

# Speak from your heart

A helpful discussion guide for your next healthcare provider visit

After you've had a hospitalization or needed IV medicine\* due to heart failure, it's important to have open communication with your healthcare provider. This discussion guide can help get the conversation started at your next healthcare provider visit.

\*Medicine given through a vein.



## Here are some things you may want to discuss

Check all that apply:	List any additional symptoms
☐ A fast heartbeat	List any additional symptoms you're experiencing:
☐ Shortness of breath	-
☐ Ongoing coughing or wheezing	
☐ Feeling dizzy, weak, or tired	
☐ Swelling of your feet or legs	

2 What should you know about the safety and side effects of VERQUVO?

Have you noticed any increase in your heart failure symptoms?

3 How might VERQUVO help reduce your chances of another heart failure hospitalization or death?



## Ask your healthcare provider to see how VERQUVO may help you.

### What is VERQUVO?

VERQUVO is a prescription medicine used in adults who are having symptoms of their chronic (long-lasting) heart failure, who have had a recent hospitalization or the need to receive intravenous (IV) medicines and have an ejection fraction (amount of blood pumped with each heartbeat) of less than 45 percent to reduce the risk of dying and to reduce the need to be hospitalized.

#### IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

**VERQUVO** may cause birth defects if taken during pregnancy.

- Females must not be pregnant when they start taking VERQUVO.
- For females who are able to get pregnant:
  - Your healthcare provider will do a pregnancy test to make sure that you are not pregnant before you start taking VERQUVO.
  - You must use effective forms of birth control during treatment and for 1 month after you stop
    treatment with VERQUVO. Talk to your healthcare provider about forms of birth control that you may
    use to prevent pregnancy during treatment.
  - Tell your healthcare provider right away if you become pregnant or think you are pregnant during treatment with VERQUVO.
  - There is a Pregnancy Surveillance Program that monitors pregnancy outcomes in women exposed to VERQUVO during pregnancy. Patients should report any exposure to VERQUVO during pregnancy by calling <u>1-877-888-4231</u> or at <a href="https://pregnancyreporting.verquvo-us.com">https://pregnancyreporting.verquvo-us.com</a>.



Notes		

## Having trouble paying for your Merck medicine?

Merck may be able to help. Visit Merckhelps.com.

## **IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION** (continued)

Do not take VERQUVO if you:

- are taking another medicine called a soluble guanylate cyclase stimulator (sGC). Ask your healthcare provider if you are not sure if you are taking an sGC medicine.
- are pregnant.

#### Before taking VERQUVO, tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including if you:

• are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if VERQUVO passes into your breast milk. **Do not** breastfeed if you take VERQUVO. Talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby if you take VERQUVO.

**Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take.** Certain other medicines may affect how VERQUVO works.

#### The most common side effects of VERQUVO include:

- low blood pressure
- low red blood cells (anemia)

Please read the accompanying <u>Medication Guide</u> for VERQUVO, including the information about birth defects if taken during pregnancy, and discuss it with your doctor. The physician <u>Prescribing Information</u> also is available.



