

## Arimidex<sup>®</sup> (anastrozole)

**Arimidex<sup>®</sup>** contains the medicine anastrozole, which is used to treat advanced breast cancer in postmenopausal women. Arimidex<sup>®</sup> belongs to a group of medicines called aromatase inhibitors. These medications block or slow down the aromatase enzyme (chemical) within the body that reduces the total amount of estrogen (circulating estrogen levels). The process limits the amount of estrogen that can reach the cancer cells and helps prevent the growth of cancer in the body.

Reducing the amount of estrogen is important because some breast cancers are found to be hormone-dependent, meaning that estrogen multiplies the cancer cells' growth. These hormone-dependent cancers contain estrogen receptors (ER). When estrogen attaches to these receptors, it can cause cancer cells to grow. Cancers with these receptors are known as estrogen receptor-positive (ER+). Cancer tumors may also be estrogen receptor-negative (ER-), which means that the cancer grows without stimulation from estrogen. Hormonal therapies are not as effective in patients with ER- tumors. Your healthcare provider will tell you if your tumor is ER positive or ER negative.

Arimidex<sup>®</sup> is supplied as tablets and taken by mouth. Your healthcare provider will instruct you on how and when to take Arimidex<sup>®</sup>.

### Potential side effects:

- Hot flashes
- Nausea (mild)
- Decreased energy and weakness
- Bone pain
- Cough

### Notify Physician within 24 hours:

- Nausea that interferes with eating

### Special Instructions For Arimidex<sup>®</sup>:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---