

Questions to ask your doctor:

Questions about your diagnosis

What kind of cancer do I have?

What stage is my cancer and how does it affect my treatment options?

What are my treatment options?

How long will I need to stay on these treatments?

How will I know this treatment is working?

What are the chances my cancer will come back after treatment?

How will MabThera help me?

How do I get MabThera if it is not available in a public hospital?

Who can I talk to regarding funding/health insurance to help me pay for MabThera?

How long will I need to be on MabThera?

How will I know if the treatment is working?

NOTES:

MabThera NHL and CLL Consumer Panel

MabThera[®] (rituximab), 100 mg in 10 mL and 500 mg in 50 mL concentrate for solution for infusion, is a **Prescription Medicine** used to treat non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL) and chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL).

Do not use MabThera if: you have had an allergic reaction to MabThera or any of the ingredients, or to proteins of mouse origin..

Tell your doctor if: you are pregnant or breastfeeding or plan to become pregnant or breast-feed; you are taking medication to control blood pressure; you have any disorders or conditions affecting your lungs; you have a history of heart disease, certain blood disorders (e.g. low white blood cells or low platelets), or hepatitis B; you have an infection, or a history of a recurring or long-term infection; you intend to have or recently had immunisation with any vaccine; you are allergic to any other medicines, foods, dyes or preservatives.

Tell your doctor immediately or go to your nearest Accident and Emergency Centre if you notice any of the following: infections with fever, severe chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers; severe skin rash, itching or hives; swelling of the face, lips, mouth or throat which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing, swelling of the hands, feet or ankles; severe shortness of breath, severe difficulty breathing, severe wheezing, severe coughing; numbness of the face; severe vision or hearing loss; vision loss associated with headaches, confusion and seizures; confusion, disorientation or memory loss, changes in the way you move walk or talk, decreased strength or progressive weakness in your body, blurred or loss of vision; severe stomach pain, nausea or vomiting; yellowing of skin and eyes, light coloured bowel motions or dark coloured urine. **Possible common side effects may also include:** dizziness; insomnia, agitation, feeling anxious; tiredness, headaches, being short of breath when exercising, dizziness and looking pale; general pain, stomach, chest, back and/or neck pain; aching, weak, tender or stiff muscles; painful, swollen joints; indigestion, constipation, diarrhoea; difficulty swallowing; loss of appetite, weight loss; cough; sweating or night sweats; tingling, numbness of feet and hands or decreased sensitivity; bleeding or bruising more easily than normal; symptoms of high sugar levels in the blood (such as passing large amounts of urine, excessive thirst, dry mouth and/or skin); high blood pressure; fast and/or irregular heart beat; throat irritation, mouth ulcers; watering or itching eyes, pain or buzzing/ringing in the ears; infections.

MabThera has risks and benefits. Ask your doctor if MabThera is right for you. Use strictly as directed. If symptoms continue or you have side effects, see your healthcare professional. For further information on MabThera, please talk to your health professional or visit www.medsafe.govt.nz for MabThera Consumer Medicine Information.

MabThera is a funded medicine for patients with NHL and CLL who meet pre-defined criteria. MabThera is not funded for maintenance treatment. A prescription charge and normal doctor's fees may apply.

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