

Medication Information Sheet

atezolizumab (A-teh-zoh-LIZ-yoo-mab)

This document provides general information about your medication. It does not replace the advice of your health care professional. Always discuss your therapy with your health care professional and refer to the package insert for more details.

Other Name: Tecentriq™

Appearance: clear colourless or slightly yellow liquid solution mixed into larger bags of fluids

What is this medication for?

- For treating a certain type of bladder cancer called urothelial carcinoma or a type of lung cancer called Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC).
- Atezolizumab is an immune therapy drug. For more information on immune therapy, click [here](#).

What should I do before I have this medication?

Tell your doctor and pharmacist if you have or had any major medical condition(s) such as:

- an organ transplant,
- immune conditions (such as thyroid problems, ulcerative colitis or Crohn's, rheumatoid arthritis or lupus),
- liver, kidney, heart or lung problems,
- active infections,
- any allergies, or
- if you are taking corticosteroids (such as prednisone)

How will this medication affect sex, pregnancy and breastfeeding?

- The use of this medication in men or women may cause harm to the unborn baby if pregnancy occurs. Let your health care team know if you or your partner is pregnant, becomes pregnant during treatment, or if you are breastfeeding
- If there is **any chance** that you or your partner may become pregnant, you and your partner together must:
 - ► **Use 2 effective forms of birth control at the same time** while taking this drug. Keep using birth control for at least **5 months** after your last dose unless your health care team told you differently. Talk to your health care team to figure out the best method(s) for you and/or your partner.

- Do not breastfeed while using this drug.
- This medication may affect fertility (ability to get pregnant)

How is this medication given?

- This drug is given by injection into a vein.

What else do I need to know while on this medication?

- Although it is unlikely that other medications can affect your treatment, make sure your health care team knows about all of your medicines (prescription or over-the-counter medications, herbals and supplements). Check with your health care team before starting or stopping any of them.
- For mild aches and pain:
 - You may take acetaminophen (Tylenol®) tablets. Ask your health care team about the right dose for you.
 - Ibuprofen (Advil®, Motrin®), naproxen (Aleve®) or aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid, ASA), including low dose aspirin for heart conditions, may increase your chance of bleeding.
 - Talk to your health care team before you start or stop these medications.
 - If you feel unwell, take your temperature before taking any of these medications. They may hide a fever.
 - **Talk to your health care team or go to the closest emergency room right away if you have a fever.** See the [Fever](#) pamphlet for more information.
- Drinking alcohol and smoking during your treatment may increase some side effects and make your medication less effective. Speak to your health care team about smoking and drinking alcohol while on treatment.

What are the side effects of this medication?

- Atezolizumab makes your immune system work harder. Your immune system is what fights infections and your cancer.
- When your immune system is working harder, you may have side effects in your bowels, liver, lungs, skin, hormones and other organs.
- These side effects may be mild or may become serious or life-threatening in rare cases.
- They may happen during your treatment or weeks to months after your treatment ends.
- You may need urgent treatment (such as a corticosteroid for up to 4 weeks) to treat these side effects.

Side effects and what to do	When to contact doctor?
Common Side Effects (25 to 49 out of 100 people)	
<p>Fatigue (tiredness)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be active and aim to get 30 minutes of moderate exercise (you are able to talk comfortably while exercising) on most days. Check with your health care team before starting any new exercise. • Pace yourself, do not rush. Put off less important activities. Rest when you need to. • Eat well and stay hydrated by drinking at least 6 to 8 glasses of water or other liquids every day (unless your doctor told you to drink more or less). • Avoid driving or using machinery if you are feeling tired <p>See our Fatigue pamphlet for more information.</p>	Talk to your health care team if no improvement or if severe

Side effects and what to do	When to contact doctor?
Less Common Side Effects (10 to 24 out of 100 people)	
<p>Low appetite</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may not feel like eating or you may lose weight. • Try to eat foods that you like and eat small meals throughout the day. • You may need to take meal supplements to help keep your weight up. • Talk to your health care team if you have a low appetite. • See our Loss of appetite pamphlet for more information. 	Talk your health care team if no improvement or if severe
<p>Short of breath, difficulty breathing</p> <p>May be severe in rare cases with coughing up blood</p>	Get emergency medical help right away
<p>Nausea and vomiting (generally mild)</p> <p>May occur in hours to days after your treatment.</p> <p>If you have nausea or vomiting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take anti-nausea medication(s) as prescribed to you by your doctor. • Drink clear liquids and have small meals. Get fresh air and rest. • Do not eat spicy, fried foods or foods with a strong smell. • Limit caffeine (e.g. coffee, tea) and alcohol. • Contact your health care team if the prescribed anti-nausea medications are not helping to control your nausea and vomiting. 	Talk to your healthcare team if nausea lasts more than 48 hours or vomiting lasts more than 24 hours

Side effects and what to do	When to contact doctor?
Less Common Side Effects (10 to 24 out of 100 people)	
Also see Nausea & Vomiting pamphlet for more information.	
<p>Constipation</p> <p>To help prevent constipation :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink more liquids and eat well. Drink at least 6 to 8 cups of liquids each day unless you have been told otherwise. • Be Active. Exercise can help to keep you regular. • Try to eat more fiber (e.g. fruits with skin, leafy greens and whole grains). If you take opioid pain medication, ask your health care team if eating more fibre is right for you. <p>To help treat constipation :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have not had a bowel movement in 2 to 3 days you may need to take a laxative. Ask your health care team what to do. <p>See the Constipation Pamphlet for more information.</p>	Talk to your health care team if no improvement or if severe
<p>Flu-like symptoms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may have fever, chills and muscle pain without any signs of infection, such as a sore throat, cough or skin rash. • It may happen at any time after you receive your treatment and it usually goes away as your body gets used to the medication. • Contact your health care team if these feelings bother you. • Check your temperature to make sure you don't have a fever. If you do not have a fever, you may take acetaminophen (Tylenol®) tablets to help you feel better. Ask your health care team for the correct dose for you. If you do have a fever, speak to your health care team or go to the nearest emergency room. 	Talk to your health care team if no improvement or if severe
<p>Rash; dry, itchy skin</p> <p>Rash may be severe in some rare cases and cause your skin to blister or peel. If this happens, get emergency medical help right away.</p> <p>To prevent and treat dry skin,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use skin moisturizer. • Protect your skin from the sun and the cold. • Use sunscreen with UVA and UVB protection and a SPF of at least 30. <p>In rare cases, rash may be severe</p>	<p>Talk to your health care team if no improvement or if severe</p> <p>Talk to your health care team or get</p>

Side effects and what to do	When to contact doctor?
Less Common Side Effects (10 to 24 out of 100 people)	
<p>If the rash covers more than a third of your skin (for example your whole trunk or an arm AND a leg) or your skin blisters.</p>	<p>emergency medical help right away.</p>
<p>Diarrhea</p> <p>May happen days to weeks after you get your treatment.</p> <p>If you have diarrhea :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take anti-diarrhea medication if your health care team prescribed it. • Avoid foods or drinks with artificial sweetener (e.g. chewing gum, “diet” drinks), coffee and alcohol. • Eat many small meals and snacks instead of 2 or 3 large meals. • Drink at least 6 to 8 cups of liquids each day. Talk to your health care team if you can’t drink 6-8 cups of liquids each day when you have diarrhea. You may need special liquids with salt and sugar, called Oral Rehydration Therapy. <p>See the Diarrhea pamphlet for more information.</p> <p>In rare cases, may be severe due to inflammation of intestines</p> <p>If you have blood in your stool or 4 to 6 bowel movements a day (if that is not normal for you)</p>	<p>Talk to your health care team if no improvement or if severe</p> <p>Talk to your health care team or get emergency medical help right away.</p>
<p>Unusual bleeding or bruising</p> <p>You may have black stools, cough up blood, blood in your urine, purple or red dots on your skin or bleeding that will not stop. This is rare.</p> <p>Fever, chills, infection</p> <p>You have a fever if your temperature taken in your mouth (oral temperature) is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38.3°C (100.9°F) or higher at any time OR • 38.0°C (or 100.4°F) or higher for at least one hour. <p>While you are getting chemotherapy treatments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep a digital thermometer at home and take your temperature if you feel hot or unwell (for example, chills). • Avoid taking medications that treat a fever before you take your temperature (for example, Tylenol®, acetaminophen, Advil® or ibuprofen) as they may hide a fever. • Do not eat or drink anything hot or cold right before taking your 	<p>Get emergency medical help right away</p>

Side effects and what to do	When to contact doctor?
Less Common Side Effects (10 to 24 out of 100 people)	
temperature. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash your hands often. • Check with your doctor before getting any vaccines, surgeries, medical procedures or visiting your dentist. <p>If you have a fever, talk to your health care team or go to the closest emergency room. See our Neutropenia (Low white blood cell count) pamphlet for more information.</p>	
<p>Mild joint, muscle pain or cramps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take your pain medication as prescribed by your doctor. • You can take acetaminophen (Tylenol®) tablets as needed for mild aches and pains. Ask your doctor or pharmacist about the right dose for you. • Talk to your doctor or pharmacist first before taking ibuprofen (Advil®, Motrin®), naproxen (Aleve®) or aspirin. These medication may increase bleeding risk. • Rest often and try light exercise as it may help. 	Talk to your health care team if no improvement or if severe

Other rare, but serious side effects are possible and have been described with atezolizumab or other similar medications.

If you experience ANY of the following, speak to your cancer health care provider or get emergency medical help right away:

- yellow skin, eyes or dark urine
- muscle weakness or difficulty moving your arms or legs
- numbness or tingling in your arms or legs
- unexpected changes in your weight
- headache or dizziness (when sitting or standing up)
- lower than normal blood pressure (if you measure this at home)
- shortness of breath or coughing up blood
- pain in your chest or stomach (may extend to your back)
- problems with your vision, eye pain and redness
- unable to pee or swelling of your legs
- peeing more than normal and feeling very thirsty
- fainting, irregular or rapid heartbeat
- bleeding or bruising
- signs of an allergy such as fever, itchiness, rash, swollen lips, face or tongue, chest and throat tightness

For more links on how to manage your symptoms go to www.cancercareontario.ca/symptoms.

The information set out in the medication information sheets, regimen information sheets, and symptom management information (for patients) contained in the Drug Formulary (the "Formulary") is intended to be used by health professionals and patients for informational purposes only. The information is not intended to cover all possible uses, directions, precautions, drug interactions or side effects of a certain drug, nor should it be used to indicate that use of a particular drug is safe, appropriate or effective for a given condition.

A patient should always consult a healthcare provider if he/she has any questions regarding the information set out in the Formulary. The information in the Formulary is not intended to act as or replace medical advice and should not be relied upon in any such regard. All uses of the Formulary are subject to clinical judgment and actual prescribing patterns may not follow the information provided in the Formulary.