Cinacalcet (Sensipar)

PHARMACY INFO SHEET

BC Renal Agency
An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

WHAT IT DOES:

Cinacalcet is used to treat a condition called secondary hyperparathyroidism in people with kidney disease.

HOW IT WORKS:

Cinacalcet acts on the parathyroid glands to lower parathyroid hormone levels. As a result serum calcium and phosphorus levels may also normalize.

HOW TO TAKE IT:

This medication should be taken once a day at the same time each day with food or right after a meal. Swallow the tablets whole and take the medication only as prescribed.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU MISS A DOSE:

If you forget to take a dose of cinacalcet, skip that dose. Take your usual dose the next day. Do not double your dose.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS:

Contact your doctor if any of the following occur:

Hypocalcemia or low serum calcium. Signs of hypocalcemia include:

- Numbness or tingling around the mouth
- Muscle aches or cramps
- Seizures (the risk is greater if you have had seizures before)

Other possible symptoms:

- Nausea and vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Muscle pain

RELATION TO DIET:

Avoid or limit high-phosphorus foods as advised by your doctor and dietitian. High phosphorus foods include dairy products (milk, yogurt, cheese, pudding, ice cream), chocolate, nuts, peanuts, peanut butter, bran cereal, bran muffins, legumes (chick peas, kidney beans, navy beans).

PRECAUTIONS:

Blood tests to measure the effect of this medication on iPTH levels must be done at least 12 hours after taking a dose. Taking this medication on a regular schedule makes it easier to know when the 12 hours have passed.

WHY I AM TAKING THIS MEDICINE: