



## ZYTIGA® Inhibits Androgen Production at 3 Sources—Including the Tumor Itself

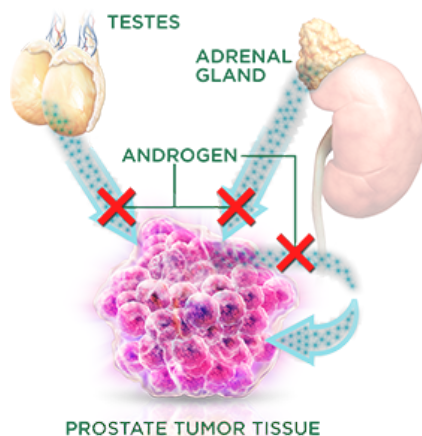
Oral, once-daily ZYTIGA® works by interrupting the androgen-making process at an important step. ZYTIGA® inhibits a key step in androgen production at three sources:

**the testes<sup>1</sup>**

**the adrenal glands<sup>2</sup>**

**, AND the tumor itself.** Watch the following videos to learn How ZYTIGA® Works:

### How ZYTIGA® Works



You may be aware that the male body naturally produces hormones called androgens.<sup>3</sup> The most well known androgen in men is testosterone. For men with mCRPC, androgens play a role in fueling the disease. While not the only source, **androgen is produced primarily in the testes and some is also produced by the adrenal glands**, which are located above the kidneys. We know now that the tumor itself is also a source of androgen production. While there are other key factors that contribute to the disease, androgen is one such factor.

Reducing the production of androgen is key in helping you and your doctor manage your illness.

### ZYTIGA® may cause serious side effects including:

**High blood pressure (hypertension), low blood potassium levels (hypokalemia), and fluid retention (edema).**

**Tell your healthcare provider if you get any of the following symptoms:**

- Dizziness
- Fast heartbeats
- Feel faint or lightheaded
- Headache
- Confusion
- Muscle weakness
- Pain in your legs
- Swelling in your legs or feet

Talk with your doctor (<https://www.zytiga.com/doctor-discussion-guide>) to see if ZYTIGA® is right for you.

<sup>1</sup>The testes are two egg-shaped male reproductive organs located in the scrotum. They produce sperm and the male hormone, testosterone.

<sup>2</sup>The adrenal glands are endocrine glands that sit at the top of the kidneys.

<sup>3</sup>Androgens are hormones produced by the body that control the development and maintenance of masculine characteristics.

## WHAT IS ZYTIGA®?

ZYTIGA® (abiraterone acetate) is a prescription medicine that is used along with prednisone. ZYTIGA® is used to treat men with castration-resistant prostate cancer (prostate cancer that is resistant to medical or surgical treatments that lower testosterone) that has spread to other parts of the body.

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

### Who should not take ZYTIGA® (abiraterone acetate)?

Do not take ZYTIGA® if you are pregnant or may become pregnant. ZYTIGA® may harm your unborn baby. Women who are pregnant or who may become pregnant should not touch ZYTIGA® without protection, such as gloves.

ZYTIGA® is not for use in women or children. **Keep ZYTIGA® and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

### Before you take ZYTIGA®, tell your healthcare provider if you:

Have heart problems

Have liver problems

Have a history of adrenal problems

Have a history of pituitary problems

Have any other medical conditions

Plan to become pregnant (See "Who should not take ZYTIGA®?")

Are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if ZYTIGA® passes into your breast milk. You and your healthcare provider should decide if you will take ZYTIGA® or breastfeed. You should not do both. (See "Who should not take ZYTIGA®?")

Take any other medicines, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. ZYTIGA® can interact with many other medicines.

### If you are taking ZYTIGA®:

Take ZYTIGA® and prednisone exactly as your healthcare provider tells you.

Take your prescribed dose of ZYTIGA® one time a day. Your healthcare provider may change your dose if needed.

Do not stop taking your prescribed dose of ZYTIGA® or prednisone without talking to your healthcare provider first.

Take ZYTIGA® on an empty stomach. **Do not take ZYTIGA® with food.** Taking ZYTIGA® with food may cause more of the medicine to be absorbed by the body than is needed and this may cause side effects.

No food should be eaten 2 hours before and 1 hour after taking ZYTIGA®.

Swallow ZYTIGA® tablets whole. Do not crush or chew tablets.

Take ZYTIGA® tablets with water.

Your healthcare provider will do blood tests to check for side effects.

Men who are sexually active with a pregnant woman must use a condom during and for one week after treatment with ZYTIGA®. If their sexual partner may become pregnant a condom and another form of birth control must be used during and for one week after treatment with ZYTIGA®.

Talk with your healthcare provider if you have any questions about birth control.

### ZYTIGA® may cause serious side effects including:

**High blood pressure (hypertension), low blood potassium levels (hypokalemia), and fluid retention (edema).**

### Tell your healthcare provider if you get any of the following symptoms:

Dizziness

Fast heartbeats

Feel faint or lightheaded

Muscle weakness  
Pain in your legs  
Swelling in your legs or feet

**Adrenal problems** may happen if you stop taking prednisone, get an infection, or are under stress.

**Liver problems.** You may develop changes in liver function blood test. Your healthcare provider will do blood tests to check your liver before treatment with ZYTIGA® and during treatment with ZYTIGA®.

The most common side effects of ZYTIGA® include:

Weakness  
Joint swelling or pain  
Swelling in your legs or feet  
Hot flushes  
Diarrhea  
Vomiting  
Cough  
High blood pressure  
Shortness of breath  
Urinary tract infection  
Bruising  
Low red blood cells (anemia) and low blood potassium levels  
High blood sugar levels, high blood cholesterol and triglycerides  
Certain other abnormal blood tests

**Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.**

**THESE ARE NOT ALL THE POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF ZYTIGA®.  
FOR MORE INFORMATION, ASK YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER OR PHARMACIST.**

**Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take**, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

ZYTIGA® can interact with many other medicines.

You should not start or stop any medicine before you talk with the healthcare provider who prescribed ZYTIGA®.

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of them with you to show to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA.

**Visit [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch) (<http://www.fda.gov/medwatch>), or call 1-800-FDA-1088 (1-800-332-1088).**

© Janssen Biotech, Inc. 2015. All rights reserved.

This site is published by Janssen Biotech, Inc. (<http://www.janssenbiotech.com>), which is solely responsible for its contents. The material on this site is intended only as informational or as an educational aid and it is not intended to be taken as medical advice. The ultimate responsibility for patient care resides with a healthcare professional.

This information is intended for the use of patients and caregivers in the United States and Puerto Rico only. Laws, regulatory requirements, and medical practices for pharmaceutical products vary from country to country. The Prescribing Information included here may not be appropriate for use outside the United States and Puerto Rico.

Capitalized product names are trademarks of Janssen Biotech, Inc.

LEGAL NOTICE (/LEGAL-NOTICE) | PRIVACY POLICY (/PRIVACY-POLICY) | CONTACT US

([HTTP://WWW.JANSSENBIOTECH.COM/CONTACT-US](http://www.janssenbiotech.com/contact-us)) | PATIENT INFORMATION (/SHARED/PRODUCT/ZYTIGA/ZYTIGA-PATIENT-  
INFORMATION.PDF) | IMPORTANT PRODUCT INFORMATION (/SHARED/PRODUCT/ZYTIGA/ZYTIGA-PRESCRIBING-  
INFORMATION.PDF) | SITE MAP (/SITEMAP) ABOUT JANSSEN BIOTECH, INC. ([HTTP://WWW.JANSSENBIOTECH.COM](http://www.janssenbiotech.com)) |



(<http://www.janssenbiotech.com/>)

**Source URL:** <https://www.zytiga.com/about-zytiga/how-zytiga-works>