

What is Dinutuximab?

Dinutuximab, also referred to as Chimeric 14.18, is an anti-cancer agent used in the treatment of neuroblastoma.

How does it work?

Dinutuximab is a monoclonal antibody designed specifically to bind to glycolipid GD2 cell receptors, a target present on neuroblastoma cells. When dinutuximab attaches to neuroblastoma cells, the body's immune system is stimulated to attack and kill the neuroblastoma cells. Dinutuximab is a kind of cancer therapy called immunotherapy which targets the cancer cells without destroying nearby healthy cells.

How is it given?

Dinutuximab is given as an intravenous (IV) infusion over 10 to 20 hours.

Special instructions:

- Dinutuximab is given cyclically in combination with other medications, sargramostim or aldeslukin, to enhance its effect to attack neuroblastoma cells.
- Pain is one of the most common side effects of dinutuximab. It presents mainly as nerve pain, and causes tummy cramps, limb or back pain. To manage the pain, you will be prescribed pain medications such as morphine and gabapentin while you are receiving dinutuximab.

Possible Side Effects:

Listed below, but not limited to, are the more commonly experienced side effects that you may see. The side effects your child might experience may be temporary and some may be permanent.

Likely Happens to 21-100 children out of every 100	Less Likely Happens to 5-20 children out of every 100	Rare but serious Happens to <5 children out of every 100
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fever ▪ Pain ▪ Cough ▪ Rash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anemia which may cause tiredness, or may require blood transfusion ▪ Blood clot ▪ Abnormal heartbeat ▪ Diarrhea, nausea, vomiting ▪ Swelling of arms, legs ▪ Allergic reaction which may cause rash, low blood pressure, wheezing, shortness of breath, swelling of the face or throat ▪ Infection ▪ Bruising, bleeding ▪ Loss of appetite ▪ Numbness, tingling or pain of the arms and legs ▪ Difficulty emptying the bladder, which may require catheterization during therapy, and in rare cases catheterization may be required after discharge from the hospital ▪ Shortness of breath ▪ Itching, hives ▪ Fluid in the organs or 'capillary leak syndrome' which may cause low blood pressure, shortness of breath, swelling of ankles ▪ High blood pressure which may cause headaches, dizziness, blurred vision ▪ Low blood pressure which may cause feeling faint ▪ Fewer white and red blood cells and platelets in the blood. A lower number of white blood cells may make it easier to get infections. Fewer red blood cells may make you feel tired and weak. Fewer platelets may cause you to bruise and bleed more easily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anemia, kidney problems which may cause swelling, or may require dialysis ▪ Heart stops beating ▪ Vision changes which may include changes in the pupils of the eye such as optic nerve disorders, drooping upper eye lid and optic disc swelling due to increased pressure in the brain. ▪ Reaction during or following infusion of the drug which may cause fever, chills, rash, low blood pressure

Dinutuximab (Chimeric 14.18)

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Patient/Caregiver Information

This information sheet is a brief overview. Each individual can respond differently to the medication, it is vital that you communicate all signs and symptoms you observe to your doctor or nurse.

If you have any questions about the information provided please discuss them with your oncologist or haematologist.

Further information can be obtained from your doctor, nurse or pharmacist or at the following website:
<http://medsafe.govt.nz/consumers/medicine/where.asp>