Medical Oncology
Drug Information Sheet

Niraparib (Zejula): a drug to treat your cancer.

What should I avoid while receiving *Niraparib (Zejula)?*

- This medicine contains yellow dye.
- Do NOT use Echinacea.

Dose and Schedule:

- You will take this medicine by mouth.
- *Niraparib (Zejula)* should be taken at the same time every day (morning or evening).
- *Niraparib (Zejula)* may be taken with or without food.
- Take *Niraparib (Zejula)* with food or at bedtime if your stomach becomes upset.
- The dose may be changed by your care provider based on your individual needs.
- Keep taking this drug as you have been told by your doctor or other health care provider, even if you feel well.
- Swallow the tablets whole with water. Do not crush, open, break, chew or dissolve the medicine in water.
- If you have any unused Niraparib (Zejula), do not throw it in the trash and do not flush it down the sink or toilet. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist about proper disposal of Niraparib (Zejula).
- Niraparib (Zejula) has many drug interactions. Tell your doctor all the prescription medicines, over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal products you are taking.
- Your doctor may change your dose, briefly stop or completely stop treatment with Niraparib (Zejula) if you have side effects.
- DO NOT START A NEW CYCLE WITHOUT TALKING TO YOUR DOCTOR FIRST.

If you miss a dose of *Niraparib (Zejula):*

- Do not take an extra dose or two doses at one time.
- Skip the missed dose and return to normal schedule.
- If vomiting occurs after taking a dose, do not repeat the dose. Take your next dose of *Niraparib (Zejula)* at your next regularly scheduled time to take it.
- Write down if you miss a dose and let your doctor know about any missed doses.

Storage and Handling: This drug can be toxic. Exposure of the drug to others should be limited

- You will get this drug from a special pharmacy through the mail. We will help you through the process.
- The drug must be kept in a secure place out of reach of children and pets, so no one else can take this drug. Never share *Niraparib (Zejula)* with anyone else.
- Store *Niraparib (Zejula)* at room temperature in a dry place and away from light. Do not store in a bathroom.
- Keep in original bottle: do NOT place tablets in a pill box.

Whenever possible, give *Niraparib (Zejula)* to yourself and follow the steps below. If a family member, friend or caregiver gives *Niraparib (Zejula)* to you, they also need to follow these steps:

- Wash hands with soap and water
- Put on gloves to avoid touching the medicine (gloves are not needed if you give *Niraparib (Zejula)* to yourself).
- Do not let women who are pregnant or who may get pregnant touch the tablets without wearing gloves.
- Carefully remove *Niraparib (Zejula)* from its package to a small disposable cup.
- Do not lay the medicine on the counter.
- Take the medicine immediately by mouth with water.
- Remove gloves and do not use them for anything else.
- Throw gloves and disposable cup in household trash.
- Wash hands with soap and water.
- Do not touch or handle crushed or broken tablets.

You **MAY OR MAY NOT** experience the side effects listed below

Possible Side Effects:	**What to do:**
Increased risk for infection due to decreased blood counts	• Avoid contact with people who have infections, colds or flu. • Wash your hands often. • Report chills or a fever of 100.4° or higher to your doctor right away, day or night. • Report any signs or symptoms of infection, such as cough, burning with urination, skin redness or sores. • Call your doctor before taking any medicine for a fever or chills.

Increased risk for bleeding due to decreased blood counts	• Report signs of bleeding or bruising.
	• Avoid taking aspirin or aspirin products unless your doctor tells you to take it.
	• Use soft toothbrush.
	• Use electric razor.
	• Talk to your doctor before any scheduled medical or dental procedures.
	• Call your doctor if you have:
	  ○ Severe headache.
	  ○ Blood in stools or urine.
	  ○ Bleeding for a long period.
	  ○ Uncontrolled bleeding
	  ○ Bruising

Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
Lower than normal red blood cells Anemia	Call you doctor if you have: o shortness of breath with activity o fatigue o dizziness o fast heartbeat or a heartbeat that does not feel normal o headache
Nausea or vomiting **Decreased appetite** **Weight Loss**	• Take nausea medicine as instructed. Let your doctor know if it is not working for you. • Take *Niraparib (Zejula)* at bedtime to decrease nausea and vomiting. • Eat smaller, frequent meals. • Try liquid nutrition supplements (Boost, Ensure). • A dietitian is available to talk with you.
Changes in electrolytes and other lab values High glucose levels Low magnesium levels	• Your lab values will be checked. • Call your doctor if you have symptoms of high blood glucose: o feeling confused o are feeling more sleepy than normal o are more thirsty than normal o are more hungry than normal o pass urine more often than usual o have fast breathing o have breath that smells like fruit • Let your doctor know if you have symptoms of low magnesium like: o mood changes o feeling confused o abnormal eye movements o muscle pain or weakness o heartbeat that does not feel normal o seizures o fatigue o very bad upset stomach o throwing up
Constipation	• Drink water and other fluids frequently during the day. • Eat foods high in fiber. • Do mild exercise such as walking. • Talk to your pharmacist about over the counter medicines. • Report if over the counter medicines are not working.
Bone, muscle, joint pain	Use pain prescription as directed. Notify your doctor if the pain is uncontrolled.

Possible Side Effects:	What to do:

Liver problems	• Lab results will be checked.
	• Call your doctor if you have:
	  ○ dark urine (tea colored)
	  ○ severe right sided stomach pain
	  ○ light colored stools
	  ○ bruising or if you start to bleed easily
	  ○ yellowing of skin or eyes
	  ○ severe nausea or throwing up
	  ○ unexplained weight gain
	  ○ your belly feels big or bloated

Fatigue or weakness	• You may be more tired than usual or have less energy. • Stay as active as possible, but know it is okay to rest as needed. • Try to do some activity every day. • Plan your activities, and do them at a time of day when you feel more energetic. • Avoid driving or doing other tasks that call for you to be alert.

Changes in kidney function	• Kidney function can be affected.
	• Electrolytes and kidney function will be checked.
	• Dose may be held or adjusted if kidney function is decreased.
	• Talk to you doctor before taking NSAIDs (Ibuprofen, Motrin, Aleve).
	• To help maintain good kidney function stay well hydrated with water and non-caffeine liquids.
	• Notify your doctor if you have:
	  ○ changes in mood or confusion
	  ○ smaller amount of urine than normal
	  ○ blood in urine
	  ○ swelling in ankles
	  ○ trouble emptying your bladder
	  ○ weight gain
	  ○ painful urination

Possible Side Effects:	What to do:
***Niraparib (Zejula)* will be in urine and stool for several days after the last dose.**	• Caregivers will need to handle soiled linens and clothing wearing gloves or using a bag as a barrier. • Keep your soiled items separate from others' dirty laundry and wash right away. • Women who are pregnant should not handle your soiled clothing or linens. • Wash any skin that body waste has touched with soap and water. • You may use the same toilet that you normally use. • If the toilet or toilet seat becomes dirty with urine, stool or vomit, clean the surfaces before other people use the toilet • Wash hands with soap and water after using the toilet. • **It is safe to hug and kiss.**
Avoid pregnancy	• Women should not become pregnant and men should not get a partner pregnant while taking *Niraparib (Zejula).* • This drug may cause harm to the unborn baby if you take it while you are pregnant. • Use birth control that you can trust to prevent pregnancy while taking this drug and for **6 months** after stopping this drug. • Do not donate sperm while taking this drug and for **6 months** after stopping this drug. • If you or your sex partner gets pregnant while taking this drug or within **6 months** after stopping this drug, call your doctor right away. • May cause fertility problems.

Less common side effects that may happen

Less common side effects	What to do:

High Blood Pressure	• Let your primary care doctor know that you are taking *Niraparib (Zejula).*
	• Your blood pressure will be checked.
	• Contact your doctor if you have:
	  ○ headaches
	  ○ shortness of breath
	  ○ nosebleeds
	  ○ dizziness or passing out
	  ○ change in eyesight

Less common side effects	What to do:
PRES or RPLS Rare swelling in the back part of the brain	Call your doctor if you have: o loss of eyesight o confusion o headache o lethargy o seizure o visual or neurologic disturbances
Risk of new cancers - RARE **Increased risk for bone marrow problems or another cancer** Leukemia	• Talk to your doctor about your concerns. • Be sure your family doctor knows you have received biotherapy or chemotherapy medicine.
These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor.	