Rituximab veckovis

for Haematological malignancy

Regimen schedule

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

Next course of treatment, day 29

Day	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Rituximab	X						

About your treatment

Rituximb is an antibody that inhibits the growth of cancer cells.

Each course is 28 days. On days 1, 8, 15 and 22, you will be given an IV. After that, there is a break of 6 days, before a new course starts.

During treatment, your blood tests and any side effects will be monitored.

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. Side effects may determine your dose or require you to stop taking the medicine.

Tell your doctor or nurse if you have any side effects. Often the symptoms can be prevented or alleviated.

Nausea and taste changes

There is a risk that the treatment will make you feel unwell. If necessary, you will be given anti-nausea medication.

Tips: Sometimes it feels better to eat lighter food and small portions. For example, try skim milk, yoghurt, omelettes, sandwiches and hot or cold soups. Drinking a little extra between meals can reduce nausea.

Skin problems

You may experience itching and a rash.

Tip: When washing your skin, be gentle and use mild soap. Lubricate with moisturiser.

Problems with the heart

The treatment carries a certain risk of cardiac effects. You may experience symptoms such as an unusual heart rhythm or palpitations.

Contact your clinic immediately at:

- fever over 38 degrees or if your temperature drops below 36 degrees
- severe diarrhoea, or diarrhoea combined with fever
- sudden deterioration, regardless of symptoms
- chest pain or difficulty breathing, call 112

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