



Provincial Health Services Authority

For the Patient: Tremelimumab

Other names: IMJUDO®

- **Tremelimumab** (tre" me lim' ue mab) is a drug that is used to treat some types of cancer. It is a monoclonal antibody, a type of protein designed to help your own body's immune system target cancer cells to stop them from growing. It is a clear liquid that is injected into a vein.
- Tell your doctor if you have ever had an unusual or **allergic reaction** to tremelimumab before receiving tremelimumab.
- A **blood test** may be taken before each treatment. The dose and timing of your chemotherapy may be changed based on the test results and/or other side effects.
- Other drugs may **interact** with tremelimumab. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before you start or stop taking any other drugs.
- Do not receive any **immunizations** before discussing with your doctor.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of ipilimumab.
- Tremelimumab may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with tremelimumab and for 3 months after your treatment has ended. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breastfeed during treatment and for at least 3 months after your treatment has ended.
- **Tell** your doctor, dentist, and other health professionals that you are being treated with tremelimumab before you receive any treatment from them.

Side effects are listed in the following table in the order in which they may occur. **Your treatment is a type of therapy known as immunotherapy and it may cause serious side effects related to your immune system. It is important to report side effects immediately to your healthcare team. Do not manage side effects at home without speaking with your healthcare team. Refer to specific protocol handout (if available) for more details.**

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
Pain or tenderness may occur where the needle was placed.	Apply cool compresses or soak in cool water for 15-20 minutes several times a day.
Allergic reactions may sometimes occur. Signs of an allergic reaction may include chills, itching, rash, flushing, shortness of breath, fever, facial swelling, or back/neck pain. This can occur immediately or several hours after receiving tremelimumab.	Tell your nurse if this happens while you are receiving tremelimumab or contact your healthcare team immediately if this happens after you leave the clinic.
Diarrhea may sometimes occur.	Immediately see your healthcare team or get emergency help.
Constipation may sometimes occur.	See or call your healthcare team as soon as possible.
Nausea and vomiting may occur after your treatment. If you are vomiting and it is not controlled, you can quickly become dehydrated. Most people have little or no nausea.	
Skin rashes or itching may sometimes occur.	
Fever may sometimes occur.	
Swelling of hands, feet, or lower legs may sometimes occur if your body retains extra fluid.	
Headache may sometimes occur.	Take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours if needed, to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day. Tell your healthcare team as soon as possible if your headache does not go away.
Loss of appetite and weight loss sometimes occur.	Try the ideas in <i>Food Ideas to Help with Decreased Appetite</i> .*
Tiredness and lack of energy may sometimes occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not drive a car or operate machinery if you are feeling tired. • Try the ideas in <i>Fatigue/Tiredness – Patient Handout</i>.*

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
Muscle or back pain may sometimes occur.	You may take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day or ibuprofen (e.g., ADVIL®) for mild to moderate pain. Tell your healthcare team if the pain interferes with your activity.
Sugar control may sometimes be affected in patients with diabetes.	Check your blood sugar regularly if you have diabetes. Tell your healthcare team if your blood sugars are not controlled.
Hair loss is rare with tremelimumab.	If hair loss is a problem, refer to <i>Resources for Hair Loss and Appearance Changes – Patient Handout</i> .*

*Please ask your nurse or pharmacist for a copy.

CHECK WITH YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM OR GET EMERGENCY HELP IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:

- Signs of an **allergic reaction** (rare) soon after a treatment including chills, itching, rash, flushing, shortness of breath, wheezing, dizziness, fever, facial swelling or back/neck pain.
- Signs of an **infection** such as fever (over 100°F or 38°C by an oral thermometer), shaking chills; severe sore throat, productive cough (coughing up thick or green sputum); cloudy or foul smelling urine
- **Diarrhea** or changes in **bowel habits**; black tarry stools; blood or mucous in the stool; **abdominal pain**.
- Signs of **heart or lung problems** such as new or worsening cough, chest pain, shortness of breath, difficulty in breathing, irregular heartbeat, or swelling of feet or lower legs.
- Signs of **liver problems** such as yellow eyes or skin, white or clay-coloured stools.
- Signs of **kidney problems** such as lower back or side pain, blood in the urine, swelling of feet or lower legs, or change in amount or colour of urine.
- Seizures or **fainting**.

CHECK WITH YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (DURING OFFICE HOURS) IF YOU HAVE:

- Signs of **anemia** such as unusual tiredness or weakness.
- Signs of **blood sugar problems** such as thirst and frequent need to pass urine.
- Skin **rash, blisters**, or itching.
- Signs of **thyroid problems** such as unusual weight gain or loss, feeling hot or cold, deepened voice, or unusual tiredness or weakness.
- Easy **bruising** or minor **bleeding**.
- Changes in **eyesight, eye pain, or redness**.

