MEDICINE INFORMATION

Datopotamab deruxtecan (Datroway)

Patient information about Datroway, including eye and mouth care, monitoring and when to contact your treatment team.

At a glance

Datopotamab deruxtecan is an antibody-drug conjugate. It is given as a drip into a vein. It is used for selected breast and lung cancers, depending on the test results, previous treatment and the indication approved where you receive care.

Eye irritation and a sore mouth are common. Before the first visit, ask about eye checks, lubricating eye drops and a mouth-care plan. Have the treatment unit's number handy so you can report breathing, eye or mouth symptoms between visits.

How it is given. You receive datopotamab deruxtecan as a drip into a vein.

How it works

The antibody attaches to a protein called TROP2 on the surface of some cells. It carries deruxtecan, a medicine that damages cells by interfering with an enzyme they use when copying DNA. Healthy tissues can also be affected. Datroway and trastuzumab deruxtecan (Enhertu) are different medicines with different targets and uses.

Is this treatment suitable for me?

Your team checks the cancer type, test results and treatments you have already had. Approved uses vary by country.

- **Breast cancer in India.** India's drug regulator records approval for selected adults whose breast cancer is hormone receptor-positive and negative for human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2), cannot be removed by surgery or has spread, and has already been treated with hormone-based treatment and chemotherapy in the advanced setting. The Indian approval specifies which HER2 test results qualify. Ask your team to explain the result on your pathology report.
- **Triple-negative breast cancer.** The US label also includes adults with triple-negative breast cancer that cannot be removed by surgery or has spread, if treatment with a PD-1 or PD-L1 inhibitor (a type of immunotherapy) is unsuitable. Triple-negative means the cancer tests negative for oestrogen and progesterone receptors and HER2.
- **Lung cancer.** The US indication is for selected adults with advanced non-small cell lung cancer with a change in the epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) gene, after EGFR-targeted treatment and platinum chemotherapy. That indication was granted accelerated approval. An Indian committee's review of the proposed lung cancer use is separate from the recorded Indian breast cancer approval.

Ask your team to explain which test results and prior treatments matter in your case and which indication applies where you receive care.

Before treatment starts

Tell your team if you have lung disease, a lasting cough, eye disease or contact lenses. Report any mouth ulcers or dental problems. Ask when you will have your first eye examination and which eye drops and mouth rinse to use. Bring a list of medicines and supplements and save the hospital's out-of-hours number.

- **Eye care.** Ask which preservative-free lubricating drops to buy and how often to use them. Bring glasses if you normally wear contact lenses. Avoid lenses during treatment unless your eye specialist advises otherwise.
- **Mouth care.** Ask whether your team will prescribe a steroid mouthwash, when to start it and how to use it. Have the instructions before the first infusion.
- **Breathing.** Describe any cough or breathlessness you already have and mention previous lung inflammation. This gives the team a baseline if symptoms change.

How treatment is given

A nurse gives Datroway through a drip, usually every three weeks. The first visit may take longer because of the first infusion and observation afterwards. The team may give anti-sickness medicines, medicines to reduce infusion reactions, and ice chips during the infusion to help prevent mouth sores. Follow the eye and mouth-care instructions from your team, including guidance on contact lenses.

Ask how long to allow for the visit and what to take at home afterwards. If the drip site stings, swells or feels wet, tell the nurse so they can check it. Tell the unit if you cannot attend, so they can arrange the next appointment.

Monitoring your treatment

Your team checks blood counts and other blood tests and asks about breathing, vision and mouth soreness. Eye examinations continue during treatment according to the product instructions and your symptoms. Tell the team about a change between visits. They may delay treatment while investigating a symptom or helping it settle.

The US product information recommends an eye examination when starting, about every nine weeks during treatment, at the end of treatment and whenever symptoms need checking. Your team can coordinate this with an eye specialist. Bring any eye reports if the examination takes place at a different hospital.

Side effects

Common side effects

A sore mouth or mouth ulcers, nausea, tiredness, hair loss and constipation are common. Dry eyes and irritation of the eye surface also occur. Tell the team if eating or drinking becomes difficult. Ask which mouth rinse or eye drops to use and how to manage nausea or bowel changes.

Blood tests can show low red cells or low white cells. Red cells carry oxygen and white cells help fight infection. The team will explain what a change means for your next treatment.

If mouth soreness makes meals difficult, try softer, cooler foods and tell the team early. Note any ulcers and how much you are able to drink. If constipation or nausea persists despite your prescribed medicines, ask the team to adjust your plan.

Less common or important side effects

Eye pain, redness, sensitivity to light or blurred vision can be signs that the clear front surface of the eye is affected. Contact your team promptly if these develop. The team may arrange an eye examination.

A reaction can occur during the drip. Tell the nurse immediately if you feel hot, itchy, faint or short of breath, or develop chills or a rash.

Serious effects to recognise

Datroway can cause lung inflammation, also called pneumonitis or interstitial lung disease. It can become serious. Report a new or worsening cough, shortness of breath or fever immediately, even if you think it is a cold. The team will decide what tests and treatment are needed.

When to seek urgent help

Call your hospital’s 24-hour cancer care number straight away for a new cough, worsening breathlessness, fever or shaking chills. Also call for eye pain or a change in vision, mouth sores that stop you drinking, or vomiting you cannot control. Follow your hospital’s temperature instructions. If you have no written threshold, call at 37.5°C (99.5°F) or above, or below 36°C (96.8°F). Call for new breathing symptoms even if your temperature is normal.

Seek emergency care for severe breathing difficulty, swelling of the face or throat, or collapse. Tell the staff you are receiving Datroway and when you last had it.

Practical advice for this treatment

Plan eye care from the first cycle

Book the eye checks the team recommends and use the lubricating drops in your written plan. Ask about contact lenses and what to do if your eyes feel gritty, painful or sensitive to light. Report blurred vision or worsening symptoms promptly, even if the next eye visit is already booked.

Start mouth care early

Ask the team to show you how to use any prescribed mouth rinse and whether to cool the mouth during infusion. Keep a soft toothbrush and let the team know when ulcers make it difficult to eat or drink. Call if the pain stops you from swallowing fluids or medicines.

Do not wait for the next infusion to report a new cough

Datopotamab deruxtecan can cause inflammation in the lungs. A new or worsening cough, fever or breathlessness needs prompt assessment, including when the symptoms seem mild. Tell the clinician the medicine name and date of your last infusion.

Other medicines and vaccinations

Check with your pharmacist or cancer team before starting medicines, herbal remedies or supplements. Ask your team about the timing of vaccines and tell any eye-care or dental professional that you receive Datroway.

Everyday life

Bring your eye drops and written mouth-care instructions to visits. If your eyes are irritated or your vision changes, contact the team and avoid driving until you can see clearly and have been advised it is safe. Keep a note of symptoms and when they began.

Keep the name of the drug, the date of your last drip and your hospital's advice number somewhere a caregiver can find them. If you need care at another hospital, this helps staff identify which side effects to check.

Fertility, pregnancy and breastfeeding

Datroway can harm a developing baby. The US label advises effective contraception during treatment and for seven months after the last dose for people who could become pregnant, and four months for men with partners who could become pregnant. It advises avoiding breastfeeding during treatment and for one month afterwards. Confirm the instructions for your product and treatment plan. Ask about fertility preservation before treatment if this matters to you.

After treatment

Keep follow-up and eye appointments. Continue to report new breathing or vision symptoms and tell any clinician assessing you when you last received Datroway.

Frequently asked questions

Is Datroway the same as Enhertu?

They carry related cell-killing medicine, but the antibodies attach to different targets. Your team selects the product using your diagnosis and treatment history.

Should I wait until the next visit for a sore mouth?

Contact the team early if ulcers or pain develop, especially if drinking is harder. They can help manage symptoms and check whether your next dose needs to be delayed.

Do I need an eye check if my vision is fine?

Your team can arrange regular checks while you are receiving Datroway. Keep those appointments and report any changes between visits.

Will I need a new biopsy?

Your team may be able to use an existing tissue sample or test result. Ask if a repeat test would change the treatment decision.

Why do I need eye drops if my eyes feel normal?

Lubricating drops help protect the surface of the eye during treatment. Follow the schedule from your team, even on days without symptoms.

Can I use eye drops left over from another problem?

Check with the eye team first, especially if they contain a steroid or antibiotic. Ask which lubricating drops to use routinely.

What should I bring for my first infusion?

Bring your medicine list, any eye reports and the eye and mouth products you have been asked to use. Wear glasses if you normally use contacts.

What if my mouthwash stings or I cannot use it?

Ask the team to check your mouth and show you how to use the rinse. Mention any trouble eating or drinking.

Can I get my teeth checked during treatment?

Tell your dentist and cancer team that you are receiving Datroway. Ask them to coordinate the timing if you need a procedure.

Do I need to call about a mild new cough?

Yes. A new cough can have several causes, including lung inflammation. Call promptly so your team can decide what needs checking.

Will I need to stay after the drip?

The unit may observe you after treatment, particularly at the first visit. Ask when you can expect to leave and what symptoms to report after going home.

What if I miss an appointment?

Call the treatment unit as soon as you can. They will tell you when to return and whether your other appointments need moving.

Will my hair grow back?

Hair loss or thinning can occur. Regrowth after treatment varies. Ask your team about support if this matters to you.

Does a pause mean the medicine has stopped working?

A pause can give the team time to investigate a symptom or let a side effect settle. Ask what they need to see before restarting.

Will I have a set number of drips?

The plan depends on how the cancer responds and how you tolerate treatment. Your team will review it with you at intervals.

Do I need eye follow-up after the last drip?

Keep the end-of-treatment eye check if it is part of your plan. Report new eye pain, light sensitivity or vision changes between appointments.

Sources and further reading

Read this guide alongside your hospital's plan. Ask your pharmacist to confirm the exact product dispensed in India and follow the instructions for that product.

Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) and prescribing information

- Datopotamab deruxtecan (Datroway) - EU SmPC
- Datroway FDA prescribing information (May 2026)

Clinical protocols and other references

- AstraZeneca India announcement of CDSCO breast cancer approval

Additional sources

- CDSCO oncology committee minutes, 25 August 2026
- Cancer Research UK, TROPION-Breast01 trial summary

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