

Trastuzumab (Herceptin®)

Trastuzumab (Herceptin®) is a chemotherapy regimen or treatment plan that your doctor prescribed for the treatment of your cancer.

How is this regimen given?

- Trastuzumab (Herceptin®) is given into a vein (IV).
- The first dose is given over 90 minutes, and the following doses are usually given over 30 minutes.
- This chemotherapy can be given in different ways:
 - Every week, every two weeks or every 3 weeks.
- Your time in infusion will be longer than the drug administration times depending on other medications/fluids given.

Are there other medications I will receive with this regimen?

Medications may be given if you have an allergic-type reaction to your treatment.

What side effects can occur with this regimen?

This information does not cover all possible side effects, but highlights the more common side effects. If you experience other side effects not listed within this document, please contact your clinic. Remember, side effects vary from person to person, depending on the situation.

Fertility Concerns

Cancer treatment may affect your fertility. You should discuss any concerns with your physician **Before** beginning treatment.

Possible Side Effects During Infusion	What Can I Do?	When to Alert your Nurse
Infusion/Allergic Reactions		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alert your nurse Immediately if you experience shortness of breath, chills, flushing, sweating, rash, face/throat swelling, itching or dizziness during your infusion.

Common Side Effects	What Can I Do?	When to Call the Clinic
Cardiac Toxicity Possible damage to heart muscle over time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You will have tests periodically to assess your heart function during treatment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. Rapid swelling of your legs. Chest pain (Call 911). Feeling like you have an irregular heartbeat.
Diarrhea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay well-hydrated. Take Loperamide (Imodium®) 4 mg at onset of diarrhea and up to 2 mg every 2 hours until diarrhea-free for 12 hours. Loperamide maximum dosing = 8 mg in 24 hours unless other dosing directed by clinic. Avoid fatty, greasy or spicy foods that may increase diarrhea. Eat smaller more frequent meals/snacks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unable to stay hydrated (not able to drink 8-10 cups of liquid per day) - Contact Immediately Multiple episodes of diarrhea unrelieved by anti-diarrheal medication like Loperamide (if no response in 24 hours of treatment). Waking in the night with diarrhea or more than 4 episodes of diarrhea in 24 hours. Feeling dizzy when standing.
Nausea/Vomiting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay well-hydrated. Use anti-nausea medication prescribed by the clinic. Eat smaller more frequent meals/snacks (avoid an empty stomach). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unable to stay hydrated or hold down fluid (not able to drink 8-10 cups of liquid per day) -Contact Immediately The anti-nausea medication prescribed is not working.

Common Side Effects	What Can I Do?	When to Call the Clinic
Headache	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use an over-the-counter pain medicine as directed by your doctor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headache that will not resolve after 24 hours with over-the-counter medicine.
Dizziness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get up slowly when sitting or lying down. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having difficulty maintaining your balance while walking.

When and How To Call Your Doctor

For Medical Emergencies, Call 911

Monday through Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm Call 1-734_____

After 5pm, weekends and holidays, call the page operator at 1-734-936-6267. Ask to speak to the doctor on call:

- Adult Hematology/Oncology
- Other:_____

When should I call the doctor?

- Any symptom that concerns you or possible side effects linked to your medications, or as directed by your doctor
- A fever of 100.5° Fahrenheit, or greater
- Bleeding or unusual bruising
- Burning and/or pain when urinating
- Constipation (no bowel movement in 2-3 days)
- Diarrhea (loose, watery stools) four or more watery stools in 24 hours
- Nausea, vomiting or if you cannot keep down any liquids
- Pain not controlled by your current medications
- Redness, pain, sores or a white coating in your mouth
- Shaking and chills
- Unusual cough, sore throat, lung congestion or shortness of breath

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by the University of Michigan Health System (UMHS) for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by UMHS and for which UMHS does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition or your treatment plan.

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