



Provincial Health Services Authority

For the Patient: Cemiplimab

Other names: LIBTAYO®

- **Cemiplimab** (sem' ip li" 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 cemiplimab before receiving cemiplimab.
- A **blood test** may be taken before each treatment. The dose and timing of your treatment may be changed based on the test results and/or other side effects.
- Other drugs may **interact** with cemiplimab. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before you start or stop taking any other drugs.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of cemiplimab.
- Cemiplimab may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with cemiplimab and for at least four months after the last dose. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breastfeed during treatment and for at least four months after the last dose.
- **Tell** doctors, dentists, and other health professionals that you are being treated with cemiplimab 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 doctor. Do not manage side effects at home without speaking with your doctor. Symptoms may be delayed and can develop months after your last dose. 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.

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p>Allergic reactions may rarely occur. Signs of an allergic reaction may include dizziness, fever, chills, rash, itching, back or neck pain, flushing, face swelling or breathing problems.</p> <p>This can occur immediately or several hours after receiving cemiplimab.</p>	<p>Tell your nurse if this happens while you are receiving cemiplimab or contact your oncologist immediately if this happens after you leave the clinic.</p>
<p>Diarrhea may sometimes occur.</p>	<p>See your doctor or get emergency help.</p>
<p>Nausea and vomiting may occur. Most people have little or no nausea.</p>	<p>See or call your doctor as soon as possible.</p>
<p>Skin rashes and/or itching may sometimes occur.</p>	
<p>Constipation may sometimes occur.</p>	
<p>Muscle pain or joint pain may sometimes occur.</p>	
<p>Tiredness and lack of energy may sometimes occur.</p>	
<p>Loss of appetite may sometimes occur.</p>	<p>Try the ideas in <i>Food Ideas to Help with Decreased Appetite</i>.*</p>
<p>Hair loss does not occur with cemiplimab.</p>	

*Please ask your chemotherapy nurse or pharmacist for a copy.

SEE YOUR DOCTOR OR GET EMERGENCY HELP IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:

- Signs of an **allergic reaction** (rare) soon after a treatment including dizziness, fever, chills, rash, itching, back or neck pain, flushing, face swelling or breathing problems.
- 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; painful, tender, or swollen red skin wounds or sores.
- **Diarrhea** or changes in **bowel habits**; black tarry stools; blood or mucous in the stool; **abdominal pain**.
- **Changes in eyesight, eye pain, or redness**.
- Signs of **heart** or **lung problems** such as new or worsening cough, chest pain, shortness of breath, difficulty in breathing, irregular heartbeat, coughing blood, 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.
- Severe **muscle weakness** or trouble using your arms or leg muscles.
- Skin rash with **blisters**.

SEE YOUR DOCTOR 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** or itching.
- Signs of **thyroid problems** such as unusual weight gain or loss, feeling hot or cold, deepened voice, or unusual tiredness or weakness.
- **Numbness or tingling** in feet or hands.
- **Dry mouth** and difficulty swallowing.

CHECK WITH YOUR DOCTOR IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONTINUE OR BOTHER YOU:

- Headache not controlled with acetaminophen (e.g., **TYLENOL®**) or headache that will not go away.
- Loss of appetite.
- Irritability or forgetfulness.
- Decreased sex drive.
- Easy bruising and minor bleeding.

REPORT ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS TO YOUR DOCTOR
