

This leaflet is about a type of prescription medicine that you take or may start taking. The group of medicines is called Janus kinase inhibitors, also called JAK inhibitors. They are produced by several different companies, and they have different generic and brand names. They are prescribed for various conditions and are usually taken orally. Please talk to your doctor about the information here. Discuss any questions or worries you have.



What JAK Inhibitors Treat

This group of medicines is mainly used to treat long-lasting inflammatory conditions.

JAK inhibitors may be prescribed for:

- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Psoriatic arthritis
- Juvenile idiopathic arthritis
- Axial spondyloarthritis
- Ulcerative colitis
- Atopic dermatitis
- Alopecia areata

What to Consider Before Taking JAK Inhibitors

Some patients are at higher risk of serious side effects on JAK inhibitors. You should talk to your doctor about whether you should take JAK inhibitors if you:

- Are 65 or older.
- Have a history of problems with your heart or blood vessels, such as a previous heart attack or stroke.
- Have other cardiovascular risk factors, such as smoking or heavy smoking in the past.
- Have had cancer or have it now.

If you are in one of these groups, your doctor may prescribe a different medicine for you. If a JAK inhibitor is the only treatment that will work for you, your doctor may still recommend it.

This material is intended for doctors, to distribute to prescribed patients at their discretion.



What Does "Risk of Side Effects" Mean?

A risk of a side effect means you are more likely to get the side effect if you take the medicine than if you didn't take it. Side effects are usually talked about in the three ways below.

Very common	Common	Uncommon
This means they may affect more than 1 in 10 people.	This means they may affect up to 1 in 10 people.	This means they may affect up to 1 in 100 people.
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Examples of uncommon side effects of JAK inhibitors include: blood clots, myocardial infarction and lung cancer. JAK inhibitors have been tested in thousands of patients with rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, axial spondyloarthritis, atopic dermatitis, and other conditions.

If you want more information about the risk of side effects for JAK inhibitors, including how often they may happen, talk to your doctor.

For more information, please consult your healthcare professional

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