Atezolizumab-Bevacizumab

for Gastrointestinal cancer

Regimen schedule

Next course of treatment, day 22

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Atezolizumab	X																				
Bevacizumab	X																				

About your treatment

Atezolizumab and bevacizumab are antibodies that inhibit the growth of cancer cells.

Each course is 21 days. You get an IV on day 1. There is then a break of 20 days before a new course of treatment starts. During treatment, your blood tests and any side effects will be monitored.

Immunotherapy

When receiving immunotherapy (antibodies that activate your immune system), there is a risk of serious side effects.

The side effects that can occur are autoimmune reactions/inflammation in the body's various organs. The side effects are often mild and transient but can become serious. It is important that the side effects are detected early so that they can be followed up and treated if necessary.

The side effects can occur at any time during treatment but also several months after treatment has ended.

Signs of side effects can also be detected through blood tests. You may provide blood tests during treatment and after treatment has ended.

It is important that you contact your clinic if you experience any of the following symptoms:

• New or changed dry cough and shortness of breath. May be a side effect in the lungs, pneumonitis

• Increased number of stools, new diarrhea possibly accompanied by stomach pain, blood in the stool or black stools. May be a side effect in the intestines, colitis

• Dark-colored urine, foamy urine or very cloudy urine. May be a side effect in the kidneys, nephritis

• Headache, unusually tiredness and weakness, impaired consciousness, pain behind the eyes, visual disturbances, confusion and new depression. May be a side effect in hormone-producing glands such as the thyroid or pituitary gland

• Redness and rash on the skin, often with itching. Wetting sores and blistering are a serious sign. May be a side effect in the skin, dermatitis

• New pain, swelling and stiffness in muscles and joints, May be myositis and arthritis

• Impaired strength and sensation in the arms and legs. May be a side effect in the nervous system, neuritis

• Chest pain, irregular pulse and palpitations. May be signs of inflammation of the heart muscle, myocarditis

Side effects - symptoms and tips

The side effects we list here are the most common and important. They can vary greatly from person to person, and even from time to time. The side effects may require a break in treatment. Tell your doctor or nurse if you have any side effects. Often the symptoms can be prevented or alleviated.

Side effects may come late, several months after treatment has ended. Contact your doctor anyway!

Fatigue

Fatigue is common in connection with cancer and its treatment. The severity of the symptoms and their duration vary from person to person. You may continue to feel tired long after treatment has ended. This type of extreme exhaustion is known as fatigue—a tiredness that does not always improve with rest or sleep. Many describe fatigue as a total lack of energy, and it can occur even without physical exertion. Your ability to remember, concentrate, and solve problems may be impaired. Fatigue is sometimes associated with feelings of resignation, stress, anxiety, and depression. Tip: Try to stay active. Physical activity often helps alleviate tiredness and fatigue. Find a balance between activity, rest, and sleep that works for you.

Skin problems

Dry skin and rashes with or without itching are common. Some skin conditions can be made worse by treatment, such as psoriasis and rosacea. You may also get inflammation of the skin (dermatitis), which in rare cases can lead to a severe skin reaction with watery sores.

Tip for mild itching: When washing your skin, be gentle and use unscented soap or shower oil. Lubricate with moisturiser.

Hypertension

High blood pressure is common. Your blood pressure will be monitored during treatment, and you may need medication.

Protein in the urine

You may get protein in your urine. However, it does not cause any symptoms. You will be asked to provide a urine sample to check this.

Blood clot

You may have an increased risk of blood clots. You can get a blood clot in a leg or arm, and it can hurt, and cause swelling or redness.

Bleeding

You may have an increased risk of bleeding. For example, you may bleed easily from your nose or mouth. If you get a cut on your skin, you may bleed longer than usual. Surgical wounds may heal more slowly.

Tips: Be careful not to cut yourself. You can stop nosebleeds by squeezing the soft parts of your nose for 10 minutes. If this doesn't stop it, contact your doctor. Be attentive to oral hygiene, and use a soft toothbrush and mild toothpaste. Be careful with floss and toothpicks. Inform your dentist or other health care provider of your cancer treatment when you visit.

Contact your clinic immediately at:

Acute

Call 112 in case of persistent acute chest pain, pressure on the chest or difficulty breathing/shortness of breath

Contact your reception immediately at:

- Fever (temp above 38 degrees) or at a temperature below 36 degrees
- Sudden deterioration regardless of symptoms
- Nosebleeds or other bleeding you cannot stop or bruising over large parts of the body
- Severe new abdominal pain
- Increased number of stools/diarrhea with or without stomach pain, bloody or black stools
- New onset dry cough and shortness of breath
- Severe itching, blisters, oozing sores and peeling skin.
- If you or your relatives feel that you are changed, confused or that consciousness is affected.
- Headache, unusual fatigue, pain behind the eyes and visual disturbances.
- Dark foamy urine or very cloudy urine.
- Severe muscle or joint pain or an effect on strength or feeling in the arms and legs
- Yellow skin color

Contact your clinic before vaccination

If you need to be vaccinated, talk to your doctor or nurse beforehand.

Common advice

It is important not to get pregnant or make someone pregnant while you are being treated with cancer drugs, as the drugs can affect the foetus. Therefore, use safe contraceptives. Sometimes double protection is needed, as side effects such as diarrhoea or the direct effect of cancer drugs may mean that the contraceptive pill is not enough protection on its own.

General information about cancer

Useful information about cancer is available from both 1177 Vårdguiden and Cancerfonden:

www.1177.se

www.cancerfonden.se