



## Preparing a Coverage Authorization Appeals Letter

The following information is presented for informational purposes only and is not intended to provide reimbursement or legal advice. Laws, regulations, and policies concerning reimbursement are complex and are updated frequently. While we have made an effort to be current as of the issue date of this document, the information may not be as current or comprehensive when you view it. Providers are encouraged to contact third-party payers for specific information on their coverage policies. For more information, please call Verzenio Continuous Care™ at 1-844-VERZENIO.

If the patient's initial claim or Coverage Authorization Request Letter is denied by the patient's health plan, the payer may require a Coverage Authorization Appeals Letter. Depending on the plan, there may be varying levels of appeals. If you are uncertain about a plan's appeal levels or specific procedures, always refer to the plan's appeal guidelines.

This resource, **Preparing a Coverage Authorization Appeals Letter**, provides information to healthcare providers (HCPs) when appealing a coverage authorization decision for a patient's plan. Included on the following page is a list of considerations, which can be followed when creating a Coverage Authorization Appeals Letter. In addition, two sample letters are attached to this document and feature information that many plans require to process a coverage authorization appeal. Follow the patient's plan requirements when requesting Verzenio, otherwise treatment may be delayed.

A **Coverage Authorization Appeals Letter** originates from the patient and the prescribing HCP.\* It should be submitted with two additional items: the patient's medical records and a Letter of Medical Necessity. Also see **Composing a Letter of Medical Necessity (LMN)** for more information.

\* For Medicare beneficiaries, specific requirements must be met for the HCP to be considered a legal representative of the patient in an appeal. For additional information, please visit <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Appeals-and-Grievances/MedPrescriptDrugApplGriev/downloads/partdmanualchapter18.pdf>.

### Indications

VERZENIO® is a kinase inhibitor indicated<sup>1</sup>:

- in combination with endocrine therapy (tamoxifen or an aromatase inhibitor) for the adjuvant treatment of adult patients with hormone receptor (HR)-positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative, node-positive, early breast cancer at high risk of recurrence.
- in combination with an aromatase inhibitor as initial endocrine-based therapy for the treatment of adult patients with hormone receptor (HR)-positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative advanced or metastatic breast cancer.
- in combination with fulvestrant for the treatment of adult patients with hormone receptor (HR)-positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative advanced or metastatic breast cancer with disease progression following endocrine therapy.
- as monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with HR-positive, HER2-negative advanced or metastatic breast cancer with disease progression following endocrine therapy and prior chemotherapy in the metastatic setting.

### Select Important Safety Information

Severe **diarrhea** associated with dehydration and infection occurred in patients treated with Verzenio. Across four clinical trials in 3691 patients, diarrhea occurred in 81 to 90% of patients who received Verzenio. Grade 3 diarrhea occurred in 8 to 20% of patients receiving Verzenio. Most patients experienced diarrhea during the first month of Verzenio treatment. The median time to onset of the first diarrhea event ranged from 6 to 8 days; and the median duration of Grade 2 and Grade 3 diarrhea ranged from 6 to 11 days and 5 to 8 days, respectively. Across trials, 19 to 26% of patients with diarrhea required a Verzenio dose interruption and 13 to 23% required a dose reduction.

Instruct patients to start antidiarrheal therapy, such as loperamide, at the first sign of loose stools, increase oral fluids, and notify their healthcare provider for further instructions and appropriate follow-up. For Grade 3 or 4 diarrhea, or diarrhea that requires hospitalization, discontinue Verzenio until toxicity resolves to ≤Grade 1, and then resume Verzenio at the next lower dose.

Please see Important Safety Information on [pages 5 and 6](#) and click to access the full [Prescribing Information](#) for Verzenio.





## Preparing a Coverage Authorization Appeals Letter, cont'd

### Coverage Authorization Requests: Guidance and Recommendations

1. Include the patient's full name, plan identification number, and date of birth.
2. Add the prescribing HCP's National Provider Identifier (NPI) number and specialty.
3. Disclose that you are familiar with the plan's policy. Clearly document the basis for the plan's denial within the letter, along with case identification number from the initial denial letter.
4. Provide a copy of the patient's records with the following details:
  - Patient must either:
    - Use in combination with endocrine therapy (tamoxifen or an aromatase inhibitor) for the adjuvant treatment of adult patients with HR+, HER2-, node-positive, early breast cancer at high risk of recurrence\*
  - OR**
  - Have a diagnosis of HR+, HER2- advanced or metastatic breast cancer and one of the following:\*
    - For Verzenio in combination with an aromatase inhibitor, no prior systemic therapy in the advanced or metastatic setting
    - For Verzenio in combination with fulvestrant, disease progression following endocrine therapy
    - For Verzenio taken as a single agent, disease progression following endocrine therapy and prior chemotherapy in the metastatic setting
5. Document prior treatments and the duration of each; describe the rationale for discontinuation.
6. Explain why the plan's preferred formulary agents are not appropriate for the patient.
7. Provide the clinical rationale for treatment; this information may be found in the Verzenio prescribing information and/or clinical peer-reviewed literature.
8. Summarize your recommendation at the end of the letter.
9. Include an LMN.

\* Hormone receptor-positive (HR+) and human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative (HER2-).





# Sample Coverage Authorization Appeals Letter

HCPs can follow this format for patients who are **NOT** currently receiving treatment with Verzenio® (abemaciclib).



[Date]  
 [Prior Authorization Department]      Re: [Patient's Name]  
 [Name of Health Plan]                      [Plan Identification Number]  
 [Mailing Address]                              [Date of Birth]

To whom it may concern:

We have reviewed and recognize your guidelines for the responsible management of medications within this class. We are requesting that you reassess your recent denial of Verzenio® (abemaciclib) coverage. We understand that the reason for your denial is [copy reason verbatim from the plan's denial letter]. However, we believe that Verzenio [dose, frequency] is the appropriate treatment for the patient. In support of our recommendation for Verzenio treatment, we have provided an overview of the patient's relevant clinical history below.

**Patient's history, diagnosis, condition, and symptoms\*:**

**Patient must either:**

- Use in combination with endocrine therapy (tamoxifen or an aromatase inhibitor) for the adjuvant treatment of adult patients with HR+, HER2-, node-positive, early breast cancer at high risk of recurrence†

**OR**

- Have a diagnosis of HR+, HER2- advanced or metastatic breast cancer and one of the following:†
  - For Verzenio in combination with an aromatase inhibitor, no prior systemic therapy in the advanced or metastatic setting
  - For Verzenio in combination with fulvestrant, disease progression following endocrine therapy
  - For Verzenio taken as a single agent, disease progression following endocrine therapy and prior chemotherapy in the metastatic setting

Past Treatments‡	Start/Stop Dates	Reason(s) for Discontinuing
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]

[Please detail all that apply and add additional lines as needed.]

[Provide clinical rationale for this treatment; this information may be found in the Verzenio prescribing information and/or clinical peer-reviewed literature.]

[Insert your recommendation summary here, including your professional opinion of the patient's likely prognosis or disease progression without treatment with Verzenio.]

Please feel free to contact me, [HCP's name], at [office phone number] or [patient's name] at [patient's phone number] for any additional information you may require. We look forward to receiving your timely response and approval of this claim.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
 [Physician's name and signature]  
 [Physician's medical specialty]  
 [Physician's NPI]  
 [Physician's practice name]  
 [Phone #]  
 [Fax #]

\_\_\_\_\_  
 [Patient's name and signature]  
 Encl:    Medical records  
           Clinical trial information  
           Letter of Medical Necessity (LMN)

When appealing a plan's step edit therapy requirement, consider providing statements indicating why these requirements are inappropriate for the patient, including examples of previous therapy trials/failures due to lack of response or drug intolerance.

\* Include patient's medical records, applicable lab results, and supporting documentation.  
 † Hormone receptor-positive (HR+) and human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative (HER2-).  
 ‡ Identify drug name, strength, dosage form, and therapeutic outcome.

Please see Important Safety Information on [pages 5 and 6](#) and click to access the full [Prescribing Information](#) for Verzenio.





# Sample Coverage Authorization Appeals Letter

HCPs can follow this format for patients who **HAVE** been treated with Verzenio® (abemaciclib) and have had treatment interruptions.



[Date]  
 [Prior Authorization Department] Re: [Patient's Name]  
 [Name of Health Plan] [Plan Identification Number]  
 [Mailing Address] [Date of Birth]

To whom it may concern:

We have reviewed and recognize your guidelines for the responsible management of medications within this class. We are requesting that you reassess your recent denial of Verzenio® (abemaciclib) coverage. We understand that the reason for your denial is [copy reason verbatim from the plan's denial letter]. However, we believe that Verzenio [dose, frequency] is the appropriate treatment for the patient. In support of our recommendation for Verzenio treatment, we have provided an overview of the patient's relevant clinical history below.

[In this section, describe the clinical presentation of the disease at the time when the patient was first prescribed Verzenio. In addition, include summary of patient response and improvements (if any). It may be necessary to review past medical records to gather this information.]

**Patient's history, diagnosis, condition, and symptoms\*:**

**Patient must either:**

- Use in combination with endocrine therapy (tamoxifen or an aromatase inhibitor) for the adjuvant treatment of adult patients with HR+, HER2-, node-positive, early breast cancer at high risk of recurrence†
- OR**
- Have a diagnosis of HR+, HER2- advanced or metastatic breast cancer and one of the following:†
  - For Verzenio in combination with an aromatase inhibitor, no prior systemic therapy in the advanced or metastatic setting
  - For Verzenio in combination with fulvestrant, disease progression following endocrine therapy
  - For Verzenio taken as a single agent, disease progression following endocrine therapy and prior chemotherapy in the metastatic setting

Past Treatments‡	Start/Stop Dates	Reason(s) for Discontinuing
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]

[Please detail all that apply and add additional lines as needed.]

[Provide clinical rationale for this treatment; this information may be found in the Verzenio prescribing information and/or clinical peer-reviewed literature.]

[Insert your recommendation summary here, including your professional opinion of the patient's likely prognosis or disease progression without treatment with Verzenio.]

Please feel free to contact me, [HCP's name], at [office phone number] or [patient's name] at [patient's phone number] for any additional information you may require. We look forward to receiving your timely response and approval of this claim.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
 [Physician's name and signature]  
 [Physician's medical specialty]  
 [Physician's NPI]  
 [Physician's practice name]  
 [Phone #]  
 [Fax #]

\_\_\_\_\_  
 [Patient's name and signature]  
 Encl: Medical records  
 Clinical trial information  
 Letter of Medical Necessity (LMN)

When appealing a plan's step edit therapy requirement, consider providing statements indicating why these requirements are inappropriate for the patient, including examples of previous therapy trials/failures due to lack of response or drug intolerance.

\* Include patient's medical records, applicable lab results, and supporting documentation.  
 † Hormone receptor-positive (HR+) and human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative (HER2-).  
 ‡ Identify drug name, strength, dosage form, and therapeutic outcome.

Please see Important Safety Information on [pages 5 and 6](#) and click to access the full [Prescribing Information](#) for Verzenio.





## Important Safety Information

Severe **diarrhea** associated with dehydration and infection occurred in patients treated with Verzenio. Across four clinical trials in 3691 patients, diarrhea occurred in 81 to 90% of patients who received Verzenio. Grade 3 diarrhea occurred in 8 to 20% of patients receiving Verzenio. Most patients experienced diarrhea during the first month of Verzenio treatment. The median time to onset of the first diarrhea event ranged from 6 to 8 days; and the median duration of Grade 2 and Grade 3 diarrhea ranged from 6 to 11 days and 5 to 8 days, respectively. Across trials, 19 to 26% of patients with diarrhea required a Verzenio dose interruption and 13 to 23% required a dose reduction.

Instruct patients to start antidiarrheal therapy, such as loperamide, at the first sign of loose stools, increase oral fluids, and notify their healthcare provider for further instructions and appropriate follow-up. For Grade 3 or 4 diarrhea, or diarrhea that requires hospitalization, discontinue Verzenio until toxicity resolves to  $\leq$ Grade 1, and then resume Verzenio at the next lower dose.

**Neutropenia**, including febrile neutropenia and fatal neutropenic sepsis, occurred in patients treated with Verzenio. Across four clinical trials in 3691 patients, neutropenia occurred in 37 to 46% of patients receiving Verzenio. A Grade  $\geq 3$  decrease in neutrophil count (based on laboratory findings) occurred in 19 to 32% of patients receiving Verzenio. Across trials, the median time to first episode of Grade  $\geq 3$  neutropenia ranged from 29 to 33 days, and the median duration of Grade  $\geq 3$  neutropenia ranged from 11 to 16 days. Febrile neutropenia has been reported in  $<1\%$  of patients exposed to Verzenio across trials. Two deaths due to neutropenic sepsis were observed in MONARCH 2. Inform patients to promptly report any episodes of fever to their healthcare provider.

Monitor complete blood counts prior to the start of Verzenio therapy, every 2 weeks for the first 2 months, monthly for the next 2 months, and as clinically indicated. Dose interruption, dose reduction, or delay in starting treatment cycles is recommended for patients who develop Grade 3 or 4 neutropenia.

Severe, life-threatening, or fatal **interstitial lung disease (ILD) or pneumonitis** can occur in patients treated with Verzenio and other CDK4/6 inhibitors. In Verzenio-treated patients in EBC (monarchE), 3% of patients experienced ILD or pneumonitis of any grade: 0.4% were Grade 3 or 4 and there was one fatality (0.1%). In Verzenio-treated patients in MBC (MONARCH 1, MONARCH 2, MONARCH 3), 3.3% of Verzenio-treated patients had ILD or pneumonitis of any grade: 0.6% had Grade 3 or 4, and 0.4% had fatal outcomes. Additional cases of ILD or pneumonitis have been observed in the postmarketing setting, with fatalities reported.

Monitor patients for pulmonary symptoms indicative of ILD or pneumonitis. Symptoms may include hypoxia, cough, dyspnea, or interstitial infiltrates on radiologic exams. Infectious, neoplastic, and other causes for such symptoms should be excluded by means of appropriate investigations. Dose interruption or dose reduction is recommended in patients who develop persistent or recurrent Grade 2 ILD or pneumonitis. Permanently discontinue Verzenio in all patients with Grade 3 or 4 ILD or pneumonitis.

**Grade  $\geq 3$  increases in alanine aminotransferase (ALT) (2 to 6%) and aspartate aminotransferase (AST) (2 to 3%)** were reported in patients receiving Verzenio. Across three clinical trials in 3559 patients (monarchE, MONARCH 2, MONARCH 3), the median time to onset of Grade  $\geq 3$  ALT increases ranged from 57 to 87 days and the median time to resolution to Grade  $<3$  was 13 to 14 days. The median time to onset of Grade  $\geq 3$

AST increases ranged from 71 to 185 days and the median time to resolution to Grade  $<3$  ranged from 11 to 15 days.

Monitor liver function tests (LFTs) prior to the start of Verzenio therapy, every 2 weeks for the first 2 months, monthly for the next 2 months, and as clinically indicated. Dose interruption, dose reduction, dose discontinuation, or delay in starting treatment cycles is recommended for patients who develop persistent or recurrent Grade 2, or any Grade 3 or 4 hepatic transaminase elevation.

**Venous thromboembolic events (VTE)** were reported in 2 to 5% of patients across three clinical trials in 3559 patients treated with Verzenio (monarchE, MONARCH 2, MONARCH 3). VTE included deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, pelvic venous thrombosis, cerebral venous sinus thrombosis, subclavian and axillary vein thrombosis, and inferior vena cava thrombosis. In clinical trials, deaths due to VTE have been reported in patients treated with Verzenio.

Verzenio has not been studied in patients with early breast cancer who had a history of VTE. Monitor patients for signs and symptoms of venous thrombosis and pulmonary embolism and treat as medically appropriate. Dose interruption is recommended for EBC patients with any grade VTE and for MBC patients with a Grade 3 or 4 VTE.

Verzenio can cause **fetal harm** when administered to a pregnant woman, based on findings from animal studies and the mechanism of action. In animal reproduction studies, administration of abemaciclib to pregnant rats during the period of organogenesis caused teratogenicity and decreased fetal weight at maternal exposures that were similar to the human clinical exposure based on area under the curve (AUC) at the maximum recommended human dose. Advise pregnant women of the potential risk to a fetus. Advise females of reproductive potential to use effective contraception during treatment with Verzenio and for 3 weeks after the last dose. Based on findings in animals, Verzenio may impair fertility in males of reproductive potential. There are no data on the presence of Verzenio in human milk or its effects on the breastfed child or on milk production. Advise lactating women not to breastfeed during Verzenio treatment and for at least 3 weeks after the last dose because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in breastfed infants.

The **most common adverse reactions (all grades,  $\geq 10\%$ )** observed in **monarchE for Verzenio plus tamoxifen or an aromatase inhibitor vs tamoxifen or an aromatase inhibitor, with a difference between arms of  $\geq 2\%$** , were diarrhea (84% vs 9%), infections (51% vs 39%), neutropenia (46% vs 6%), fatigue (41% vs 18%), leukopenia (38% vs 7%), nausea (30% vs 9%), anemia (24% vs 4%), headache (20% vs 15%), vomiting (18% vs 4.6%), stomatitis (14% vs 5%), lymphopenia (14% vs 3%), thrombocytopenia (13% vs 2%), decreased appetite (12% vs 2.4%), ALT increased (12% vs 6%), AST increased (12% vs 5%), dizziness (11% vs 7%), rash (11% vs 4.5%), and alopecia (11% vs 2.7 %).

The **most frequently reported  $\geq 5\%$  Grade 3 or 4 adverse reaction** that occurred in the Verzenio arm vs the tamoxifen or an aromatase inhibitor arm of monarchE were neutropenia (19.6% vs 1%), leukopenia (11% vs  $<1\%$ ), diarrhea (8% vs 0.2%), and lymphopenia (5% vs  $<1\%$ ).

Please see additional Important Safety Information on [page 6](#) and click to access the full [Prescribing Information](#) for Verzenio.

  
**Verzenio**<sup>®</sup>  
abemaciclib  
50 | 100 | 150 | 200 mg tablets





## Important Safety Information, cont'd

Lab abnormalities (all grades; Grade 3 or 4) for monarchE in  $\geq 10\%$  for Verzenio plus tamoxifen or an aromatase inhibitor with a difference between arms of  $\geq 2\%$  were increased serum creatinine (99% vs 91%; .5% vs <.1%), decreased white blood cells (89% vs 28%; 19.1% vs 1.1%), decreased neutrophil count (84% vs 23%; 18.7% vs 1.9%), anemia (68% vs 17%; 1% vs .1%), decreased lymphocyte count (59% vs 24%; 13.2% vs 2.5%), decreased platelet count (37% vs 10%; .9% vs .2%), increased ALT (37% vs 24%; 2.6% vs 1.2%), increased AST (31% vs 18%; 1.6% vs .9%), and hypokalemia (11% vs 3.8%; 1.3% vs 0.2%).

The most common adverse reactions (all grades,  $\geq 10\%$ ) observed in MONARCH 3 for Verzenio plus anastrozole or letrozole vs anastrozole or letrozole, with a difference between arms of  $\geq 2\%$ , were diarrhea (81% vs 30%), fatigue (40% vs 32%), neutropenia (41% vs 2%), infections (39% vs 29%), nausea (39% vs 20%), abdominal pain (29% vs 12%), vomiting (28% vs 12%), anemia (28% vs 5%), alopecia (27% vs 11%), decreased appetite (24% vs 9%), leukopenia (21% vs 2%), creatinine increased (19% vs 4%), constipation (16% vs 12%), ALT increased (16% vs 7%), AST increased (15% vs 7%), rash (14% vs 5%), pruritus (13% vs 9%), cough (13% vs 9%), dyspnea (12% vs 6%), dizziness (11% vs 9%), weight decreased (10% vs 3.1%), influenza-like illness (10% vs 8%), and thrombocytopenia (10% vs 2%).

The most frequently reported  $\geq 5\%$  Grade 3 or 4 adverse reactions that occurred in the Verzenio arm vs the placebo arm of MONARCH 3 were neutropenia (22% vs 1%), diarrhea (9% vs 1.2%), leukopenia (7% vs <1%), increased ALT (6% vs 2%), and anemia (6% vs 1%).

Lab abnormalities (all grades; Grade 3 or 4) for MONARCH 3 in  $\geq 10\%$  for Verzenio plus anastrozole or letrozole with a difference between arms of  $\geq 2\%$  were increased serum creatinine (98% vs 84%; 2.2% vs 0%), decreased white blood cells (82% vs 27%; 13% vs 0.6%), anemia (82% vs 28%; 1.6% vs 0%), decreased neutrophil count (80% vs 21%; 21.9% vs 2.6%), decreased lymphocyte count (53% vs 26%; 7.6% vs 1.9%), decreased platelet count (36% vs 12%; 1.9% vs 0.6%), increased ALT (48% vs 25%; 6.6% vs 1.9%), and increased AST (37% vs 23%; 3.8% vs 0.6%).

The most common adverse reactions (all grades,  $\geq 10\%$ ) observed in MONARCH 2 for Verzenio plus fulvestrant vs fulvestrant, with a difference between arms of  $\geq 2\%$ , were diarrhea (86% vs 25%), neutropenia (46% vs 4%), fatigue (46% vs 32%), nausea (45% vs 23%), infections (43% vs 25%), abdominal pain (35% vs 16%), anemia (29% vs 4%), leukopenia (28% vs 2%), decreased appetite (27% vs 12%), vomiting (26% vs 10%), headache (20% vs 15%), dysgeusia (18% vs 2.7%), thrombocytopenia (16% vs 3%), alopecia (16% vs 1.8%), stomatitis (15% vs 10%), ALT increased (13% vs 5%), pruritus (13% vs 6%), cough (13% vs 11%), dizziness (12% vs 6%), AST increased (12% vs 7%), peripheral edema (12% vs 7%), creatinine increased (12% vs <1%), rash (11% vs 4.5%), pyrexia (11% vs 6%), and weight decreased (10% vs 2.2%).

The most frequently reported  $\geq 5\%$  Grade 3 or 4 adverse reactions that occurred in the Verzenio arm vs the placebo arm of MONARCH 2 were neutropenia (25% vs 1%), diarrhea (13% vs 0.4%), leukopenia (9% vs 0%), anemia (7% vs 1%), and infections (5.7% vs 3.5%).

Lab abnormalities (all grades; Grade 3 or 4) for MONARCH 2 in  $\geq 10\%$  for Verzenio plus fulvestrant with a difference between arms of  $\geq 2\%$  were increased serum creatinine (98% vs 74%; 1.2% vs 0%), decreased white blood cells (90% vs 33%; 23.7% vs .9%), decreased neutrophil count (87% vs 30%; 32.5% vs 4.2%), anemia (84% vs 34%; 2.6% vs .5%), decreased lymphocyte count (63% vs 32%; 12.2% vs 1.8%), decreased

platelet count (53% vs 15%; 2.1% vs 0%), increased ALT (41% vs 32%; 4.6% vs 1.4%), and increased AST (37% vs 25%; 3.9% vs 4.2%).

The most common adverse reactions (all grades,  $\geq 10\%$ ) observed in MONARCH 1 with Verzenio were diarrhea (90%), fatigue (65%), nausea (64%), decreased appetite (45%), abdominal pain (39%), neutropenia (37%), vomiting (35%), infections (31%), anemia (25%), thrombocytopenia (20%), headache (20%), cough (19%), constipation (17%), leukopenia (17%), arthralgia (15%), dry mouth (14%), weight decreased (14%), stomatitis (14%), creatinine increased (13%), alopecia (12%), dysgeusia (12%), pyrexia (11%), dizziness (11%), and dehydration (10%).

The most frequently reported  $\geq 5\%$  Grade 3 or 4 adverse reactions from MONARCH 1 with Verzenio were diarrhea (20%), neutropenia (24%), fatigue (13%), and leukopenia (5%).

Lab abnormalities (all grades; Grade 3 or 4) for MONARCH 1 with Verzenio were increased serum creatinine (99%; .8%), decreased white blood cells (91%; 28%), decreased neutrophil count (88%; 26.6%), anemia (69%; 0%), decreased lymphocyte count (42%; 13.8%), decreased platelet count (41%; 2.3%), increased ALT (31%; 3.1%), and increased AST (30%; 3.8%).

Strong and moderate CYP3A inhibitors increased the exposure of abemaciclib plus its active metabolites to a clinically meaningful extent and may lead to increased toxicity. Avoid concomitant use of ketoconazole. Ketoconazole is predicted to increase the AUC of abemaciclib by up to 16-fold. In patients with recommended starting doses of 200 mg twice daily or 150 mg twice daily, reduce the Verzenio dose to 100 mg twice daily with concomitant use of strong CYP3A inhibitors other than ketoconazole. In patients who have had a dose reduction to 100 mg twice daily due to adverse reactions, further reduce the Verzenio dose to 50 mg twice daily with concomitant use of strong CYP3A inhibitors. If a patient taking Verzenio discontinues a strong CYP3A inhibitor, increase the Verzenio dose (after 3 to 5 half-lives of the inhibitor) to the dose that was used before starting the inhibitor. With concomitant use of moderate CYP3A inhibitors, monitor for adverse reactions and consider reducing the Verzenio dose in 50 mg decrements. Patients should avoid grapefruit products.

**Avoid concomitant use of strong or moderate CYP3A inducers and consider alternative agents.** Coadministration of strong or moderate CYP3A inducers decreased the plasma concentrations of abemaciclib plus its active metabolites and may lead to reduced activity.

**With severe hepatic impairment** (Child-Pugh C), reduce the Verzenio dosing frequency to once daily. The pharmacokinetics of Verzenio in patients with **severe renal impairment** (CLcr <30 mL/min), end stage renal disease, or in patients on dialysis is **unknown**. No dosage adjustments are necessary in patients with mild or moderate hepatic (Child-Pugh A or B) and/or renal impairment (CLcr  $\geq 30$ -89 mL/min).

Please see full [Prescribing Information](#) for Verzenio.

AL HCP ISI 12OCT2021

### Reference

1. Verzenio [package insert]. Indianapolis, IN: Eli Lilly and Company.

  
abemaciclib  
50 | 100 | 150 | 200 mg tablets

