Tamoxifen is taken by mouth in a tablet form. It should be taken at approximately the same time each day. Tamoxifen works by blocking estrogen in the breast. Tamoxifen is commonly taken for 5 years.

Possible Side Effects:
- Hot flashes
- Vaginal discharge
- Irregular menstrual periods
- Vaginal dryness or itching

Rare Side Effects:
- Skin rash
- Joint pains and stiffness
- Blood clots
- Increased risk of uterine cancers. If you have abnormal vaginal bleeding please discuss with your physician.
- Increased risk of cataracts

Due to the potential increased risk of blood clots, if you plan to travel by car for 4 hours or more, after having major surgery, Tamoxifen should be stopped, until you are up and moving and fully recovered. Please discuss further with your surgeon and medical oncologist.

These are the most common side effects for this medication. Talk to your healthcare provider if your symptoms become difficult to manage.

Notify your doctor’s office if you have any problems or questions with side effects. You may call 713-566-3552 (English) or 713-566-3551 (Spanish).