

PACKAGE LEAFLET

Package leaflet: Information for the patient

Avacopan Vifor 10 mg hard capsules avacopan

▼ This medicine is subject to additional monitoring. This will allow quick identification of new safety information. You can help by reporting any side effects you may get. See the end of section 4 for how to report side effects.

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet

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1. What Avacopan Vifor is and what it is used for

What is Avacopan Vifor?

Avacopan Vifor contains the active substance avacopan, which attaches to a specific protein in the body, called complement 5a receptor.

What is Avacopan Vifor used for?

Avacopan Vifor is used to treat adults with a gradually worsening disease caused by inflammation of the small blood vessels, called granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GPA) and microscopic polyangiitis (MPA):

- **Granulomatosis with polyangiitis** mainly affects small blood vessels and tissues in the kidneys, lung, throat, nose and sinuses, but also other organs. Patients develop small lumps (granulomas) in and around blood vessels, which are formed by tissue damage caused by inflammation.
- **Microscopic polyangiitis** affects the smaller blood vessels. It often affects the kidneys but may also affect other organs.

Complement 5a receptor has a key role in stimulating inflammation. This medicine attaches to it and prevents it from working, thereby reducing inflammation of blood vessels seen in these diseases.

Avacopan Vifor can be used together with other treatments prescribed by your doctor.

2. What you need to know before you take Avacopan Vifor

Do not take Avacopan Vifor

- if you are allergic to avacopan or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6)

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor before taking Avacopan Vifor and during treatment if you had or have:

- symptoms of a liver injury such as feeling sick (nausea or vomiting), feeling tired, loss of appetite, yellowing of the skin or eyes, dark urine, itching, upper stomach pain, increased levels of total bilirubin, the yellow breakdown substance of blood pigment, or of liver enzymes such as transaminases
- any infection, unexpected bruising and bleeding (these two are common signs of bone marrow failure)
- hepatitis B, hepatitis C, HIV infection or tuberculosis
- a heart disease, such as heart attack, heart failure, inflammation of heart blood vessels
- any type of cancer.

Avacopan Vifor is not recommended in patients with

- an active liver disease, or
- an active, serious infection.

Your doctor will carry out blood tests before and when necessary during treatment, to check:

- any problems with your liver (by measuring liver enzymes and total bilirubin in the blood)
- your risk of getting infections (by measuring the white blood cell count).

Your doctor will decide to temporarily stop or permanently discontinue treatment.

Your doctor will also monitor you for signs and symptoms of an infection called *Neisseria meningitidis*. This is recommended for adult patients with GPA or MPA.

It is recommended that you have treatment to prevent the lung infection *Pneumocystis jirovecii* pneumonia during treatment with Avacopan Vifor.

It is recommended to give vaccinations before treatment with Avacopan Vifor or when there is no active disease (granulomatosis with polyangiitis or microscopic polyangiitis).

Severe and often painful swelling under the skin, mainly in the face, has been reported during treatment with Avacopan Vifor. If this affects the throat it can make it hard to breathe. Stop treatment and seek urgent medical advice if swelling of the face, lips, tongue or throat, or breathing difficulties occur.

Children and adolescents

Do not give this medicine to children under 18 years as there is not enough evidence to know if this medicine is safe and effective in this age group.

Other medicines and Avacopan Vifor

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

It is important to tell your doctor especially if you use any of the following medicines:

- carbamazepine, phenobarbital, phenytoin: medicines to treat epilepsy and other illnesses
- enzalutamide, mitotane: medicines to treat cancer
- rifampicin, a medicine to treat tuberculosis or certain other infections

- St. John's wort, an herbal medicine used for mild depression.

If short-term use of one of these medicines cannot be avoided during treatment with Avacopan Vifor, your doctor may regularly check your condition to see how well Avacopan Vifor is working.

Avacopan Vifor can affect or be affected by the following medicines.

- alfentanil: a painkiller used during an operation with anaesthetics
- boceprevir, telaprevir: medicines to treat hepatitis C
- bosentan: a medicine to treat high blood pressure in the lungs, and sores on the fingers and toes called scleroderma
- clarithromycin, telithromycin: antibiotic medicines to treat bacterial infections
- conivaptan: a medicine to treat low blood sodium levels
- ciclosporin: a medicine to suppress the immune system and prevent transplant rejection, treat severe skin diseases and severe eye or joint inflammation
- dabigatran: a blood thinning medicine
- dihydroergotamine, ergotamine: medicines to treat migraine
- fentanyl: a strong painkiller
- indinavir, efavirenz, etravirine, lopinavir/ritonavir, nelfinavir, ritonavir, saquinavir: medicines to treat HIV infections
- itraconazole, posaconazole, voriconazole: medicines to treat fungal infections
- ketoconazole: a medicine to treat symptoms caused by the body's excessive production of cortisol called Cushing's syndrome
- mibefradil: a medicine to treat irregular heart rhythm and high blood pressure
- modafinil: a medicine to treat an extreme tendency to fall asleep
- nefazodone: medicines to treat depression
- sirolimus, tacrolimus: medicines to suppress the immune system and prevent transplant rejection.

Avacopan Vifor with food and drink

Avoid grapefruit and grapefruit juice during treatment with Avacopan Vifor, as these can influence the effect of the medicine.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

- **Pregnancy**
This medicine is not recommended during pregnancy or in women of childbearing potential not using contraception.
- **Breast-feeding**
It is unknown whether avacopan passes into breast milk. A risk to the baby cannot be excluded. Your doctor will help you decide whether to stop treatment with Avacopan Vifor or stop breast-feeding.

Driving and using machines

It is considered unlikely that Avacopan Vifor will affect your ability to drive or to use machines.

Avacopan Vifor contains macroglycerol hydroxystearate

This may cause stomach upset and diarrhoea.

3. How to take Avacopan Vifor

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

The recommended dose is **3 capsules in the morning and 3 capsules in the evening**.

Method of administration

Swallow the capsules whole with one glass of water. **Do not** crush, chew or open the capsules. Take the capsules with a meal, 3 capsules in the morning and 3 capsules in the evening.

If you take more Avacopan Vifor than you should

Talk to your doctor immediately.

If you forget to take Avacopan Vifor

If you have **more than 3 hours to go** until your next scheduled dose, take the missed dose as soon as possible and then take your next dose at the right time.

If it is **less than 3 hours** to your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Just take your next dose at the usual time.

Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

If you stop taking Avacopan Vifor

Stop treatment and seek urgent medical advice if swelling of the face, lips, tongue or throat, or breathing difficulties occur. In any other situations, do not stop taking this medicine without talking to your doctor.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

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

Contact your doctor immediately if the following serious side effects occur:

Very common (may affect more than 1 in 10 people)

- blood test showing increased levels of
 - liver enzymes (a sign of liver problems)
 - bilirubin: a yellow breakdown substance of the blood pigment.

Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- lung inflammation (symptoms can be wheezing, difficulty breathing, or chest pain).

Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)

- serious allergic reaction which causes swelling under the skin, mainly in the face, and may cause breathing difficulties (angioedema).

Not known (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data)

- serious liver injury and bile duct injury (symptoms can be feeling sick (nausea or vomiting), feeling tired, loss of appetite, yellowing of the skin or eyes, dark urine, itching, or upper stomach pain). (See section 2.)

Other side effects can occur with the following frequencies:

Very common

- infection of the upper airways
- sore and inflamed throat and nose
- headache
- feeling sick (nausea)
- diarrhoea
- vomiting
- decreased white blood cell count seen in blood tests.

Common

- inflammation of the inner lining of the nose which causes sneezing, itching, runny and blocked nose
- urinary tract infections
- inflammation of the sinuses or bronchial tubes
- inflammation of the stomach and bowel lining
- infection of the lower airways
- cellulitis
- shingles
- flu
- Candida yeast fungal infection or herpes in the mouth
- middle ear infection
- reduced number of white blood cells called neutrophils (symptoms can be infections, fever or painful swallowing)
- upper abdominal pain
- increased blood level of creatine phosphokinase enzyme (symptoms can be chest pain, confusion, muscle ache and pain, sudden weakness or numbness of the body).

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at: www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Avacopan Vifor

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and bottle after “EXP”. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

This medicine does not require any special temperature storage conditions. Store in the original bottle in order to protect from light.

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

What Avacopan Vifor 10 mg hard capsules contain

- The active substance is avacopan.
Each hard capsule contains 10 mg of avacopan.
- The other ingredients are:

- macroglycerol hydroxystearate
- macrogol (4000)
- gelatin
- polysorbate 80
- red iron oxide (E172), yellow iron oxide (E172), black iron oxide (E172)
- titanium dioxide (E171)
- shellac
- potassium hydroxide.

What Avacopan Vifor 10 mg hard capsules look like and contents of the pack

Avacopan Vifor 10 mg hard capsules are made of a yellow body and light orange cap with “CCX168” in black ink.

Capsules are 22 mm long, with a diameter of 8 mm.

The capsules are packed in plastic bottles with a child-resistant closure.

Avacopan Vifor 10 mg hard capsules are available in packs containing 30 or 180 hard capsules.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder

Vifor Fresenius Medical Care Renal Pharma France
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Manufacturer

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For any information about this medicine, please contact the Marketing Authorisation Holder.

This leaflet was last revised in November 2024.

Other sources of information

Detailed information on this medicine is also available on the following URL: <http://www.tavneos-patient.eu>.

There are also links to other websites about rare diseases and treatments.