

## Starting a biologic infusion: questions for your specialist

For starting infusion therapy for autoimmune conditions — Crohn's / IBD (Remicade, Entyvio), MS (Ocrevus, Tysabri), RA / lupus (Rituxan, Benlysta, Saphnelo, Orencia), and similar. *The questions are similar across regimens; the answers vary by drug.*

### ABOUT THIS DRUG

1. What is the specific drug you're recommending, and what does it do?

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2. Why this one for me rather than alternatives (other biologics, oral medications, steroids)?

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3. How does it work for my condition specifically?

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4. How quickly should I expect to feel a difference?

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5. What measurable outcomes are we aiming for (lab values, symptom scores, scans)?

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### SCHEDULE AND LOGISTICS

1. How often will I get infusions, and how long is each?

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2. Do I need a port, or will peripheral IV work?

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3. What pre-medications will I need on infusion days?

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4. Where will my infusions take place — clinic, home, hospital?

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5. Is home infusion an option, and is it covered by insurance?

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### SIDE EFFECTS AND REACTIONS

1. What side effects are most common, and how are they managed?

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2. What does an infusion reaction look like, and what's the response?

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3. Are there long-term risks I should know about (cancer, infections, immunosuppression)?

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4. What signs would mean I should call you sooner rather than later?

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### LIVING WITH INFUSION THERAPY

1. Should I get any vaccines before starting? Any I should avoid afterward?

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2. Can I work the day of infusion? The day after?

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3. Can I travel with the schedule? Plan pregnancy?

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4. How long will I be on this drug? Forever, or with a defined endpoint?

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5. What if it stops working — what's next?

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## COST AND INSURANCE

1. Will my insurance cover this, and what's the prior authorization process?

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2. What's my out-of-pocket cost per infusion?

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3. Is there a patient assistance program from the manufacturer?

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4. What's the plan if insurance changes or denies coverage?

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*This sheet is for inspiration only. Always consult your medical team for guidance specific to your situation. Inspired Comforts is not a medical provider.*

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