



## Siltuximab (Sylvant®)

("Sil-TUX-i-mab")

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**How drug is given:** by vein (IV)

**Purpose:** This drug changes the way the body's immune system works and is used to stop the growth of cells in the lymph system.

### Things that may occur during or within hours of treatment

1. Facial flushing (warmth or redness of the face), itching, or a skin rash could occur. These symptoms are due to an allergic response and should be reported to your health care team **right away**.

### Things that may occur a few days to weeks later

1. 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.
2. Skin changes, such as a rash or itching on your body, may occur. Ask your health care team what lotions or creams you may use.
3. Loose stools or diarrhea can 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 health care team.
4. Some patients may feel very tired, also known as fatigue. You may need to rest or take naps more often. Mild to moderate exercise can also help you maintain your energy. (You may also feel less interested in your usual activities.)
5. If you develop a new or worsening cough or shortness of breath, tell your health care team.
6. You may feel pain or weakness in your joints or muscles when taking this drug. If this bothers you, ask your health care team what types of drugs you may use to help with the pain.

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

### 1. 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 become pregnant for up to 3 months after stopping it.
- Women should not breast-feed while receiving this drug.
- If you are concerned about any of this, please talk with your health 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 doctor or nurse if you have questions about possible side effects you may experience. This document should not take the place of conversations with members of your health care team.*

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

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