

Abatacept

Care Team Contact Information: _____

Pharmacy Contact Information: _____

Diagnosis: _____

- This treatment is used for the prevention of graft-versus-host disease (GVHD).
- 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
Abatacept (ab-a-TA-sept): Orencia (ur-EN-see-uh)	Prevents donor immune cells (T-cells) from attacking your body.	Infusion into a vein (intravenous (IV) infusion).

Treatment Administration and Schedule

Treatment is typically given the day prior to transplant (Day -1), Day 5, Day 14, and Day 28 post-transplant.

Treatment Name	Days								
	Day -1	Day 0	Day 1	...	Day 5	...	Day 14	...	Day 28
Abatacept	✓				✓		✓		✓

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 an appointment, call your care team as soon as possible to reschedule it.

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 infections		
To help lower the risk of infusion-related reactions		
Other		

Common Side Effects

Side Effect	Important Information
Low Red Blood Cell (RBC) Count and Hemoglobin (Hgb) (Anemia)	Description: RBCs and Hgb carry oxygen to your body's tissues and remove carbon dioxide. Low RBC or Hgb (anemia) can make you feel weak or very tired, or may make you look pale. Recommendations: • Aim for 7 to 8 hours of sleep each night. • Do not drive, operate heavy machinery, or do other dangerous activities if you are very tired. • Balance activity and rest — stay as active as you can, but rest when needed. • Eat a balanced diet and follow any nutrition or supplement advice from your care team. Talk to your care team if you have: • Shortness of breath • Dizziness or fainting • Fast or irregular heartbeats • Sudden or severe headache
Infections	Description: Treatment may increase your chance of getting an infection. Your care team may perform a purified protein derivative (PPD) test before you start treatment to rule out tuberculosis (TB). Recommendations: • Wash your hands often and bathe regularly. • Avoid crowded places and close contact with people who are sick. • Keep any catheter/port site clean and dry. Follow all instructions provided by your care team. Talk to your care team if you have: • Fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher • Chills • New or worsening cough or sore throat • Painful urination or signs of a urinary infection • Feeling much more tired than usual • Red, swollen, warm, or painful areas on the skin (possible skin infection)
High Blood Pressure (Hypertension)	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. Recommendations: • Exercise regularly, control your weight, and limit alcohol and salt (sodium). • Take blood pressure medicines as prescribed. Your care team may change your medicines if needed. • Your care team may ask you to check and record your blood pressure at home. Bring readings to appointments. • Follow diet and lifestyle advice from your care team Talk to your care team if you have: • Severe or new headaches • Dizziness or lightheadedness • Blurred vision • Trouble breathing • Nosebleeds that do not stop • A pounding sensation in your chest, neck, or ears • Irregular or fast heartbeats • Chest pain or pressure

Select Rare Side Effects

Side Effect	Talk to Your Care Team if You Have Any of These Signs or Symptoms
Infusion-Related Reactions	Your care team may slow or temporarily stop the infusion if you have a reaction. Treatment may be permanently stopped for a severe reaction. - Chills or shaking - Itching, rash, or flushing - Trouble breathing, wheezing, or tongue swelling - Dizziness or feeling faint - Feeling of impending doom - Fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher - New or severe pain in your back or neck
Kidney Problems	- Decrease in your amount of urine - Blood in your urine - Swelling of your ankles - Loss of appetite

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, 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 may **harm an unborn baby**.
 - If you are able to become pregnant:
 - Your care team will verify your pregnancy status before treatment.
 - Use an effective method of birth control during treatment with abatacept.
 - 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 abatacept.
- Do not breastfeed** during treatment with abatacept.

- **Tell your care team about all the medicines you take.**

- **Tell your care team about all your health problems.** This includes if you have or have ever had hepatitis B virus (HBV) or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). This treatment may cause HBV to become active again, increase your risk of breathing problems if you have COPD, or increase your risk of certain viral infections or cause them to become active again, including cytomegalovirus (CMV) and Epstein-Barr virus (EBV). Your care team may do blood tests, monitor you during treatment, or give you medicines to help prevent certain infections if needed.

- **This Patient Education Sheet may not describe all possible side effects.**

Notes

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