

# TAFINLAR®

dabrafenib (as mesilate) capsules

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## Consumer Medicine Information

### What is in this leaflet

**Please read this leaflet carefully before you start using TAFINLAR.**

This leaflet answers some common questions about TAFINLAR.

It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

The information in this leaflet was last updated on the date listed on the final page. More recent information on the medicine may be available.

**You should ensure that you speak to your pharmacist or doctor to obtain the most up to date information on the medicine.**

**You can also download the most up to date leaflet from [www.novartis.com.au](http://www.novartis.com.au).**

The updates may contain important information about the medicine and its use of which you should be aware.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking TAFINLAR against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

**If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

**Keep this leaflet with the medicine.**

You may need to read it again.

## **What TAFINLAR is used for**

TAFINLAR capsules contain the active ingredient dabrafenib. TAFINLAR belongs to a group of medicines called "selective BRAF-inhibitors".

TAFINLAR can be used by itself or in combination with another medicine called MEKINIST.

**If you are taking these medicines together, please read the MEKINIST Consumer Medicine Information as well as this one carefully.**

TAFINLAR is used to:

- Treat types of:
  - skin cancers called melanoma
  - thyroid cancers called anaplastic thyroid cancer (ATC)

- lung cancers called non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)

that have spread to other parts of the body.

- Prevent melanoma from coming back after the melanoma has been removed by surgery.

All of these cancers have changes (mutation) in a gene called "BRAF" that may have caused your cancer to develop. TAFINLAR targets proteins made by the mutated BRAF gene and slows down or stops the development of your cancer.

**Ask your doctor, pharmacist, healthcare provider, or nurse if you have any questions about how TAFINLAR works or why this medicine has been prescribed for you.**

Your doctor may have prescribed it for another reason.

TAFINLAR should not be used in children and adolescents under the age of 18 years because it is not known whether it is safe and effective in this younger group of patients.

This medicine is available only with a doctor's prescription.

It is not addictive.

## **Before you take TAFINLAR**

Before you take TAFINLAR, your doctor will take tumour tissue samples to check whether TAFINLAR is suitable for you.

## **When you must not take it**

### **Do not take TAFINLAR if:**

- You are pregnant (see Pregnancy), or
- You have an allergy to:
- Dabrafenib mesilate (active ingredient), or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include:

- Shortness of breath
  - Wheezing or difficulty breathing
  - Swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body
  - Rash, itching or hives on the skin.
- It is after the expiry date printed on the pack

The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

- The packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

**If it has expired or is damaged, return it to your pharmacist for disposal.**

**If you are not sure whether you should start taking this medicine, talk to your doctor.**

## **Before you start to take it**

**If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may become pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor, pharmacist, or health care provider for advice before taking this medicine. Also, please read the section "Pregnancy" in this leaflet.**

Your doctor will discuss with you the potential risk(s) of taking TAFINLAR during pregnancy or breast-feeding.

**If you do become pregnant while you are taking TAFINLAR, tell your doctor immediately.**

**Tell your doctor, healthcare provider, pharmacist, or nurse if you have allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.**

They will want to know if you are prone to allergies.

**Tell them if you have or have had any of the following medical conditions:**

- **Liver problems**

Your doctor may take blood samples to monitor your liver function while you are taking TAFINLAR.

- **Kidney problems**

Either now or in the past

- **Diabetes or high levels of sugar in your blood**

## **If you are taking the combination of TAFINLAR and MEKINIST**

**Tell your doctor or healthcare provider if you have:**

- **Heart problems**

Such as heart failure or problems with the way your heart beats

- **Eye problems**

Including:

- Blockage of the vein draining the eye (retinal vein occlusion) or
- Swelling in the eye which may be caused by fluid blockage (chorioretinopathy)

- **Any lung or breathing problems**

Including difficulty in breathing often accompanied by a dry cough, shortness of breath and fatigue

- **Any skin problems**

Including:

- Rash or
- Acne-like rash.

**Check with your doctor if you think any of these medical conditions may apply to you.**

**If you are not sure whether you should start taking this medicine, talk to your doctor.**

## **Pregnancy**

**If you do become pregnant while you are taking TAFINLAR, tell your doctor immediately.**

TAFINLAR can harm your unborn baby.

TAFINLAR alone or in combination with MEKINIST are not recommended during pregnancy.

**Tell your doctor, healthcare provider, pharmacist, or nurse if you are planning to become pregnant.**

Your doctor can discuss the risks and benefits involved with you.

**If you are a woman who could become pregnant, you must use effective birth control while you are taking TAFINLAR and for:**

- at least two weeks after you stop taking it

**OR**

- at least 16 weeks following the last dose of MEKINIST (when taken in combination with TAFINLAR).

Birth control methods containing hormones (such as pills, injections or patches) may not work as well while you are taking TAFINLAR.

**You need to use another effective method of birth control, so you don't become pregnant while you are taking TAFINLAR.**

**Ask your doctor, healthcare provider, pharmacist, or nurse about options for effective birth control or for advice.**

## **Breast-feeding**

**Tell your doctor, pharmacist, or healthcare provider if you are breast feeding or planning to breast feed.**

TAFINLAR is not recommended while breast-feeding.

It is not known whether the ingredients of TAFINLAR can pass into breast milk.

You and your doctor will decide if you will take TAFINLAR or breast feed.

**If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell him/her before you start taking TAFINLAR.**

## **If you are a man taking this medicine**

**You may have a reduced sperm count while you are taking it. Your sperm count may not return to normal levels after you stop taking TAFINLAR.**

**Male patients (including those that have had a vasectomy) with female partners who are or may become pregnant, should use condoms during sexual intercourse while on**



**treatment and for at least 2 weeks after stopping TAFINLAR.**

**If taking TAFINLAR in combination with MEKINIST, male patients should use condoms during sexual intercourse while on treatment and for at least 16 weeks after stopping the combination.**

You may have reduced sperm count while you are taking this medicine. Your sperm count may not return to normal levels after you stop taking TAFINLAR.

**If you have any further questions on the effect of this medicine on sperm count, ask your doctor or nurse.**

## **Taking other medicines**

**Tell your doctor, healthcare provider, nurse, or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken, or might take any other medicines, including any that you get without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.**

Some medicines may affect how TAFINLAR works, or make it more likely that you will have side effects.

TAFINLAR can also affect how some other medicines work. These include:

- Birth control containing hormones such as pills, injections, or patches;
- Warfarin, a medicine used to thin blood and prevent clots;

- Some medicines used to treat fungal infections, such as ketoconazole, itraconazole, voriconazole, posaconazole;
- Some antibiotic medicines, such as clarithromycin, telithromycin or rifampicin;
- Some medicines that suppress the immune system;
- Some medicines that reduce stomach acid, such as:
  - proton pump inhibitors (e.g. omeprazole, esomeprazole, rabeprazole, pantoprazole, or lansoprazole)
  - H2 agonists or blockers (e.g. ranitidine, cimetidine, famotidine, or nizatidine), or
  - Antacids (e.g. containing aluminium hydroxide, calcium carbonate, magnesium hydroxide, magnesium carbonate, magnesium trisilicate, or sodium bicarbonate)
- Some medicines to lower fats (lipids) in the blood stream, such as gemfibrozil;
- Some anti-inflammatory medicines such as dexamethasone;
- Some medicines to treat HIV, such as ritonavir, saquinavir and atazanavir;
- Some medicines to treat seizures (epilepsy), such as phenytoin, phenobarbital, or carbamazepine;

- Some anti-depressant medicines such as nefazodone and the herbal medicine St John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- Medicines used to treat high levels of cholesterol such as rosuvastatin.

**Tell your doctor or nurse if you are taking any of these (or if you are not sure).**

Your doctor may decide to adjust your dose.

**Keep a list of medicines you take, so that you can show it to your doctor or nurse when you get a new medicine.**

Your doctor and pharmacist have more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while taking this medicine.

## **How to take TAFINLAR**

**Always follow all directions given to you by your doctor, pharmacist, healthcare provider, or nurse carefully.**

They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

**If you do not understand the instructions on the bottle, ask your doctor or nurse for help.**

## **How much to take**

The usual total dose of TAFINLAR is 150 mg twice each day.

**You must take 2 TAFINLAR doses each day.**

**Take each 150 mg dose on an empty stomach as either:**

- Two 75 mg capsules

**or**

- Three 50 mg capsules.

Depending on how you respond to TAFINLAR, your doctor may prescribe you a lower dose or interrupt temporarily the treatment. If you get side effects, your doctor may decide that you should take a lesser dose.

**Do not take more TAFINLAR than your doctor has recommended.**

If you are aged 65 years or more, you can use TAFINLAR at the same dose as for younger adults.

## **When to take it**

**Take the first dose of TAFINLAR in the morning, and take the second dose of TAFINLAR in the evening, approximately 12 hours later.**

The doses must be about 12 hours apart.

**Take the morning and evening doses at about the same time each day.**

Taking the TAFINLAR doses at about the same time each day will have the best effect. It will also help you remember when to take it.

## **Take TAFINLAR on an empty stomach**

Food may affect the way the medicine is taken up (absorbed) into your body.

### **TAFINLAR should be taken either at least:**

- **1 hour before eating**

If taking TAFINLAR BEFORE something to eat or drink, take it and then wait at least 1 (one) hour before having any food or drink

### **OR**

- **2 hours after eating**

If taking TAFINLAR AFTER eating a meal or having a drink, wait at least two (2) hours before taking TAFINLAR.

## **How to take it**

**Swallow each capsule whole, with a full glass of water. Take the capsules, one after the other, unless your doctor has advised a lower dose.**

**After taking TAFINLAR, wait at least 1 hour before eating.**

# **How to take TAFINLAR in combination with MEKINIST**

**Take TAFINLAR in combination with MEKINIST exactly as your doctor, pharmacist, nurse, or healthcare provider tells you.**

**DO NOT TAKE MORE THAN ONE DOSE OF MEKINIST PER DAY.**

**Take the MEKINIST tablet at the same time each day, with EITHER the morning or the evening dose of TAFINLAR capsules.**

**Swallow the TAFINLAR capsules and the MEKINIST tablet, with a full glass of water.**

**DO NOT TAKE THE MORNING AND EVENING DOSES OF TAFINLAR AT THE SAME TIME.**

**Take the first dose of TAFINLAR in the morning, and take the second dose of TAFINLAR in the evening, approximately 12 hours later.**

**Do not change your dose unless your healthcare provider tells you.**

## **How long to take it**

**Continue taking your medicine for as long as your doctor tells you.**

This is a long term treatment, possibly lasting for months to years.

**Do not stop unless your doctor advises you to.**

Stopping your treatment with TAFINLAR may cause your condition to become worse.

**If you have any further questions about how long to take TAFINLAR, ask your doctor or nurse.**

**If you forget to take it**

**Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose that you missed.**

If the missed dose of TAFINLAR is:

- **Less than 6 hours late, take it as soon as you remember.**
- **More than 6 hours late, skip that dose and take your next dose at the usual time.**

**Then go back to taking your medicine as you would normally.**

**If you are not sure what to do, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

**If you have trouble remembering to take your medicine, ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist for some hints.**

## **If you take too much (overdose)**

**Immediately telephone your doctor or the Poisons Information Centre (telephone 13 11 26) for advice, or go to the nearest hospital if you think that:**

- You may have taken too many capsules of TAFINLAR, or MEKINIST tablet (if taking the combination), or if
- Somebody else may have accidentally taken your medicine(s).

**Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.**

Urgent medical attention may be needed.

**Take your medication pack(s) with you.**

## **While you are taking TAFINLAR**

### **Things you must do**

**If you are about to be started on any new medicine, remind your doctor and pharmacist that you are taking TAFINLAR.**

**Tell any other doctors, dentists, nurses and pharmacists who treat you that you are taking this medicine.**

**Keep all of your doctor's appointments so that your progress can be checked.**



## **Monitoring during your treatment**

Your doctor may do some tests from time to time to make sure that TAFINLAR is working and to prevent unwanted side effects.

Your doctor will also perform routine medical examinations during and after stopping treatment with TAFINLAR, to look for any possible skin malignancies that could have developed during treatment.

Your eyesight should be examined during therapy with TAFINLAR by a specialist eye doctor.

During and after severe high fever events some substances (enzymes) might be abnormally increased and your doctor might measure those and check that your kidneys are working properly.

In case you notice unexplained severe upper stomach pain, you might be examined to find out whether you have an inflamed pancreas (pancreatitis). If an inflamed pancreas is confirmed you will have regular blood checks for some substances (enzymes), which might be abnormally increased in the blood while taking TAFINLAR.

## **Conditions that you may need to look out for**

Some people taking TAFINLAR develop other conditions, which can be serious.

If you are elderly, you may experience more severe side effects. In clinical trials, patients older than 65 years had more

side effects that resulted in amendments to their dose and had higher frequency of severe side effects. Your doctor is aware of this.

While you are taking TAFINLAR, you need to know about the following important signs and symptoms to look out for.

## **FEVER**

Taking TAFINLAR may cause high fever. High fever can also occur more often when you take TAFINLAR capsules together with MEKINIST tablets.

Signs and symptoms of a fever may include:

- Temperature of 38°C or more
- Severe chills
- Shivering
- Thirst or dehydration
- Feeling dizzy, faint, or as if you're going to be sick.
- Low blood pressure

**Tell your doctor, or nurse immediately if you get a temperature of 38°C or above or if you feel a fever coming on (you have chills, night sweats or flu-like symptoms) while you are taking this medicine.**

They will carry out tests to find out if there are other causes for the fever and treat the problem.

If you are taking TAFINLAR or TAFINLAR and MEKINIST together you may be asked to stop taking it if your temperature is above 38°C, or if you have signs of fever (e.g. chills, night sweats or flu-like symptoms). If your fever is controlled; and only after you have had no symptoms for at least 24 hours, your doctor may recommend that you resume both treatments at a lower dose.

If the fever is very severe or keeps returning, your doctor may recommend that you stop taking both TAFINLAR and MEKINIST permanently.

## **Things you must not do**

**Do NOT take TAFINLAR with food. See "Take TAFINLAR on an empty stomach".**

You must take it on an empty stomach.

**Do NOT take TAFINLAR to treat any other conditions unless your doctor tells you to.**

This medicine has been prescribed for only you.

**Do NOT take the morning and evening doses of TAFINLAR at the same time.**

TAFINLAR is dosed about every twelve (12) hours.

**Do NOT give your medicine to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.**

It may harm them, even if the signs of illness are the same as yours. This medicine has been prescribed for only you.

**Do NOT stop taking your medicine, or lower the dosage, without first checking with your doctor.**

This may cause your condition to become worse.

## **Things to be careful of**

### **Be careful when:**

- Driving or operating machinery until you know how TAFINLAR affects you.
- Drinking alcohol while you are taking this medicine.

## **Side effects**

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking TAFINLAR.**

Like all medicines, TAFINLAR can cause side effects but not everybody gets them. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical attention if you get some of the side effects.

**Do not be alarmed by the following lists of side effects.**

You may not experience any of them.

**Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.**

## **Possible serious side effects - when taking TAFINLAR alone**

**STOP taking this medicine and tell your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist IMMEDIATELY if you experience any of the following serious side effects (either for the first time or if they get worse) during treatment with TAFINLAR:**

- Abnormal growth of cancerous cells on the skin (signs of cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma (cuSCC) including SCC of the skin, SCC in situ (Bowen's disease), keratoacanthoma)
- Painful red eye (may be a sign of a disease of the eye named uveitis)
- Skin sore or reddish bump that bleeds or does not heal, a change in size or colour of a mole, or a new skin lesion (signs of new primary melanoma)
- Severe upper stomach or strong abdominal pain as this could be a sign of an inflamed pancreas
- Difficulty in breathing or swallowing, dizziness, swelling of the face, lips, tongue or throat, severe itching of the skin, with a red rash or raised bumps (signs of a hypersensitivity reaction)

- Severely decreased urine output (sign of renal failure)
- High or low urine output, drowsiness, confusion, nausea as a sign of an inflamed kidney (tubulointerstitial nephritis)

## **Very common side effects - TAFINLAR alone**

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following (that may affect more than 1 in 10 people):**

- Vomiting
- Unusual hair loss or thinning (alopecia)
- Thickening of the outer layers of the skin (hyperkeratosis)
- Skin effects such as rash, wart-like growths (papilloma)
- Skin effects such as rash, wart-like growths, or redness and/or swelling and possibly peeling of the palms, fingers, soles of the feet, and, occasionally, elsewhere, which may occur with a tingling sensation and burning pain (palmar-plantar erythro- dysaesthesia syndrome)
- An irritated area of skin with changed colour, appearance, or texture (rash)
- Feeling like you want to vomit (nausea)
- Lack of energy (fatigue)
- Joint pain (arthralgia)

- Muscle pain (myalgia)
- Pain in the hands or feet (pain in extremity)
- Headache
- Frequent loose or liquid bowel movements (diarrhoea)
- Reduced desire to eat (decreased appetite)
- Cough
- Feelings of coldness (chills)
- An increase in normal body temperature, or fever (pyrexia)
- Feeling weak (asthenia).

## **Common side effects - TAFINLAR alone**

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following (that may affect up to 1 in 10 people):**

- Skin effects including:
  - "Sun spots" (rough scaly patches of skin that develop on sun-exposed areas of skin) (actinic keratosis)
  - Brown or yellowish thickening of the skin, or harmless "wart-like" skin growths (seborrhoeic keratosis)

- Skin tags (soft, skin-coloured growths that hang from the surface of the skin on a thin piece of tissue or "stalk") (achrochordon)
  - Dry skin
  - Redness of the skin (erythema)
  - Itchy skin (an irritating feeling that makes you want to scratch an area of skin)
  - Skin lesions (parts of the skin that have an abnormal growth or appearance compared to the skin around it).
- Excessive thirst, high urine output, dark urine, increased appetite with weight loss, dry flushed skin, irritability, as signs of high blood sugar (glucose)
  - Tiredness, chills, sore throat, joint or muscles aching (Flu-like illness)
  - Infrequent or difficult emptying of the bowels (constipation)
  - Sore throat, swelling of the nasal passages, and runny nose (nasopharyngitis)
  - Increased sensitivity of the skin to sun (photosensitivity).

### **Common side effects that can show up in test results**

- Some side effects may not give you any symptoms and may only be found when tests are done. These side effects are common:



- Low phosphorus in the blood (hypophosphataemia)
- High sugar/glucose level in the blood (hyperglycaemia).

## **Uncommon side effects - TAFINLAR alone**

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following (that may affect less than 1 in 100 people):**

- Tender or painful bumps below the surface of the skin (panniculitis).

## **Additional possible side effects - when taking TAFINLAR together with MEKINIST**

**Refer to the MEKINIST Consumer Medicine Information for possible side effects and important signs and symptoms to look out for, such as heart problems, eye problems, and rash.**

**Stop taking the combination of TAFINLAR and MEKINIST and tell your doctor immediately if you experience any of the following serious side effects:**

- Fever, chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers due to infections (signs of neutropenia, or low levels of a type of white blood cell that fight off infections)
- Headaches, dizziness, or weakness, coughing up blood or blood clots, vomit that contains blood or vomit that looks like "coffee grounds", bleeding from the nose, or red or black stools (signs of bleeding)

- Generalized swelling (oedema includes generalized and peripheral oedema)
- Fever, sore throat or mouth ulcers due to infections (signs of leukopenia - low levels of a certain type of white blood cell which can place a patient at an increased risk of infection)
- Difficulty breathing, chest pain, trouble breathing, fainting, rapid heart rate, bluish skin discoloration (signs of pulmonary embolism)
- Spontaneous bleeding or bruising (signs of deficiency of platelets in the blood)
- Thirst, low urine output, weight loss, dry flushed skin, irritability (signs of dehydration)
- Loss of vision (sign of visual impairment)
- Sensation of flashing light, loss of vision (signs of retinal detachment impairment)
- Slow heart-beat
- Acute severe upper stomach pain (sign of acute pancreatitis)
- Severely decreased urine output (sign of renal failure)
- High or low urine output, drowsiness, confusion, nausea as a sign of an inflamed kidney (tubulointerstitial nephritis)

- Abnormal breakdown of muscle causing pain, fever, red-brown urine (signs of rhabdomyolysis)
- Swelling in the eye by fluid leakage causing a blurred vision (signs of chorioretinopathy)
- Fatigue, feeling full or bloated, heart palpitations, loss of appetite, nausea, reduced ability to exercise, shortness of breath, swelling as signs of changes how the heart pumps (signs of left ventricular dysfunction)
- Breathlessness, difficulty breathing when lying down, swelling of the feet or legs as signs of heart muscle not pumping blood as well as it should (signs of cardiac failure)
- Cough, difficult or painful breathing, wheezing, pain in chest when breathing, fever (signs of pneumonitis)
- Inflammation of the kidney (nephritis)
- Severe stomach pain, chills, fever, nausea and vomiting as signs of a hole forming all the way through the stomach, large bowel or small intestine (signs of gastrointestinal perforation)
- Cramping diarrhoea with or without blood in stool, abdominal pain as signs of an inflammation of the inner lining of the colon (colitis)
- Serious skin reactions such as rash, red skin, blistering of the lips, eyes or mouth, skin peeling, with or without fever, which may be possible signs of Stevens-Johnson syndrome.

- Serious skin reactions such as widespread rash, fever, and enlarged lymph nodes (which may be signs of drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms [DRESS]).
- Chest pain, sudden shortness of breath, trouble breathing, pain in your legs with or without swelling, swelling in your arms and legs, or a cool, pale arm or leg. These may be symptoms of a blood clot.

### **VERY COMMON SIDE EFFECTS (IN COMBINATION WITH MEKINIST)**

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following (that may affect more than 1 in 10 people):**

- Sore throat and runny nose (nasopharyngitis)
- Urinary tract infection
- Swelling of the hands or feet
- Stomach ache
- Rash, dry skin, itching, acne-like problems
- Dry skin
- Itchy skin (an irritating feeling that makes you want to scratch an area of skin)
- Thickening of the outer layers of the skin (hyperkeratosis including also actinic keratosis, (thick scaly crusty skin), seborrheic keratosis (waxy, "pasted-on-the-skin" skin

growths) and keratosis pilaris (rough, slightly red bumps on light skin and brown bumps on darker skin))

- Headache, dizziness (high blood pressure)
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Constipation
- Redness of the skin (erythema)
- Muscle spasms
- Dizziness, light headedness (low blood pressure)
- Feeling weak, sick, and tired (asthenia including malaise and fatigue)
- Tiredness, fatigue, pale skin (anaemia)
- Dry mouth
- Tiredness, chills, sore throat, joint or muscles aching (Influenza-like illness)
- Excessive thirst, high urine output, dark urine, increased appetite with weight loss, dry flushed skin, irritability, as signs of high level of sugar (glucose) in the blood (hyperglycaemia).

**Very common side effects that may show up in your blood tests**

High levels of the following liver function enzymes:

- Alkaline phosphatase (ALP) increased (bone function) and/or
- Alanine aminotransferase (ALT) and/or
- Aspartate aminotransferase (AST) increased.

### **COMMON SIDE EFFECTS (IN COMBINATION WITH MEKINIST)**

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following (that may affect up to 1 in 10 people):**

- Inflammation of the skin caused by infection (cellulitis)
- Inflammation of hair follicles in the skin (folliculitis)
- Nail disorders such as nail bed changes, nail pain, infection and swelling of the cuticles
- Skin rash with pus-filled blisters
- Blurred vision, eyesight problems
- Tiredness, chest discomfort, light headedness pain, palpitations (ejection fraction decreased)
- Hard and painful swelling in the arms, legs, or other part of the body (lymphoedema)
- Shortness of breath, laboured breathing (dyspnoea)

- A sore or inflammation inside of the mouth, including on the inner cheeks, gums, inside of the lips, or on the tongue (stomatitis)
- Night Sweats
- Excessive sweating
- Skin cracks or tears in the skin (skin fissures)
- Tender or painful bumps below the surface of the skin (panniculitis)
- Swelling of face (facial oedema)
- Pain, mouth sores, redness and swelling of airways or food pipe (mucosal inflammation).

**Common side effects that may show up in blood test results:**

- Increase in:
  - An enzyme produced by the liver (GGT).
- Abnormal kidney blood test result as a sign of impaired muscle health (blood creatine phosphokinase increased).

**UNCOMMON SIDE EFFECTS (IN COMBINATION WITH MEKINIST)**

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following (that may affect less than 1 in 100 people):**

- Swelling of the eyelids and swelling around the eye (periorbital oedema)
- Cough, difficulty breathing, painful breathing (interstitial lung disease).
- Inflammatory disease mainly affecting the skin, lungs and eyes (sarcoidosis)

**Tell your doctor or nurse if you notice anything that is making you feel unwell.**

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people.

## **After using TAFINLAR**

### **Storage**

**Keep TAFINLAR capsules in the bottle until it is time to take them. Do not remove the desiccant.**

If you take the capsules out of the pack/ bottle they may not keep well.

**Keep your capsules in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 30°C.**

**Do not store TAFINLAR or any other medicine in the bathroom or near a sink. Do not leave it on a window sill or in the car.**

Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.



**Keep it where children cannot reach it.**

A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

## **Disposal**

**If the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering when you receive it, return it to the pharmacist.**

**If your doctor tells you to stop taking this medicine or the expiry date has passed, ask your pharmacist what to do with any medicine that is left over.**

**Do not throw TAFINLAR in the general household rubbish or flush it down the toilet.**

It may end up in landfill or enter waterways affecting the environment or marine life.

**Do not keep old medicines because you think you may need them in the future.**

Keeping any unwanted or expired medications runs the risk of unintentional poisonings.

## **Product description**

### **What TAFINLAR looks like**

TAFINLAR capsules are available in plastic bottles containing 120 capsules. The bottle has a child resistant closure.

### **50 mg capsules**

TAFINLAR 50 mg capsules are opaque, hard capsules composed of a dark red body and dark red cap containing a white to slightly coloured solid. The capsule shells are printed with GS TEW and 50 mg.

### **75 mg capsules**

TAFINLAR 75 mg capsules are opaque, hard capsules composed of a dark pink body and dark pink cap containing a white to slightly coloured solid. The capsule shells are printed with GS LHF and 75 mg.

## **Ingredients**

Each capsule contains dabrafenib (as mesilate) as the active ingredient. Each capsule also contains the following excipients

- Cellulose - microcrystalline (E460)
- Magnesium stearate (E572)
- Silica - colloidal anhydrous
- Iron oxide red (E172)
- Titanium dioxide (E171)
- Hypromellose (E464)
- Iron oxide black (E172)
- Shellac
- Butan-1-ol

- Isopropyl alcohol
- Propylene glycol (E1520)
- Ammonium hydroxide (E527)

This medicine does not contain lactose, sucrose, gluten, tartrazine or any other azo dyes.

## **Supplier**

TAFINLAR is supplied by:

**Novartis Pharmaceuticals Australia Pty Limited**

ABN 18 004 244 160

54 Waterloo Road, Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia

Telephone 1 800 671 203

[www.novartis.com.au](http://www.novartis.com.au)

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Australian Registration Numbers:

TAFINLAR 50 mg capsules: AUST R 200922

TAFINLAR 75 mg capsules: AUST R 200936

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