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2. Nexavar

# Nexavar

**Generic name:** [sorafenib](#) [ sor-a-FEN-ib ]**Drug classes:** [Multikinase inhibitors](#), [VEGF/VEGFR inhibitors](#)Medically reviewed by [Philip Thornton, DipPharm](#). Last updated on Jul 25, 2024.[Uses](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Side effects](#) [Interactions](#) [FAQ](#)

## What is Nexavar?

Nexavar is a cancer medication that interferes with the growth and spread of cancer cells in the body.

Nexavar is used to treat [liver cancer](#), [thyroid cancer](#), or [kidney cancer](#).

It is not known if Nexavar is safe and effective in children.

## Warnings

You should not use Nexavar if you have squamous cell lung cancer and you are being treated with [carboplatin](#) and [paclitaxel](#).

**Nexavar can cause heart problems. Get emergency medical help if you have:** chest pain, fast heartbeats, trouble breathing, or swelling around your midsection or in your lower legs.

Nexavar can also cause severe bleeding. Call your doctor if you have blood in your urine or stools, abnormal vaginal bleeding, severe stomach pain, cough with bloody mucus, or any bleeding that will not stop.

## Before taking this medicine

You should not use Nexavar if you are allergic to sorafenib, or if you have squamous cell lung cancer and you are being treated with carboplatin and paclitaxel.

To make sure Nexavar is safe for you, tell your doctor if you have:

- heart problems, chest pain, or a heart attack;
- [long QT syndrome](#) (in you or a family member);
- high blood pressure;
- an electrolyte imbalance (such as abnormal levels of calcium, magnesium, or potassium in your blood);

- bleeding problems; or
- surgery.

Sorafenib can harm an unborn baby or cause birth defects **if the mother or the father is using this medicine**.

- **If you are a woman**, do not use Nexavar if you are pregnant. You may need to have a negative pregnancy test before starting this treatment. Use effective birth control to prevent pregnancy while you are using this medicine and for at least 6 months after your last dose.
- **If you are a man**, use effective birth control if your sex partner is pregnant or is able to get pregnant. Keep using birth control for at least 3 months after your last dose.
- Tell your doctor right away if a pregnancy occurs while either the mother or the father is using Nexavar.

**Do not breastfeed while using this medicine**, and for at least 2 weeks after your last dose.

**i** [Nexavar pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

## How should I take Nexavar?

Nexavar is usually taken 2 times per day. Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets. Use the medicine exactly as directed.

Take Nexavar on an empty stomach, at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after eating.

Your blood pressure will need to be checked often.

**If you need surgery**, tell the surgeon or dentist ahead of time that you are using Nexavar. You should stop taking this medicine at least 10 days before having surgery. Follow your doctor's instructions about when to start taking the medicine again.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat.

## Dosing information

### Usual Adult Dose for Renal Cell Carcinoma:

400 mg orally 2 times a day

Duration of therapy: Until the patient is no longer benefiting from therapy or until unacceptable toxicity occurs

#### Comments:

- This drug should be taken on an empty stomach, at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after food.
- The tablets should be swallowed with a glass of water.

#### Uses:

-[Hepatocellular Carcinoma](#) (HCC): For patients with unresectable HCC

-[Renal Cell Carcinoma](#) (RCC): For patients with advanced RCC

-Differentiated Thyroid Carcinoma (DTC): For patients with locally recurrent or metastatic, progressive, DTC that is refractory to radioactive [iodine](#) treatment

### Usual Adult Dose for Thyroid Cancer:

400 mg orally 2 times a day

Duration of therapy: Until the patient is no longer benefiting from therapy or until unacceptable toxicity occurs

Comments:

- This drug should be taken on an empty stomach, at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after food.
- The tablets should be swallowed with a glass of water.

Uses:

- Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC): For patients with unresectable HCC
- Renal Cell Carcinoma (RCC): For patients with advanced RCC
- Differentiated Thyroid Carcinoma (DTC): For patients with locally recurrent or metastatic, progressive, DTC that is refractory to radioactive iodine treatment

**Usual Adult Dose for Hepatocellular Carcinoma:**

400 mg orally 2 times a day

Duration of therapy: Until the patient is no longer benefiting from therapy or until unacceptable toxicity occurs

Comments:

- This drug should be taken on an empty stomach, at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after food.
- The tablets should be swallowed with a glass of water.

Uses:

- Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC): For patients with unresectable HCC
- Renal Cell Carcinoma (RCC): For patients with advanced RCC
- Differentiated Thyroid Carcinoma (DTC): For patients with locally recurrent or metastatic, progressive, DTC that is refractory to radioactive iodine treatment

 [Detailed Nexavar dosage information](#)

## What happens if I miss a dose?

Skip the missed dose and use your next dose at the regular time. Do not use two doses at one time.

## What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

## What to avoid

This medicine can pass into body fluids (urine, feces, vomit). Caregivers should wear rubber gloves while cleaning up a patient's body fluids, handling contaminated trash or laundry or changing diapers. Wash hands before and after removing gloves. Wash soiled clothing and linens separately from other laundry.

## Nexavar side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction to Nexavar** ([hives](#), difficult breathing, swelling in your face or throat) **or a severe skin reaction** (fever, [sore throat](#), burning eyes, skin pain, red or purple [skin rash](#) with

blistering and peeling).

Get emergency medical help if you have **symptoms of a heart attack or heart failure**: chest pain, fast heartbeats, sweating, [nausea](#), trouble breathing, feeling light-headed, or swelling around your midsection or in your lower legs.

Call your doctor at once if you have:

- fast or pounding heartbeats, fluttering in your chest;
- shortness of breath, sudden dizziness (like you might pass out);
- easy bruising or bleeding (nosebleeds, bleeding gums);
- heavy menstrual periods or unusual vaginal bleeding;
- pain, redness, swelling, rash, blisters or peeling in the palms of your hands or the soles of your feet;
- fever with nausea, [vomiting](#), or severe stomach pain
- a surgical incision or wound that will not heal;
- **liver problems** - loss of appetite, stomach pain (upper right side), nausea, dark urine, clay-colored stools, [jaundice](#) (yellowing of the skin or eyes); or
- **signs of bleeding inside your body** - pink or brown urine, abnormal vaginal bleeding, bloody or tarry stools, coughing up blood or vomit that looks like coffee grounds.

Your cancer treatments may be delayed or permanently discontinued if you have certain side effects.

Common Nexavar side effects may include:

- bleeding;
- feeling tired;
- vomiting, [diarrhea](#), nausea, stomach pain;
- high blood pressure;
- rash; or
- [weight loss](#), thinning hair.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Nexavar side effects](#) (more detail)

## Related/similar drugs

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Keytruda is used to treat multiple types of cancer such as melanoma, non-small cell lung cancer ...

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### Reviews & ratings

5.8 / 10

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## What other drugs will affect Nexavar?

Sometimes it is not safe to use certain medications at the same time. Some drugs can affect your blood levels of other drugs you take, which may increase side effects or make the medications less effective.

Other drugs may interact with sorafenib, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#). Tell your doctor about all your current medicines and any medicine you start or stop using.

 [Nexavar drug interactions](#) (more detail)

## Does Nexavar interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

Nexavar

+

Enter a drug name

Add

## Popular FAQ

How does Nexavar work? Is it a chemo drug?



How effective is Nexavar? Does it shrink tumors?



Is Nexavar cost covered by Medicare?



Lenvatinib vs sorafenib: for first line treatment in HCC?



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## Professional resources

- [Nexavar prescribing information](#)
- [SORAfenib \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

## Related treatment guides

- [Thyroid Cancer](#)
- [Hepatic Tumor](#)
- [Hepatocellular Carcinoma](#)
- [Renal Cell Carcinoma](#)

## Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use Nexavar only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

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DRUG STATUS

<b>Availability</b>		
Rx	Prescription only	
<b>Pregnancy &amp; Lactation</b>		
	Risk data available	
<b>CSA Schedule*</b>		
N/A	Not a controlled drug	▼
<b>Approval History</b>		
10+ years	FDA approved 2005	▼

User Reviews & Ratings

5.4 / 10

[14 Reviews](#)

Images

[Nexavar 200 mg \(BAYER BAYER 200\)](#)

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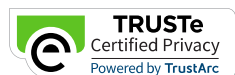
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