



Infliximab Patient Education Sheet

Pronunciation (in FLIKS e mab)

Brand Name- Remicade

What is this drug used for?

- Used with methotrexate for moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis
- Crohn's disease
- Psoriatic arthritis
- Plaque psoriasis
- Ankylosing spondylitis
- Ulcerative colitis

How is this medication administered?

- Infliximab is administered intravenously as a 2 hour infusion

What are the possible side effects I may experience?

- Many people have no side effects or very mild side effects
- Most common side effects include:
 - Headache
 - Nausea/vomiting
 - Belly pain
 - Flushing
 - Signs of a common cold
 - Feeling tired or weak
 - Fever, chills, itching, chest pain or pressure, or shortness of breath when drug is being given may occur. Tylenol, Benadryl and/or steroids can be given before infusion to prevent this.**
- Call your doctor at once if you have serious side effects such as:
 - Signs of an allergic reaction such as hives, difficulty breathing, swelling of your face, lips, throat or tongue
 - Signs of infection such as fever, chills, very bad sore throat, ear or sinus pain, cough, sputum, pain with passing urine, mouth sores, a wound that won't heal, bruising/bleeding, feeling weak
 - Any skin changes like a new wart, skin sore or reddish bump that bleeds or does not heal, or a change in the color or size of a mole.
 - Signs of nervous system problems such as burning, numbness or tingling feeling that is new, change in eyesight, dizziness, seizures or weakness in your arms or legs
 - Signs of liver problems such as dark urine, feeling tired, not hungry, upset stomach or stomach pain, light colored stools, throwing up or yellow skin or eyes.
 - Abnormal heartbeats, heart attacks and strokes have happened within 24 hours after the infusion. Loss of eyesight during and within 2 hours after the infusion. Talk with your doctor about your risks.



-Signs of lupus like a rash on the cheeks or other body parts, sunburn easily, muscle or joint pain, chest pain or shortness of breath, swelling in the arms and legs

-Night sweats

-A big weight loss

-Loss of eyesight

-Black tarry stools or bloody stools

-Skin lump or growth

-Fast or slow heartbeat

-Heart failure has worsened with this medication. Call your doctor if you have new or worsening shortness of breath, a big weight gain, and irregular heart beat or swelling in the arms and legs

-This medication may increase your risk of certain type of cancer. Discuss with your doctor

-A very bad skin reaction (Stevens-Johnson syndrome/toxic epidermal necrolysis) may occur. Get medical help right away if you have symptoms like red, swollen, blistered or peeling skin (with or without fever), red or irritated eyes, or sores in your mouth, throat, nose or eyes

What are some of the things I need to know or do while I am taking infliximab?

- Have your blood work checked before each infusion
- Notify your doctor of any weight loss or gain
- You may have increased risk of getting an infection. Wash your hands often. Stay away from people with infections, cold or flu
- You must be checked for tuberculosis and be up to date on immunizations before beginning therapy

How should I store this medication?

- Refrigerate
- Do not freeze
- Solution is clear

*** This information is not specific medical advice and does not replace information you receive from the healthcare provider. You must talk with the healthcare provider for complete information about the risks and benefits of using this medication***