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| MEDICATION NAME: | Fostamatinib BRAND: TAVALISSE AND TAVLESSE |
| HOW IS IT GIVEN: | Oral tablet. |
| HOW DOES IT WORK: | Spleen tyrosine kinase (SYK) inhibitor that blocks platelet clearance by macrophages. |
| COMMON DOSING REGIMENS: | 100-150 mg orally twice daily with or without food. |
| COMMON SIDE EFFECTS: | Diarrhea, hypertension, GI distress including nausea and abdominal pain. |
| RARE BUT SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS: | Hepatotoxicity, and decreased white blood cell counts have been reported. |
| TYPICAL TIME TO RESPONSE: | 2-4 weeks. |
| LIKELIHOOD OF INITIAL RESPONSE: | Estimated 40% by 12 weeks based on platelets $>50 \times 10^9/L$. Higher response rate based on platelets $>30 \times 10^9/L$. |
| LIKELIHOOD OF LONG-TERM RESPONSE (3-5 YEARS): | The prevalence of sustained response off treatment is uncertain. |
| OTHER CONSIDERATIONS: | Blood counts should be checked every two weeks until platelet count is stable. Liver tests should be completed every four weeks. Blood pressure should be checked with regularity. The dose can be increased to 150 mg twice a day. If the platelet count does not go up in another four weeks, it is unlikely this drug will work. If liver tests are abnormal, the drug can be discontinued temporarily and a second trial institute when the test return to normal. |

References

1. Bussel, James et al. "Fostamatinib for the Treatment of Adult Persistent and Chronic Immune Thrombocytopenia: Results of Two Phase 3, Randomized, Placebo-controlled Trials." American Journal of Hematology 93.7 (2018): 921–930. PMC. Web. 22 Aug. 2018. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6055608/>
2. Oncnews: <https://www.oncnet.com/news/fostamatinib-second-line-therapy-yields-increased-response-rates-ity>
3. Platelet disorder support association: <https://www.pdsa.org/platelet-destruction-inhibition.html>
4. Tavalisse drug site: <https://tavalisse.com/>