

Ofatumumab

Names	<p>The generic name of this drug is ofatumumab (oh fa TOOM yoo mab). The brand name is Arzerra®. There may be other names for this medication.</p>
How is it Administered?	<p>This medicine will be given by infusion (slow injection) into a vein (intravenous or IV). It is usually infused over 6 hours. The infusions are typically given once a week for 8 weeks, then once a month for 4 months.</p>
Why am I Receiving Ofatumumab?	<p>Ofatumumab is a monoclonal antibody therapy used to treat chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL).</p>
How Does it Work?	<p>Ofatumumab is not a traditional chemotherapy medication; it is a type of targeted therapy called a monoclonal antibody. Traditional chemo drugs attack any cells that are reproducing rapidly. This means cancer cells are attacked, but normal cells that reproduce rapidly – such as those that line the digestive tract and hair follicles - are also attacked. Ofatumumab works with your immune system. When your body detects an antigen (a toxin or other foreign substance), some cells in your immune system, called B cells, create antibodies. Antibodies attach to the antigen like a lock fits a key. When the antibody attaches to the antigen, it signals other immune cells to come and destroy the antigen. Ofatumumab targets an antigen called CD20, which is found on both normal and cancerous B cells. Immature stem cells are not attacked because they don't have the CD20 antigen. These stem cells can mature into healthy B cells after treatment.</p>
What Should I Tell My Doctor Before I Begin?	<p>Tell your doctor if you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• are allergic to ofatumumab or have any allergies• have or have ever had hepatitis B or COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease – conditions that affect your lungs and airways)• are pregnant or breastfeeding <p>This drug may interact with other medications or cause harmful side effects. Tell your doctor/pharmacist about <u>all</u> prescription or over-the-counter medications, vitamins, herbal, or supplements you take.</p>

What Are Some
Possible Side Effects?

- Infection
- Low blood counts – low levels of white blood cells, red blood cells, and/or platelets may increase your risk for infection, anemia and/or bleeding
- Infusion reaction, typically during or within 2 hours of first infusion (We will give you medication before the infusion to decrease this reaction and monitor you carefully during the infusion. If you have a reaction, we'll stop the infusion and treat you. In most cases, the infusion can be restarted at a slower rate once symptoms subside.)

Less common

- Diarrhea
- Fatigue, headache, difficulty sleeping
- Fever
- Nausea
- Shortness of breath (trouble breathing)
- Cold symptoms such as stuffy or runny nose; Upper respiratory infection such as pneumonia or bronchitis
- Rash
- Muscle spasms

How Can I Manage
These Side Effects?

- Drink 2-3 quarts of fluid, especially water, every day unless your doctor limits your fluids.
- To help avoid infections, stay away from crowds or people with colds, flu, or other infections. Talk to your doctor before you have any vaccinations. Wash your hands often.
- To help prevent bleeding problems, be careful when handling sharp objects. Avoid rough sports or other situations where you could be bruised or injured. Use an electric razor.
- If you are fatigued, take rests during the day, and limit your activities to the time of day when you have the most energy. Learn to ask for and accept help with household chores.
- Small, frequent meals may help with nausea. Avoid spicy, fatty, and fried foods. Ask your doctor or nurse about medication to help prevent or lessen nausea and diarrhea.
- Acetaminophen (Tylenol®) or ibuprofen (Advil®) may help with fever, headache, and aches and pains but talk with your doctor before taking it.
- Get plenty of rest and maintain good nutrition.

- Check with your doctor before using any over-the-counter or herbal products for any symptoms or side effects.
- Avoid exposing your skin to the sun. Wear sun block with SPF 30, long sleeve shirts, long pants, and a brimmed hat.
- If you get a rash, keep the area clean and dry and check with your doctor before using any creams or ointments on the area. Keep the area around the rash clean and dry.

When Should I Call the Doctor?

Go to the ER or call 911 immediately if you have signs of a severe allergic reaction such as trouble breathing; swelling in your throat, tongue or face; chest tightness/pain; dizziness; heart palpitations

Call your doctor immediately if you have:

- any sign of infection: fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher, chills, cough, sore throat, pain or burning upon urination; redness or tenderness along a vein, at an IV site, or at any other wound
- difficulty breathing when lying down or have excessive coughing
- confusion

Call your doctor as soon as possible if you have:

- diarrhea of 5-6 stools in 1 day or diarrhea with weakness
- nausea, or headache not relieved by prescribed medication or that prevents you from eating or drinking
- rash that is bothersome

What Else Should I Know About Ofatumumab?

- This drug may harm an unborn child. Both men and women should use effective birth control during treatment. Barrier methods, such as condoms, are recommended. Talk to your doctor about when it may be safe to have a child after treatment ends.
- Do not breastfeed during treatment or for 6 months afterwards.
- If you are having any surgery, including dental surgery, tell your doctor or dentist you are taking ofatumumab.
- You may have drowsiness or dizziness – do not drive or engage in activities that require you to be alert until you know how you respond to this medication.
- In general, drinking alcoholic beverages should be avoided. You should discuss this with your doctor.
- If you would like more information about this medication, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.