

# Ramucirumab

**Care Team Contact Information:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pharmacy Contact Information:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Diagnosis:** \_\_\_\_\_

- This treatment is often used for:
  - A type of liver cancer called hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)
  - Cancer of the stomach (gastric cancer) or cancer located where the esophagus joins the stomach (gastroesophageal junction (GEJ) cancer)
  - Colon or rectal (colorectal) cancer (CRC)
  - Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)
- It may also be used for other reasons.

**Goal of Treatment:** \_\_\_\_\_

- Treatment may continue for a certain time period, until it no longer works, or until side effects are no longer controlled.

## Treatment Regimen

| Treatment Name   | How the Treatment Works  | How the Treatment is Given                           |
|--|--|--|
| Ramucirumab (RA-myoo-SIR-yoo-mab):<br>Cyramza (sy-RAM-zuh) | Slows down or stops cancer growth by blocking the blood vessels that tumors need to get the nutrients and oxygen they require. | Infusion into a vein<br>(intravenous (IV) infusion). |

## Treatment Administration and Schedule

- Treatment is typically repeated every 2, 3, or 4 weeks. This length of time is called a “cycle”.
- Ramucirumab is often given in combination with other treatments. Talk with your care team about your exact treatment and schedule.

**Option #1: 2-Week Cycle**

- Ramucirumab is given on Day 1.

| Treatment Name | Cycle 1 |       |       |       |       |       |     |        | Next Cycle |
|----------------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|--------|------------|
|                | Day 1   | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | Day 5 | Day 6 | ... | Day 14 | Day 1      |
| Ramucirumab    | ✓       |       |       |       |       |       |     |        | ✓          |

Treatment Administration and Schedule (Continued)

Option #2: 3-Week Cycle

- Ramucirumab is given on Day 1.

| Treatment Name | Cycle 1 |       |       |       |       |       |     |        | Next Cycle |
|----------------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|--------|------------|
|                | Day 1   | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | Day 5 | Day 6 | ... | Day 21 | Day 1      |
| Ramucirumab    | ✓       |       |       |       |       |       |     |        | ✓          |

Option #3: 4-Week Cycle

- Ramucirumab is given on Days 1 and 15.

| Treatment Name | Cycle 1 |       |       |       |     |        |     |        | Next Cycle |
|----------------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-----|--------|-----|--------|------------|
|                | Day 1   | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | ... | Day 15 | ... | Day 28 | Day 1      |
| Ramucirumab    | ✓       |       |       |       |     | ✓      |     |        | ✓          |

Appointments

Appointments may include regular check-ups with your care team, treatment appointments, lab visits, and imaging tests. It's important to keep your appointments whenever you can. If you miss any appointments, call your care provider as soon as possible to reschedule your appointment.

Supportive Care to Prevent and Treat Side Effects

| Description  | Supportive Care Given at the Clinic or Hospital | Supportive Care Taken at Home |
|--|---|-------------------------------|
| To help lower the risk of infusion-related reactions | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>                               | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>             |
| Other  | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>                               | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>             |

Common Side Effects

| Side Effect   | Important Information   |
|---|---|
| <p>Low White Blood Cell (WBC) Count (Neutropenia) and Increased Risk of Infection</p> | <p>Description: WBCs help protect your body from infections. A low WBC count increases your risk of infection.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wash your hands often and bathe regularly.</li> <li>• Avoid crowded places and close contact with people who are sick.</li> <li>• Follow food safety and wound care advice from your care team.</li> <li>• Your care team may prescribe medicine to help your WBCs recover.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher</li> <li>• Chills</li> <li>• New or worsening cough or sore throat</li> <li>• Painful urination or signs of a urinary infection</li> <li>• Feeling much more tired than usual</li> <li>• Red, swollen, warm, or painful areas on the skin (possible skin infection)</li> </ul>   |
| <p>Low Platelet Count (Thrombocytopenia)</p>  | <p>Description: Platelets help your blood clot and wounds heal. A low platelet count increases your risk of bruising and bleeding.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blow your nose gently and avoid picking it.</li> <li>• Brush your teeth gently with a soft toothbrush and keep good oral hygiene.</li> <li>• Use an electric razor for shaving and a nail file instead of nail clippers.</li> <li>• Avoid over-the-counter medicines that can increase bleeding risk (for example, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) like ibuprofen).</li> <li>• Talk with your care team or dentist before medical or dental procedures — you may need to pause treatment.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A nosebleed lasting more than 5 minutes despite pressure</li> <li>• A cut that continues to bleed</li> <li>• Heavy gum bleeding when brushing or flossing</li> <li>• Sudden or severe headache</li> <li>• Blood in your urine or stool</li> <li>• Blood in your spit after coughing</li> </ul> |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>Fatigue</p>                            | <p>Description: Fatigue is a constant and sometimes strong feeling of tiredness.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Routine exercise can help reduce fatigue. Talk with your care team to find the right type and amount of activity for you.</li> <li>• Ask family and friends for help with daily tasks and for emotional support.</li> <li>• Try healthy ways to feel better, such as meditation, journaling, yoga, or guided imagery, to reduce anxiety and improve well-being.</li> <li>• Aim for 7 to 8 hours of sleep each night. Limit daytime naps to help you sleep better at night.</li> <li>• Do not drive, operate heavy machinery, or do other potentially dangerous activities if you are very tired.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tiredness that affects your daily life or prevents you from doing normal activities</li> <li>• Tiredness that does not get better with rest</li> <li>• Dizziness or weakness along with severe tiredness</li> </ul> |
| <p>High Blood Pressure (Hypertension)</p> | <p>Description: High blood pressure means the force of blood against your artery walls is too high. Treatment can raise your blood pressure or make it harder to control.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercise regularly, maintain a healthy weight, and limit alcohol and salt (sodium).</li> <li>• Take blood pressure medicines as prescribed. Your care team may change your medicines if needed.</li> <li>• Your care team may ask you to check and record your blood pressure at home. Bring readings to appointments.</li> <li>• Follow diet and lifestyle advice from your care team.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe or new headaches</li> <li>• Dizziness or lightheadedness</li> <li>• Blurred vision</li> <li>• Trouble breathing</li> <li>• Nosebleeds that do not stop</li> <li>• A pounding sensation in your chest, neck, or ears</li> <li>• Irregular or fast heartbeats</li> <li>• Chest pain or pressure</li> </ul>                     |

|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <p>Swelling (Edema)</p>              | <p>Description: Swelling and fluid retention can occur in different areas of the body, like the legs or hands. You might notice areas feel puffy or tighter than usual.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep a daily log of swelling and note any changes in size or location.</li> <li>• Elevate swollen limbs when resting.</li> <li>• Limit salt intake.</li> <li>• Stay active with regular, gentle exercises.</li> <li>• Avoid prolonged periods of sitting or standing without movement.</li> </ul> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swelling that suddenly worsens or spreads to other areas</li> <li>• Pain, redness, or warmth in the affected area</li> <li>• Signs of shortness of breath or difficulty breathing</li> <li>• Swelling is persistent and does not improve with home management</li> <li>• Unexpected weight gain</li> </ul> <p>Note: Your care team may ask you to contact them if your weight increases by a certain amount over a certain time period.</p> |
| <p>Stomach-Area (Abdominal) Pain</p> | <p>Description: Abdominal pain is when you feel discomfort or pain in the belly area.</p> <p>Talk to your care team if you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe abdominal pain</li> </ul>   |

Select Rare Side Effects

| Side Effect   | Talk to Your Care Team if You Have Any of These Signs or Symptoms   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Severe Bleeding (Hemorrhage)  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vomiting blood or if your vomit looks like coffee grounds</li> <li>• Pink or brown urine</li> <li>• Red or black (looks like tar) stools</li> <li>• Coughing up blood or blood clots</li> <li>• Menstrual bleeding that is heavier than normal</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unusual vaginal bleeding</li> <li>• Nosebleeds that happen often</li> <li>• Bruising</li> <li>• Lightheadedness</li> </ul>                                  |
| Blood Clots or Blockage (Thrombosis) in Your Blood Vessels (Arteries) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chest pain or pressure</li> <li>• Swelling or pain in your arms, back, neck, or jaw</li> <li>• Shortness of breath</li> <li>• Numbness or weakness on one side of your body</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trouble talking</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Vision changes</li> </ul>  |
| A Tear in Your Stomach or Intestinal Wall (Perforation)               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe pain or tenderness in your stomach area (abdomen)</li> <li>• Swelling of the abdomen</li> <li>• Fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher</li> <li>• Chills</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nausea</li> <li>• Vomiting</li> <li>• Signs of dehydration (very thirsty, dry mouth, dizziness, or dark urine)</li> </ul>                                   |
| Liver Problems  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yellowing of your skin or the white part of your eyes (jaundice)</li> <li>• Severe nausea or vomiting</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pain on the right side of your stomach area (abdomen)</li> <li>• Dark, tea-colored urine</li> <li>• Bleeding or bruising more easily than normal</li> </ul> |
| Protein in Your Urine and Possible Kidney Problems                    | <p>Your care team may check your urine for protein before and during treatment. They may adjust or stop your treatment if protein is found.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swelling in your hands, arms, legs, or feet</li> </ul>   |  |
| Changes in Thyroid Function   | <p>Ramucirumab can cause the thyroid gland to not make enough thyroid hormones that the body needs (hypothyroidism).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fatigue</li> <li>• Weight gain</li> <li>• A puffy face</li> <li>• Being cold all of the time</li> <li>• Constipation</li> <li>• Dry skin</li> <li>• Thinning, dry hair</li> <li>• Decreased sweating</li> <li>• Depression</li> </ul> |  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>Posterior Reversible Encephalopathy Syndrome (PRES)</p> | <p>A neurologic condition called PRES can happen during treatment with ramucirumab.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe headache</li> <li>• Confusion</li> <li>• Weakness</li> <li>• Seizures</li> <li>• Blindness or change in vision</li> </ul>   |
| <p>Infusion-Related Reactions</p>                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chills or shaking</li> <li>• Itching, rash, or flushing</li> <li>• Trouble breathing, wheezing, or tongue swelling</li> <li>• Dizziness or feeling faint</li> <li>• Feeling of impending doom</li> <li>• Fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher</li> <li>• New or severe pain in your back or neck</li> </ul> |

**Before starting treatment, ask your care team when to call 9-1-1 or seek emergency help.  
If you experience any new, worsening, or uncontrolled side effects, contact your care team immediately.**

**Intimacy, Fertility, Pregnancy, and Breastfeeding**

- Treatment may **change how you feel about intimacy and your body**. However, physical closeness—such as holding hands and hugging—remains safe. It is common to have questions about intimacy. If needed, talk to your care team for guidance.
- Treatment can affect your **ability to have children**. It may damage your reproductive organs or stop them from working. If you are worried about fertility, talk to your care team before starting treatment.
- Treatment may **harm an unborn baby**.
  - If you are able to become pregnant:
    - Take a pregnancy test before starting treatment.
    - Use an effective method of birth control during treatment and for 3 months after your last dose of ramucirumab.
    - If you think you might be pregnant or if you become pregnant, tell your care team right away.
  - If your partner is able to become pregnant, use an effective method of birth control—such as condoms—during treatment with ramucirumab.
- **Do NOT breastfeed** during treatment and for 2 months after your last dose of ramucirumab.

## Additional Information

- **Tell your care team about all the medicines you take.**  
This includes prescriptions, over-the-counter drugs, vitamins, and herbal products. Before starting any new medicine, supplement, or vaccine, ask your care team first.
- **Wound healing problems.** Wounds may not heal properly during ramucirumab treatment. Tell your care team if you plan to have any surgery before starting or during treatment with ramucirumab.
  - You should not receive ramucirumab for at least 28 days before planned surgery.
  - Your care team should tell you when you may start receiving ramucirumab again after surgery.
- **This Patient Education Sheet may not describe all possible side effects.**  
Call your care team for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

## Notes

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Scan the QR code below to access this education sheet.



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PES-213