

Open Access Follow-Up Anti-hormone therapy (Tamoxifen)

Patients with hormone sensitive cancer are prescribed anti-hormone tablets, also known as endocrine therapy. You are one of these patients.

You will not have to pay for these tablets as you are entitled to free prescriptions.

Your anti-hormone therapy is called tamoxifen. You will usually be on these for a period of five years or more.

Your surgical or medical oncologist will have discussed with you when you should stop.

You started tamoxifen in

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You will finish tamoxifen in

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If you become menopausal (your periods stop) while you are taking tamoxifen, the medical oncology team may like to see you after you have had five years of tamoxifen as it might be appropriate at that stage to move on to another anti-hormone treatment.

We will have told you if this is the case. If you haven't heard from us as you near the end of your tamoxifen, please contact your breast care nurse to arrange an appointment in the medical oncology clinic.

Treatments change and develop all the time; if there are major changes in the way we prescribe tamoxifen during the time you are on it we will tell you about this and about what this may mean for you at your annual mammogram appointment.

Side effects of tamoxifen

You may experience side-effects that are particular to tamoxifen. We will have given you a separate advice sheet about these. If you do not have this you can ask us for another copy.

As a result of taking tamoxifen, the lining of your womb may become thicker, which can then cause you to experience vaginal discharge. This is common and not serious.

However, if you experience unexpected vaginal bleeding, please contact either your breast care nurse or your GP who may refer you to a gynaecologist for a check-up.



If you require a special edition of this leaflet

This leaflet is available in large print, Braille, on audio tape or disk and in other languages on request. Please:

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