



Eculizumab (Soliris®)

("E-kue-LIZ-oo-mab")

How this drug is given: by vein (IV)

Purpose: To prevent red blood cells from breaking apart in some blood disorders.

Things that may occur during or within hours of treatment

- Swelling of the face, tongue or throat, trouble breathing, chest pain, or feeling faint could occur during or after receiving eculizumab. These symptoms are due to an allergic response and should be reported to your cancer care team right away.

Things that may occur a few days to weeks later

1. Headache and backache may occur. You may take acetaminophen (Tylenol®) or ibuprofen (Motrin/Advil®) to help treat these symptoms.
2. Some patients may have mild nausea or vomiting. You may be given medicine to help with this.
3. Some patients may feel very tired, also known as fatigue. You may need to rest or take naps. Mild to moderate exercise can also be helpful in maintaining your energy.
4. You may have a cough or stuffy nose. You can ask your cancer care team what drugs you might take to help these symptoms.
5. If you have a **fever of 100.5°F (38°C) or higher**, chills, or a cough, you could have an infection. Call your cancer care team right away.
6. Your blood pressure may go up. If this happens, you may be given medication to help with this. If you have headaches or dizziness, **tell your cancer care team right away**.
7. Loose stools or diarrhea may occur within a few days after the drug is started. You may take loperamide (Imodium A-D®) to help control diarrhea. You can buy this at most drug stores. Be sure to also drink more fluids (water, juice, sports drinks). If these do not help within 24 hours, call your cancer care team.
8. Your body may not be able to get rid of extra fluid. This is called edema. You may notice some swelling in your arms or legs.

9. You may have abdominal pain. You can ask your cancer care team what drugs you might take to help with this symptom.
10. Your kidneys could be hurt by this drug and not work as well. Your cancer team will monitor your kidneys with blood and urine tests.

Things that may occur after your treatment ends (even months to years later):

1. If you have an ongoing fever of 100.5 F (38C) or higher, be sure to drink plenty of fluids. If you become dizzy or lightheaded, call your cancer care team right away.
2. Fertility and Related Precautions:
 - It is very important to use birth control if you are having sex, because this drug may be harmful to an unborn baby.
 - Women should not breastfeed while receiving this drug.
 - If you are concerned about any of this, please talk with your cancer care team.

The above information includes some, but not necessarily all, of the possible side effects of this medication. The side effects listed in this teaching sheet may not be the same ones you experience. Your side effects may be different depending on how often you receive treatment (your schedule) and how much you receive each time (your dosage). Side effects may also vary if you are taking other medications. Please speak with your cancer care team if you have questions about possible side effects you may experience. This document should not take the place of conversations with members of your cancer care team about your treatment and side effects you may experience during and after treatment.

If you experience any significant change in your health during or after treatment, contact a member of your cancer care team right away.

THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS OR NOTES FOR THE PATIENT AND FAMILY: