

ZYTIGA INTERACTIONS

ZYTIGA is a CYP3A4 inhibitor – Avoid concomitant prescribing of strong CYP3A4 Inducers or Inhibitors

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Disclaimer: Please recognize that I am not a Medical Doctor. I have been an avid student researching and studying prostate cancer as a survivor and continuing patient since 1992. I have dedicated my retirement years to continued research and study in order to serve as an advocate for prostate cancer awareness, and, from a activist patient's viewpoint, to help patients, caregivers, and others interested develop an understanding of prostate cancer, its treatment options, and the treatment of the side effects that often accompany treatment. Readers of this paper must understand that the comments or recommendations I make are not intended to be the procedure to blindly follow; rather, they are to be reviewed as my opinion, then used for further personal research, study, and subsequent discussion with the medical professional/physician providing prostate cancer care.

ZYTIGA/abiraterone acetate – Caution required when requesting the prescribing, or being prescribed, medications that serve to induce CYP3A4 activity. One prostate cancer patient suggested to another prostate cancer patient (who was just starting Zytiga) to consider having Provigil/modafinil prescribed to perk him up.

In a dedicated drug interaction trial, co-administration of rifampin, a strong CYP3A4 inducer (MY NOTE: and modafinil/Provigil is also a CYP3A4 inducer though uncertain if considered “strong”), decreased exposure of abiraterone by 55%. Avoid concomitant strong CYP3A4 inducers during ZYTIGA treatment. If a strong CYP3A4 inducer must be co-administered, increase the ZYTIGA dosing frequency. Thus, prostate cancer patients prescribed Zytiga SHOULD NOT start Provigil/modafinil or any CYP3A4 inducer or inhibitor without discussing the action of the medication reducing the effectiveness of Zytiga/abiraterone acetate. Open the following and scroll down to 7.1:

<https://www.zytigahcp.com/full-prescribing-information>

In this same foregoing paper under 12.3, Drug Interactions, is the caution: “Strong inhibitors and inducers of CYP3A4 should be avoided or used with caution.”

This further advice from the internet: “Chronic administration of **modafinil** (My Note: aka Provigil) may also cause modest induction of the metabolizing enzyme CYP3A4, thus reducing the levels of co-administered substrates for that enzyme system (MY NOTE: Zytiga is a substrate), such as steroidal contraceptives, cyclosporine and, to a lesser degree, theophylline. Dose adjustments may be necessary for patients being treated with these and similar medications.”

An FDA requirement that Janssen Laboratories prove that CYP3A4 inducers have an effect on Zytiga activity was fulfilled by Janssen Laboratories with the FDA noting “We have reviewed your submission and conclude that the above requirements are fulfilled.” (<http://tinyurl.com/ny9tbdm>)