

Warning

This fact sheet aims to let you know the side effects most commonly seen following the administration of your treatment. Please note that when you take any medication, there is a possibility that it causes rare side effects and it is difficult to predict which patients will be affected.

General Information for Patients

Protocol: TRASTUZUMAB (HERCEPTIN®)

Date: September 2007

Revision: December 2015

MEDICATION	ADMINISTRATION
Trastuzumab	<p>Intravenous infusion according two different schedules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Weekly over 30 minutes*○ Every 3 weeks over 30 minutes if no reaction occurred during the first infusion. <p>*The first infusion is always administered over 90 minutes</p>
<i>Repeat treatments for a total duration of 52 weeks</i>	

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General Information associated with your treatment

- ❑ Trastuzumab is used to prevent the multiplication of abnormal cells and destroy them.
- ❑ A **blood test** will be done prior to every treatment cycle, if necessary.
- ❑ **Alcohol** (in small quantities) is permitted and will not affect the efficacy of the treatments.
- ❑ You may experience **fatigue** during your treatments. This is usually only temporary and may be related to different reasons (medication, stress, and the disease). Maintain a good level of activity but rest when you feel the need to.
- ❑ You can have an **active sexual** life during your treatments.
- ❑ Consult your doctor or pharmacist before you take other medications (even over the counter medications available without a prescription) or natural products. These may provoke an interaction with your treatment and diminish its efficacy or increase side effects.
- ❑ Follow the instructions given by your cancer center about the right way to handle and dispose of biological fluids (for example urine, stools) in order to protect the environment and your relatives.
- ❑ Be sure to always have on hand the complete list of your medications, dietary supplements, vitamins and other natural health products. Give it to your doctor and your pharmacist. It is important to make them aware of any change.

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Adverse Effects and Management

ADVERSE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
Usually there is no hair loss with this treatment. While on treatment with trastuzumab hair will start growing back after the completion of your chemotherapy.	
You may experience allergic reactions with trastuzumab , usually within the first hour of infusion. Fever and chills are relatively frequent during the infusion the first time the drug is given. Nausea, pain, cough, headaches, dizziness, trembling, cutaneous eruptions may also occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notify the nurse if these symptoms occur during the administration of the drug. Medication can be given to alleviate these symptoms.• If you reacted during the first infusion, medications to prevent these symptoms could be administered prior the subsequent infusions.
You may experience shortness of breath, swelling of the ankles and rapid heartbeats. This could be related to some harmful effects of trastuzumab on your heart.	If you notice any one these effects, contact a member of your healthcare team as soon as possible. Furthermore, you will have to do a test to evaluate your heart every 3 months

Pharmacist: _____

Phone: _____

From ____ h to ____ h (Monday to Friday)