



Patient Information Sheet

DRUGS-ABOUT.COM

Palifermin (marketed as Kevivance)

This is a summary of the most important information about Kevivance. For details, talk to your healthcare professional.

What Is Kevivance?

- Kevivance is a prescription medicine used to reduce the chance of developing painful sores and ulcers in the mouth (severe mucositis) and to shorten the time with severe mucositis in patients with blood cancers who receive high doses of chemotherapy and radiation therapy before bone marrow transplants.
- Kevivance has not been shown to be safe and effective in patients being treated for forms of cancer other than leukemia or lymphoma.
- Kevivance has not been studied in children.
- It has not been determined if patients age 65 years and over respond to Kevivance differently than younger patients..

Who Should Not Use Kevivance?

Do not receive Kevivance if you are allergic to:

- Kevivance or any its ingredients
- other products made from *E. coli* proteins

What Are The Risks?

Kevivance can cause serious problems such as:

- **Possible tumor growth** if Kevivance is used for non-blood related cancers.
- **Skin and mucus membrane side effects** such as rash, redness, swelling, itching, unusual sensations in the mouth, tongue color change, tongue thickening and

changes in taste. Tell your healthcare professional if you get any of these side effects.

- **Fever**
- **Breathing problems**
- **Other common side effects** include swelling, pain, joint pain, increases in blood pancreas enzymes, high blood pressure, and protein in the urine.

What Should I Tell My Healthcare Professional?

Before you start receiving Kevivance, tell your healthcare professional if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or are breast-feeding.

Are There Any Interactions With Drugs Or Foods?

Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

Kevivance can interact with heparin. If heparin is used to maintain your I.V., your I.V. must be flushed with saline before and after receiving Kevivance.

How Should I Take Kevivance?

Kevivance is given as an infusion in the vein (I.V.) for 3 days before you get chemotherapy and for 3 days after. Kevivance should not be given to you within 24 hours of your chemotherapy treatment.

*Kevivance FDA Approved 12/2004
Patient Information Sheet 07/2005*

