

Lefutyle 10 tablet

Leflunomide 10mg Tablets Information

Generic Name:

Leflunomide

Strength:

10mg

Form:

Tablet

Therapeutic Class:

**Immunosuppressant, Disease-Modifying
Antirheumatic Drug (DMARD)**

Description

Leflunomide is an immunosuppressive medication primarily used to treat autoimmune diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis and psoriatic arthritis. It works by inhibiting the activity of certain immune system cells (specifically T-cells) that cause inflammation and damage to joints and tissues in these conditions. Leflunomide is a disease-modifying antirheumatic drug (DMARD) that helps reduce pain, swelling, and damage to the joints over time.

Leflunomide works by blocking the synthesis of pyrimidines, which are essential for the proliferation of activated immune cells. By suppressing these cells, Leflunomide reduces the activity of the immune system, particularly in

autoimmune conditions where the immune system attacks the body's own tissues.

Indications

Leflunomide 10mg tablets are used for:

- **Rheumatoid Arthritis:** To reduce the signs and symptoms of moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and slow the progression of joint damage.
 - **Psoriatic Arthritis:** To treat symptoms of psoriatic arthritis (inflammation, swelling, and pain in joints) and improve joint function.
 - **Other Autoimmune Conditions:** Sometimes used off-label for other autoimmune conditions, under the supervision of a healthcare provider.
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Dosage and Administration

- **Recommended Dose:**
 - **Initial Dose:** Typically, 100mg (10 tablets of 10mg) daily for 3 days to rapidly reach therapeutic levels.
 - **Maintenance Dose:** After the initial loading phase, reduce the dose to 10mg or 20mg daily, based on the patient's response and tolerance.
 - **Adjustments:** Dose adjustments may be necessary based on individual response and side effects. A healthcare provider may recommend lower doses if side effects occur.

Note: Always follow the specific dosing instructions provided by your doctor.

Contraindications

Leflunomide should not be used in the following situations:

- **Pregnancy:** Leflunomide is contraindicated in pregnant women as it can cause severe birth defects or fetal death. Women of childbearing age should use reliable contraception during treatment and for up to 2 years after stopping the medication.
 - **Severe Liver Disease:** Patients with severe liver impairment or active liver disease should not take Leflunomide.
 - **Hypersensitivity:** Known allergy or hypersensitivity to Leflunomide or any component of the tablet.
 - **Severe Immunocompromised States:** Do not use if you have a condition that severely weakens the immune system (e.g., HIV/AIDS, ongoing infections).
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Precautions

- **Liver Function:** Leflunomide can cause liver toxicity. Routine liver function tests are required before starting treatment and periodically during treatment. If liver enzyme levels rise, the dose may need to be adjusted or discontinued.
- **Pregnancy and Lactation:** Leflunomide should be avoided during pregnancy due to the risk of fetal harm. Women should stop taking Leflunomide and undergo a

washout procedure if planning pregnancy. It is not known if Leflunomide passes into breast milk, so caution should be exercised.

- **Infection Risk:** Leflunomide suppresses the immune system and can increase the risk of infections. Patients should be monitored for signs of infection (fever, chills, cough, etc.) during treatment.
 - **Bone Marrow Suppression:** Leflunomide can cause bone marrow suppression, leading to a reduced number of blood cells (anemia, low white blood cells, low platelets). Regular blood tests are necessary.
 - **Kidney Function:** Caution is required in patients with impaired kidney function.
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Side Effects

Common side effects may include:

- **Gastrointestinal issues:** Nausea, diarrhea, or abdominal discomfort.
- **Headache:** Mild headaches may occur in some individuals.
- **Rash:** Skin reactions like rashes or itching.
- **Hair Thinning:** Some patients may experience mild hair loss or thinning.
- **Elevated Liver Enzymes:** Increased liver enzyme levels may be observed in blood tests. Regular monitoring is necessary.

Serious side effects, although rare, include:

- **Severe liver damage:** Symptoms may include yellowing of the skin or eyes (jaundice), dark urine, and upper abdominal pain.

- **Severe infections:** Fever, chills, or signs of a new infection.
- **Severe bone marrow suppression:** Symptoms may include unusual bruising or bleeding, pale skin, or fatigue.
- **Peripheral neuropathy:** Tingling, numbness, or pain in the hands or feet.

If any serious side effects occur, immediately seek medical help.

Drug Interactions

- **Immunosuppressants:** Leflunomide may increase the effects of other immunosuppressive drugs (e.g., methotrexate, corticosteroids), increasing the risk of infections and side effects.
- **Liver Enzyme Inhibitors:** Drugs that affect liver enzymes (e.g., rifampin) can alter the metabolism of Leflunomide and affect its effectiveness.
- **Vaccines:** Live vaccines (e.g., MMR, BCG) should be avoided during treatment with Leflunomide, as the drug can suppress the immune response.
- **Warfarin:** Leflunomide may interact with blood thinners like warfarin, affecting blood clotting.

Always inform your healthcare provider of all the medications and supplements you are taking before starting Leflunomide.

Storage Instructions

- **Store at room temperature (15-30°C) in a dry place away from direct light and moisture.**
- **Keep the bottle tightly closed when not in use.**
- **Keep out of reach of children.**

Additional Notes

- **Blood Tests:** Regular blood tests are essential during treatment to monitor liver function, blood cell counts, and overall health.
- **Washout Procedure:** If you need to stop taking Leflunomide, a washout procedure may be necessary to clear the drug from your system. Your doctor will guide you through this process if needed.
- **Long-Term Use:** Leflunomide is often taken long-term for chronic autoimmune conditions. Consistent use and regular monitoring by a healthcare provider are necessary to ensure the safety and effectiveness of the treatment.

If you have any concerns or questions about Leflunomide or its use, consult with your healthcare provider for personalized advice.

Manufactured in India for:



Cafoli Lifecare Pvt. Ltd.

(An ISO 9001: 2015 Certified Co.)

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