of N-oxide abiraterone sulphate and SULT2A1 is involved in the formation of abiraterone sulphate.
Elimination
The mean terminal half-life of abiraterone in plasma is 12 hours.
Excretion
Following oral administration of ^{14}C-abiraterone acetate, approximately 88% of the radioactive dose is recovered in feces and approximately 5% in urine.

Indication
Bitroziga® is a CYP17 inhibitor indicated in combination with prednisone for the treatment of patients with:
- metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (CRPC).
- metastatic high-risk castration-sensitive prostate cancer (CSPC).

It is not known if Bitroziga® is safe and effective in females or children.

Dosage and Administration
- Metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer:
  - Bitroziga® 1000 mg (two 500 mg tablets or four 250 mg tablets) orally once daily with prednisone 5 mg orally **twice** daily.
- Metastatic castration-sensitive prostate cancer:
  - Bitroziga® 1000 mg (two 500 mg tablets or four 250 mg tablets) orally once daily with prednisone 5 mg orally **once** daily.

Patients receiving Bitroziga® should also receive a gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) analog concurrently or should have had bilateral orchiectomy.

Bitroziga® tablets must be taken on an empty stomach. Do not eat food 2 hours before and 1 hour after taking Bitroziga®. The tablets must be swallowed whole with water. Do not crush or chew tablets.

Side effects / Adverse reactions
It should be noted that these side effects do not occur in all patients. These are not all the possible side effects of Bitroziga®. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

Bitroziga® may cause serious side effects including:
- **High blood pressure (hypertension), low blood potassium levels (hypokalemia), fluid retention (edema), and irregular heartbeats:** This can happen during treatment with Bitroziga®. This can be life-threatening. To decrease the chance of this happening, you must take prednisone with Bitroziga® exactly as your healthcare provider tells you. Your healthcare provider will check your blood pressure, do blood tests to check your potassium levels, and check for any signs and symptoms of fluid retention every month during treatment with Bitroziga®.
  Tell your healthcare right away provider if you get any of the following symptoms:
  - dizziness
  - confusion
  - fast or irregular heartbeats
  - muscle weakness
  - feel faint or lightheaded
  - pain in your legs
  - headache
  - swelling in your legs or feet
- **Adrenal problems:** This may happen if you stop taking prednisone, get an infection, or are under stress.
- **Severe liver problems:** You may develop changes in liver function blood tests. Your healthcare provider will do blood tests to check your liver before treatment with Bitroziga® and during treatment with Bitroziga®. Liver failure may occur, which can be life-threatening. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you notice any of the following changes:
  - yellowing of the skin or eyes
  - darkening of the urine
  - severe nausea or vomiting
- **Increased risk of bone fracture:** This may happen when Bitroziga® and prednisone or prednisolone, is used in combination with a type of radiation called radium Ra-223 dichloride. It can also be life-threatening. Tell your healthcare provider about any other treatments you are taking for prostate cancer.
- **Severe low blood sugar (hypoglycemia):** Severe low blood sugar with Bitroziga® can happen in people who have diabetes and take certain antidiabetic medicines. You and your healthcare provider should check your blood sugar levels regularly during treatment with Bitroziga® and after you stop treatment. Your healthcare provider may also need to change the dose of your antidiabetic medicines. Signs and symptoms of low blood sugar may include:
  - headache
  - irritability
  - drowsiness
  - hunger
  - weakness
  - fast heartbeat
  - dizziness
  - sweating
  - confusion
  - feeling jittery
- **Skeletal muscle effects:** This can happen during treatment with Bitroziga®. Most cases developed within the first 6 months of treatment and recovered after Bitroziga® withdrawal. Caution is recommended in patients concomitantly treated with medicinal products known to be associated with myopathy/rhabdomyolysis. Tell your healthcare provider about any other treatments you are taking for prostate cancer.

Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any of aforementioned symptoms.

The most common side effects of Bitroziga® include:
- infected nose, sinuses, or throat (cold)
- high blood cholesterol and triglycerides
- certain other abnormal blood tests
- swelling in your legs or feet
- low red blood cells (anemia)
- low blood potassium levels
- Feeling very tired
- vomiting
- joint pain
- headache
- diarrhea
- nausea
- cough
- high blood pressure
- hot flushes
- high blood sugar levels

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or does not go away.

Drug interaction
Since the drug interactions with Bitroziga® are not limited to the following medicines tell your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines. This includes herbal medicines and other medicines you bought without a prescription.

It is especially important to tell your doctor if you are taking, or have recently taken any of the following medicines. Some medicines may affect the way Bitroziga® works or Bitroziga® may affect how other medicines work. These medicines include some medicines in the following groups:

- heart medicines (e.g. quinidine, procainamide, amiodarone and sotalol)
- tranquilizers
- medicines for diabetes (e.g., pioglitazone)
- herbal medicines (e.g., St John's wort)
- Androgen deprivation treatment
- methadone – used for pain relief and part of drug addiction detoxification
- moxifloxacin and rifampin– medicines used to treat infections
- antipsychotics – used for serious mental illnesses (e.g., thioridazine)
- Dextromethorphan- cough suppressants

Warnings
Before taking Bitroziga®, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:
- have heart problems
- have liver problems
- have diabetes
- have a history of adrenal problems
- have a history of pituitary problems
- are receiving any other treatment for prostate cancer
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. Bitroziga® can cause harm to your unborn baby.
- have a partner who is pregnant or may become pregnant.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed.

- If your healthcare provider plans to administer Ra-223 following treatment with Bitroziga® and prednisone or prednisolone, you must wait 5 days before starting treatment with Ra-223.
- See healthcare provider immediately if you notice any of the following: Muscle weakness, muscle twitches or a pounding heart beat (palpitations).

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take or treatments you receive, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. You should not start or stop any medicine before you talk with the healthcare provider that prescribed Bitroziga®. Bitroziga® and other medicines may affect each other causing serious side effects.

Missed dose
If you miss a dose of Bitroziga® or prednisone, take your prescribed dose the following day. If you miss more than 1 dose, tell your healthcare provider right away.

Overdose
If you take too much Bitroziga®, call your healthcare provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.

Pregnancy and lactation
Bitroziga® can cause harm to your unborn baby.
- Bitroziga® can cause harm to your unborn baby and loss of pregnancy (miscarriage). Females who are or may become pregnant should not handle Bitroziga® tablets if broken, crushed, or damaged without protection, such as gloves.
- Males who have female partners who are able to become pregnant should use condoms in combination with another effective birth control method (contraception) during treatment with Bitroziga® and for 3 weeks after the last dose of Bitroziga®.
- Bitroziga® may cause fertility problems in males, which may affect the ability to father children. Talk to your healthcare provider if you have concerns about fertility.
- It is not known if Bitroziga® passes into your breast milk. There is no information available on the presence of Bitroziga® in human milk, or on the effects on the breastfed child or milk production.

Patient information
- Take Bitroziga® and prednisone exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it. **Do not change or stop taking your prescribed dose of Bitroziga® or prednisone without talking with your healthcare provider first.**
- Take your prescribed dose of Bitroziga® with a glass of water on an empty stomach.
- Take Bitroziga® tablets as a single dose one time a day on **an empty stomach. Do not eat food 2 hours before and 1 hour after taking Bitroziga®.**
- **Do not take Bitroziga® with food.** Taking Bitroziga® with food may cause more of the medicine to be absorbed by the body than is needed and this may cause side effects.
- Swallow Bitroziga® tablets whole. Do not crush or chew tablets.
- Your healthcare provider will do blood tests to check for side effects.
- Bitroziga® contains lactose. If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact your doctor before taking this medicinal product.

Storage
- Keep away from light and moisture. Store below 30°C.
- Keep out of the reach of children.
- Keep in the original container with the lid tightly closed.
- Keep the desiccant in the bottle. Do not eat or throw away the desiccant pack.
- Safely throw away medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Ask your pharmacist how to safely throw away Bitroziga® tablets.

Packaging
Bitroziga® 250 mg: Bottle of 120 F. C. Tablets.
Bitroziga® 500 mg: Bottle of 60 F. C. Tablets.

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MANUFACTURED BY:
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BNF 84 (British National Formulary) September 2022- March 2023