



Appendix 7

Linezolid

How do I take?

Tablets can be taken with/without food.

Will there be any interactions with any of my other medicines?

Your NTM team will check for any interactions. Please ensure you make your NTM team aware of all prescribed medications you take and any over the counter medications.

- Medicines that linezolid interacts with include (but not limited to):
 - Monoamine oxidase inhibitors (e.g. phenelzine, isocarboxazid, selegiline, moclobemide). Linezolid is recommended not to be used within 2 weeks of taking them
 - Some antibiotics, e.g. clarithromycin or rifampicin, can increase or decrease the levels of linezolid. In this case, your clinical team may consider monitoring linezolid levels, and advise on dosage adjustment
 - Some antidepressants such as tricyclic antidepressants (e.g. amitriptyline) and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) (e.g. sertraline, citalopram, fluoxetine)
 - 5HT1 agonists (e.g. sumatriptan)
 - Avoid large amounts of tyramine-rich food (mature cheese, yeast extracts, alcohol – especially draught beers and wine, and fermented soya bean products like soy sauce) because they can cause blood pressure to become dangerously elevated

Is there anything I need to look out for?

- Linezolid may cause side effects. You should make your NTM team aware if you experience any of the following side effects:
 - Symptoms suggestive of peripheral neuropathy such as sensations of 'pins and needles' of extremities, some describe as burning sensations or numbness. Your NTM team may prescribe you a vitamin (pyridoxine - vitamin B6) to reduce this side effect risk
 - Any symptoms of visual impairment
 - Metallic or altered taste
 - If started on potential interacting drugs, report signs suggestive of serotonin syndrome which includes throbbing headache after eating or drinking, extreme high blood pressure, confusion, agitation and loss of usual muscle coordination
 - Abdominal pain



What other side effects might I experience?

- Other side effects include (but not limited to):
 - Diarrhoea, vomiting, nausea
 - Headaches
 - Oral/vaginal thrush
- Please see patient information insert provided with medication for full list of side effects

How will I be monitored?

- Your NTM team will check your full blood count and liver function before you start treatment and regularly throughout your treatment
- Before taking linezolid tell your clinician if you have colour blindness or visual disturbances
- Your NTM team will ask you to complete an eye test (to check your visual acuity and colour discrimination) before starting treatment and at appropriate regular time points
- Nerve conduction tests may be arranged if you report symptoms suggestive of peripheral neuropathy