**Sutent (Sunitinib)**

**INDICATION:**
Sutent (sunitinib) is used for the treatment of gastrointestinal stromal tumor (GIST) in patients intolerant or with disease progression on imatinib. It can also be used for the treatment of advanced renal cell cancer (RCC), and advanced metastatic or unresectable pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors (PNET).

**BRAND NAME(S):**
Sutent

**MECHANISM OF ACTION:**
Sutent is an oral multiple tyrosine kinase inhibitor, and works against tumor growth, angiogenesis (formation of tumor blood vessels), and metastatic progression of cancer.

**DOSAGE:**
- **Gastrointestinal stromal tumor (GIST):** Oral 50mg once daily for 4 weeks of a 6-week treatment cycle (4 weeks on, 2 weeks off)
- **Renal cell cancer, advanced (RCC):** Oral 50mg once daily for 4 weeks of a 6-week treatment cycle (4 weeks on, 2 weeks off)

**ADMINISTRATION:**
Sutent is taken once daily, with or without food. Do not open the capsules.

**WHEN THIS MEDICINE SHOULD NOT BE USED:**
This medication should not be used if a hypersensitivity reaction occurred when taking it.

**IF A DOSE IS MISSED:**
If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember unless it is close to your next scheduled dose. Take the next dose at your regular time, and contact your healthcare provider. Do not take more than 1 dose of Sutent at a time.

**DRUGS AND FOODS TO AVOID:**
Do not eat grapefruit or drink grapefruit juice because this can change the levels of Sutent in your body. Do not take St. John's Wort while on Sutent. Ask your doctor or pharmacist before using any other medications including over-the-counter treatments, vitamins and herbals.

**WARNINGS WHILE USING THIS MEDICINE:**
There are several rare but serious side effects when taking this medication. They include liver problems, high blood pressure, abnormal heart rhythms, jaw-bone problems (osteonecrosis), and hormone imbalances. These will be closely monitored by your doctor.

**COMMON SIDE EFFECTS:**
- Fatigue
- Fever
- Gastrointestinal symptoms (diarrhea, constipation, nausea, vomiting, mouth sores, upset stomach, abdominal pain)
- Hand and foot syndrome (rashes or blisters on the palms of your hands and soles of your feet)
- Loss of appetite
- Cough
- Pain or swelling in your arms and legs
Patient Information Regarding Possible Side-Effects of Treatment for Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma

**RASH/HAND-FOOT SYNDROME**
- Can look like an allergic reaction with hives, redness, itching
- Avoid prolonged exposure of hands and feet to hot water or other heat sources
- Modify daily activities to decrease friction, pressure, and heat to hands and feet
- Avoid pedicures while on therapy
- Apply antibiotic ointment on open sores
- Cool hands and feet with ice packs or cool compresses in 15- to 20-minute intervals
- Elevate hands and feet when sitting or lying down
- Apply mild skin-care creams
- TALK with your doctor or nurse early on about side effects and notify early about development of Hand-Foot Syndrome symptoms
- Escalating or severe pain requires immediate hold or decrease of medication dose
- Hand-Foot Syndrome usually diminishes over time

**GASTROINTESTINAL SYMPTOMS**
- **(NAUSEA/DYSPEPSIA/DIARRHEA)**
  - Eat small meals
  - Avoid sweet, fried, or fatty foods
  - Increase overall fluid intake while still drinking small amounts at a time
  - Avoid bad smells
  - Take medications for nausea and dyspepsia as recommended
  - Identify foods which trigger episodes of diarrhea and avoid them
  - Take an anti-diarrheal medication as recommended

**ORAL SYMPTOMS**
- **(STOMATITIS AND CHEILITIS)**
  - Avoid hot, spicy, or acidic foods
  - Eat soft foods that are at room temperature
  - Cut food into small pieces
  - Use a straw for drinking liquids
  - Perform good oral care using alcohol-free products