

COVID-19: Patient Education After Tixagevimab and Cilgavimab by Intramuscular Injection

Because you are immunocompromised or not eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, you are at high risk for infection with COVID-19. COVID-19 is a viral respiratory infection that can cause a range of symptoms from a cold (fever, cough) to severe illness that requires treatment in the hospital. You may need an additional dose in 6 months.

What treatment did I receive?

Because you are at risk for COVID-19, you were treated with an intramuscular (IM) injection of a **monoclonal antibody** called **Tixagevimab** and **Cilgavimab**.

Monoclonal antibodies are similar to the antibodies that are naturally made by the immune system in response to an infection or vaccine, except a monoclonal antibody is made in a lab so that it only binds to one substance. **Tixagevimab** and **Cilgavimab** work to fight SARS-COV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) by binding to it and preventing it from infecting human cells.

Antibody:

A protein made by plasma cells (a type of white blood cell) in response to an antigen (a substance that causes the body to make a specific immune response). Each antibody can bind to only one specific antigen to help destroy the antigen.

This medication is investigational, meaning it is still being studied. You received an FAQ sheet about this drug based on the “Emergency Use Authorization” (EUA) requirements.

You will not feel any different after receiving Tixagevimab and Cilgavimab, but that does not mean it isn't working. The main goal of the treatment is to prevent developing an infection with COVID-19.

Can I still get COVID-19?

Yes. While this treatment is very effective at preventing infection with COVID-19, infections may still occur and normal precautions like wearing masks, handwashing, and social distancing are still important.

What side effects can occur?

Some people may have unwanted reactions to Tixagevimab and Cilgavimab. These are called side effects. These could include:

- Irritation, redness, swelling or bruising at the injection site
- Heart problems

However, because this treatment is still being studied, there may be other side effects that are not yet known.

What else should I do?

- Continue to wear masks indoors, social distance, and wash your hands
- Contact your primary care doctor in 6 months if you are still unable to be vaccinated or respond to the COVID-19 vaccine

When should I call for help?

Call or see your primary care doctor if you have any of the symptoms below which may indicate an infection with COVID-19:

(if you do not have a primary care doctor go to an urgent care clinic or emergency department):

- New or worsening shortness of breath
- Cough
- Fever
- Loss of taste or smell
- Nausea/vomiting
- Diarrhea
- New headache or muscle aches
- Bleeding, pain or drainage at the injection site
- Anything else that you think may be a side effect of Tixagevimab and Cilgavimab

Call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department if these occur:

- Difficulty breathing
- Swelling of your face or throat
- Chest pain or pressure
- Dizziness, sleepiness, or confusion

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