# **ALIROCUMAB**

**PRALUENT** TRADE NAME

DRUG CLASS Monoclonal antibody (human) for hypercholesterolaemia

**AVAILABILITY** Prefilled pen contains 75 mg/mL and 150 mg/mL of alirocumab. Also contains

histidine, sucrose and polysorbate-20.1

The solution is clear and colourless to pale yellow.<sup>1</sup>

рН

**PREPARATION** Allow 30 to 40 minutes for the pen to reach room temperature before use.<sup>1</sup>

**STABILITY** Store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light. Stable for a maximum of 30 days

at temperatures below 25 °C.1

**ADMINISTRATION** 

IM injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

**SUBCUT** injection Inject into the thigh, abdomen or upper arm. To give a 300 mg dose give two 150 mg

injections at two different sites. Rotate the injection site.<sup>1</sup> Do not shake.<sup>2</sup>

Suitable for self-administration in selected patients.<sup>1</sup>

IV injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup> IV infusion Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

**COMPATIBILITY** Not applicable **INCOMPATIBILITY** No information

**SPECIAL NOTES** Local injection site reactions commonly include redness, swelling and pain.<sup>1</sup>

Allergic reactions, including hypersensitivity, eczema, pruritus, urticaria, and

hypersensitivity vasculitis have been reported.1

#### **REFERENCES**

Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 10/10/2017.
 Consumer medicine information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 10/10/2017.

# **ATEZOLIZUMAB**

TRADE NAME TECENTRIQ

DRUG CLASS Non-cytotoxic antineoplastic, monoclonal antibody (humanised)

AVAILABILITY Vial contains 1200 mg/20 mL of atezolizumab. Also contains histidine, glacial acetic

acid, sucrose and polysorbate-20.1

The solution is clear and colourless to slightly yellow.<sup>1</sup>

WARNING The occupational hazard of intermittent low dose exposure to atezolizumab is not

known. Wear a mask and gloves when preparing the infusion solution to minimise

exposure. Atezolizumab is not cytotoxic.

pH No information
PREPARATION Not required

STABILITY Vial: store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. **Do not shake.** Protect from light.<sup>1</sup>

Infusion solution: stable for 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C or for 8 hours below 30 °C 1

**ADMINISTRATION** 

IM injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>
SUBCUT injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>
IV injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

**IV infusion** Dilute 1200 mg with 250 mL of sodium chloride 0.9% to make an approximate

concentration of 4.4 mg/mL (1200 mg/270 mL) of atezolizumab. Invert the bag and

mix gently. Do not shake.1

Infuse the first dose over 60 minutes. If well-tolerated give subsequent infusions over

30 minutes.1

**COMPATIBILITY** 

Fluids Sodium chloride 0.9%1

Y-site No information

**INCOMPATIBILITY** 

**Fluids** No information **Drugs** No information

SPECIAL NOTES Infusion reactions are common and include chills and pyerxia.

For mild or moderate infusion reactions slow the rate of the infusion and monitor carefully. For severe infusion reactions stop the infusion and treat accordingly.<sup>1</sup>

Check your local guidelines for premedication requirements.<sup>1</sup>

#### REFERENCES

1. Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 12/10/2017.

# **BLINATUMOMAB**

TRADE NAME BLINCYTO

DRUG CLASS Non-cytotoxic antineoplastic, monoclonal antibody (murine)

AVAILABILITY Vial contains 38.5 microgram of blinatumomab. Also contains citric acid

monohydrate, trehalose dihydrate, lysine hydrochloride, polysorbate-80 and sodium

hydroxide.1

Supplied with a 10 mL vial of IV solution stabiliser containing citric acid monohydrate, lysine hydrochloride, polysorbate-80 and sodium hydroxide. The solution is clear and

colourless to pale yellow.1

**WARNING** 

The occupational hazard of intermittent low dose exposure to blinatumomab is not known. Wear a mask and gloves when preparing the infusion solution to minimise exposure. Blinatumomab is not cytotoxic.

Serious neurological toxicities, infusion reactions and cytokine release syndrome may occur. Resuscitation facilities must be readily available.<sup>1</sup>

Medication errors have occurred. Follow the instructions for preparation and administration carefully.<sup>1</sup>

Hq

No information

**PREPARATION** 

See the Product Information to calculate the number of vials required.

Reconstitute the vial with 3 mL of water for injection. Swirl gently to avoid excess foaming. 1 Do not shake.

Do not use the IV solution stabiliser to reconstitute the vial.

The concentration of the reconstituted solution is 12.5 microgram/mL and the extractable volume is 35 microgram/2.8 mL.<sup>1</sup> The solution is clear to slightly opalescent and colourless to slightly yellow.<sup>1</sup>

Dilute further before use:

Add 5.5 mL of the IV solution stabiliser to a 250 mL bag of sodium chloride 0.9% and mix gently to avoid foaming. Add the required amount of the reconstituted solution to the bag and mix gently. Remove the air from the bag for use in an ambulatory infusion pump.<sup>1</sup>

Use this solution to prime the IV line. **Do not prime the line with sodium chloride 0.9%**.<sup>1</sup>

When preparing the infusion solution in an IV bag there is no need to remove fluid from the bag, the calculations are based on an overfill to a total volume of 265-275 mL. When preparing the infusion solution in a cassette, the total final volume should be 250 mL. Calculate the amount of sodium chloride 0.9% required by subtracting the volume of reconstituted solution and 5.5 mL of IV Solution Stabiliser from 250 mL.

**STABILITY** 

Vial and IV solution stabiliser: store at 2 to 8 °C. Stable for up to 8 hours below 25 °C. Protect from light. Do not freeze.<sup>1</sup>

Reconstituted solution: stable for 4 hours below 25  $^{\circ}$ C and for 24 hours at 2 to 8  $^{\circ}$ C. Protect from light. Do not freeze.<sup>1</sup>

Infusion solution: stable for 96 hours below 25 °C and for 10 days at 2 to 8 °C. Store and transport at 2 to 8 °C. Do not keep at room temperature for more than 6 hours before starting the infusion.  $^1$ 

**ADMINISTRATION** 

IM injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>
SUBCUT injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>
IV injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

**IV** infusion Give as a continuous IV infusion for 4 weeks. The infusion bag may be changed every

24, 48, 72 or 96 hours.

Use a low protein-binding, 0.2 micron inline filter. Do not flush the catheter when

changing the infusion bag or at the end of the infusion.<sup>1</sup>

**COMPATIBILITY** 

**Fluids** Sodium chloride 0.9%<sup>1</sup>

**Y-site** Do not mix with other drugs. Use a dedicated line.<sup>1</sup>

**INCOMPATIBILITY** 

**Fluids** No information **Drugs** No information

SPECIAL NOTES It is recommended that at least the first 9 days of the first cycle and the first 2 days of

the second cycle are given in hospital.<sup>1</sup>

Give dexamethasone 1 hour before the first infusion of each cycle. 1 Check your local

guidelines.

Cytokine Release Syndrome may be life-threatening and difficult to distinguish from an infusion reaction. Monitor for pyrexia, asthenia, headache and nausea. Slow or

stop the infusion if required.1

## **REFERENCES**

1. Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 10/10/2017.

## **CARFILZOMIB**

TRADE NAME KYPROLIS

DRUG CLASS Non-cytotoxic antineoplastic, proteasome inhibitor

AVAILABILITY Vial contains 30 mg and 60 mg of carfilzomib. Also contains sulfobutyl betadex

sodium, citric acid and sodium hydroxide.1

WARNING The occupational hazard of intermittent low dose exposure to carfilzomib is not

known. Wear a mask and gloves when preparing the infusion solution to minimise

exposure. Carfilzomib is not cytotoxic.

pH No information

PREPARATION Reconstitute the 30 mg vial with 15 mL of water for injections and the 60 mg vial with

29 mL of water for injection. Swirl the vial gently for a minute or until completely

dissolved. Do not shake.1

The concentration is 2 mg/mL. The solution is clear and colourless to slightly yellow.<sup>1</sup>

STABILITY Vial: store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light.<sup>1</sup>

Reconstituted solution: Stable for 4 hours below 25 °C and at for 24 hours 2 to 8 °C.1

**ADMINISTRATION** 

IM injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>
SUBCUT injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>
IV injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

**IV infusion** Dilute the dose in 50–100 mL of glucose 5% or infuse the dose undiluted.<sup>1</sup>

Infuse over 10 minutes or 30 minutes.<sup>1</sup>

COMPATIBILITY

**Fluids** Glucose 5%<sup>1</sup> **Y-site** No information

**INCOMPATIBILITY** 

**Fluids** Sodium chloride 0.9% (may be used to flush the line only)<sup>1</sup>

**Drugs** No information

SPECIAL NOTES Infusions reactions including fever, chills, arthralgia, myalgia, facial flushing, facial

oedema, vomiting, weakness, shortness of breath, hypotension, syncope, chest tightness and angina can occur during the infusion or up to 24 hours after

administration.<sup>1</sup>

Give oral or IV dexamethasone 30 minutes to 4 hours before the infusion. 1 Check your

local guidelines.

## **REFERENCES**

1. Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 11/10/2017.

# **DACLIZUMAB**

TRADE NAME ZINBRYTA

DRUG CLASS Monoclonal antibody (humanised) for multiple sclerosis

AVAILABILITY Prefilled pen or syringe contains 150 mg/mL of daclizumab. Also contains sodium

succinate, succinic acid, sodium chloride and polysorbate-80. Contains 0.14 mmol of

sodium per dose.1

The solution is clear to opalescent and colourless to slightly yellow.<sup>1</sup>

pH No information

PREPARATION Allow 30 minutes for the pen or syringe to reach room temperature before use.<sup>1</sup>
STABILITY Store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Stable for 30 days below 30 °C. Protect from light.<sup>1</sup>

**ADMINISTRATION** 

IM injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

**SUBCUT injection** Inject into the thigh, abdomen or upper arm.<sup>1</sup>

Suitable for self-administration in selected patients.1

IV injection Not recommended Not recommended COMPATIBILITY Not applicable

INCOMPATIBILITY No information

patient can remain on their original monthly schedule. If it is more than 2 weeks, they

should skip the missed dose.1

## **REFERENCES**

<sup>1.</sup> Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 11/10/2017.

# **DARATUMUMAB**

TRADE NAME DARZALEX

DRUG CLASS Non-cytotoxic antineoplastic, monoclonal antibody (human)

AVAILABILITY Vial contains 100 mg/5 mL and 400 mg/20 mL of daratumumab. Also contains glacial

acetic acid, mannitol, polysorbate-20, sodium acetate trihydrate and sodium

chloride.1

The solution is clear and colourless to yellow.<sup>1</sup>

WARNING The occupational hazard of intermittent low dose exposure to daratumumab is not

known. Wear a mask and gloves when preparing the infusion solution to minimise

exposure. Daratumumab is not cytotoxic.

Severe infusion reactions may occur. Resuscitation facilities must be readily

available.

pH No information
PREPARATION Not required

STABILITY Vial: store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light.<sup>1</sup>

Infusion solution: stable for 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C. Stable for 15 hours at 15 to 25 °C,

including infusion time.1

**ADMINISTRATION** 

IM injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>
SUBCUT injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>
IV injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

**IV infusion** Dilute the required dose to a final volume of 1000 mL with sodium chloride 0.9%.

Invert the bag and mix gently. Do not shake.1

Infuse the diluted solution at a rate of 50 mL/hour and if no infusion reactions increase the rate by 50 mL/hour every hour to a maximum rate of 200 mL/hour.<sup>1</sup>

Use a low protein-binding, 0.22 or 0.2 micron inline PES filter.<sup>1</sup>

If the first infusion is well-tolerated, a volume of 500 mL can be used for the second

infusion.1

If the first and second infusions are well-tolerated a volume of 500 mL can be used

and the third infusion can be started at 100 mL/hour.1

COMPATIBILITY

Fluids Sodium chloride 0.9%<sup>1</sup>

Y-site No information

INCOMPATIBILITY

**Fluids** No information **Drugs** No information

SPECIAL NOTES Infusion reactions are common with the first infusion and may be severe including

bronchospasm, hypoxia, dyspnoea, hypertension and pulmonary oedema. Delayed

reactions can occur. Monitor during and after the infusion.1

For mild or moderate infusion reactions slow the rate of the infusion and monitor carefully. For severe infusion reactions stop the infusion and treat accordingly. Give a corticosteroid, antihistamine and paracetamol before the infusion and a

corticosteroid after the infusion<sup>1</sup>. Check your local protocols.<sup>1</sup>

## **REFERENCES**

1. Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 12/10/2017.

Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook 7th Edition Update January 2018

## **ELOTUZUMAB**

TRADE NAME EMPLICITI

DRUG CLASS Non-cytotoxic antineoplastic, monoclonal antibody (humanised)

AVAILABILITY Vial contains 300 mg and 400 mg of elotuzumab. Also contains sodium citrate, citric

acid monohydrate, sucrose and polysorbate-80.1

WARNING The occupational hazard of intermittent low dose exposure to elotuzumab is not

known. Wear a mask and gloves when preparing the infusion solution to minimise

exposure. Elotuzumab is not cytotoxic.

pH 5.7–6.3<sup>1</sup>

PREPARATION Reconstitute the 300 mg vial with 13 mL of water for injection and the 400 mg vial

with 17 mL of water for injection. Swirl gently to avoid excess foaming. 1 **Do not shake.** May take about 10 minutes to dissolve. Allow the solution to stand for 5 to

10 minutes.1

The concentration is 25 mg/mL and the extractable volume is 300 mg/12 mL and

400 mg/16 mL.

The solution is clear to opalescent and colourless to slightly yellow.

Dilute further before use:

Add the required dose to 230 mL of a compatible fluid in a PVC or polyolefin bag. If necessary reduce the volume of the fluid used so that the total amount of fluid is not

more than 5 mL/kg of patient weight.1

STABILITY Vial: store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light.<sup>1</sup>

Reconstituted solution: stable for 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C. Protect from light.1

Infusion solution: stable for 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C. Protect from light.¹ Stable for up to 8 hours below 25 °C and in room light. Compete the infusion within 24 hours of

preparation.1

**ADMINISTRATION** 

IM injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>
SUBCUT injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>
IV injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

IV infusion Start the infusion at a rate of 0.5 mL/minute. Increase the rate every 30 minutes if

tolerated to a maximum rate of 5 mL/minute. Use a low protein-binding, 0.2-

1.2 micron inline filter.1

**COMPATIBILITY** 

**Fluids** Glucose 5%<sup>1</sup>, sodium chloride 0.9%<sup>1</sup>

**Y-site** No information

**INCOMPATIBILITY** 

Fluids No information **Drugs** No information

SPECIAL NOTES Infusion reactions may be severe and include fever, chills and hypertension. For mild

to moderate infusion reactions, slow the rate of the infusion and monitor carefully.

Stop the infusion if the reaction is severe.1

Give dexamethasone, an antihistamine, ranitidine and paracetamol before the

infusion.<sup>1</sup> Check your local guidelines.

## **REFERENCES**

1. Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 11/10/2017.

## **EVOLOCUMAB**

**REPATHA** TRADE NAME

DRUG CLASS Monoclonal antibody (human) for hypercholesterolaemia

**AVAILABILITY** Prefilled pen contains 140 mg/mL of evolocumab. Also contains proline, glacial acetic

acid, polysorbate-80 and sodium hydroxide.1

The solution is clear to opalescent and colourless to slightly yellow

61 рΗ

**PREPARATION** Allow 30 minutes for the pen to reach room temperature before use.<sup>1</sup>

**STABILITY** Store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light. Stable for 30 days below 25 °C.1

**ADMINISTRATION** 

IM injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

SUBCUT injection Inject into the thigh, abdomen or upper arm. Rotate the injection site.<sup>1</sup>

Do not shake.1

Suitable for self-administration in selected patients.<sup>2</sup>

IV injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup> **IV** infusion Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

**COMPATIBILITY** Not applicable INCOMPATIBILITY No information

**SPECIAL NOTES** Allergic reactions, including hypersensitivity, rash and urticaria, have been reported.<sup>1</sup>

Injection site reactions include erythema, redness, swelling and pain.<sup>1</sup>

## **REFERENCES**

Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 11/10/2017.
 Consumer medicine information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 11/10/2017.

# **IXEKIZUMAB**

TRADE NAME **TALTZ** 

**DRUG CLASS** Monoclonal antibody (humanised) for psoriasis

**AVAILABILITY** Pre-filled pen contains 80 mg/mL of ixekizumab. Also contains sodium chloride,

sodium citrate dihydrate, citric acid and polysorbate-80.1

Contains less the 1 mmol of sodium.<sup>1</sup>

The solution is clear and colourless to slightly yellow.<sup>1</sup>

 $5.3 - 6.1^{1}$ рΗ

**PREPARATION** Allow 30 to 40 minutes for the pen to reach room temperature before use.<sup>1</sup>

**STABILITY** Store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light. Stable for 5 days below 30 °C.1

ADMINISTRATION IM injection

Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

SUBCUT injection Inject into the thigh, abdomen or upper arm. Rotate the injection site.<sup>1</sup>

Do not shake.1

Suitable for self-administration in selected patients.<sup>2</sup>

IV injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup> IV infusion Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

**COMPATIBILITY** Not applicable INCOMPATIBILITY No information

SPECIAL NOTES Serious hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylaxis, angioedema and urticaria

have been reported.1

May cause mild to moderate redness and pain at the injection site.<sup>1</sup>

Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 10/10/2017.
 Consumer medicine information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 10/10/2017.

## **MEPOLIZUMAB**

**NUCALA** TRADE NAME

DRUG CLASS Monoclonal antibody (humanised) for eosinophilic asthma

**AVAILABILITY** Vial contains 144 mg of mepolizumab. Also contains sucrose, dibasic sodium

phosphate heptahydrate and polysorbate-80.1

рΗ

**PREPARATION** Reconstitute the vial with 1.2 mL of water for injection to make a concentration of

100 mg/mL of mepolizumab. Swirl gently to avoid excess foaming. Do not shake.

May take at least 5 minutes to dissolve. Allow the solution to stand for 5 to 10 minutes.1

The solution is clear to opalescent and colourless to pale yellow or pale brown.<sup>1</sup>

Vial: store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light. Stable for 30 days below **STABILITY** 

25°C.1

Reconstituted solution: stable for 6 hours below 30 °C. Protect from light.1

**ADMINISTRATION** 

IM injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

SUBCUT injection Inject into the thigh, abdomen or upper arm. Rotate the injection site.<sup>1</sup>

Do not shake.1

IV injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup> **IV** infusion Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

**COMPATIBILITY** Not applicable **INCOMPATIBILITY** Not applicable

SPECIAL NOTES Serious hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylaxis, angioedema, urticaria, rash,

bronchospasm and hypotension have been reported. Most reactions occur within a

few hours of administration, delayed reactions have been reported.<sup>1</sup>

#### REFERENCES

<sup>1.</sup> Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 11/10/2017.

## **NIVOLUMAB**

TRADE NAME **OPDIVO** 

**DRUG CLASS** Non-cytotoxic antineoplastic, monoclonal antibody (human)

**AVAILABILITY** Vial contains 40 mg/4 mL and 100 mg/10 mL of nivolumab. Also contains sodium

citrate, sodium chloride, mannitol, pentetic acid, polysorbate-80, sodium hydroxide

and hydrochloric acid.<sup>1</sup>

The solution is clear to opalescent and colourless to slightly yellow. <sup>1</sup>

The occupational hazard of intermittent low dose exposure to nivolumab is not WARNING

known. Wear a mask and gloves when preparing the infusion solution to minimise

exposure. Nivolumab is not cytotoxic.

Anaphylactic reactions may occur. Resuscitation facilities must be readily available.1

рН

**PREPARATION** Not required

**STABILITY** Vial: store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light. Stable for 48 hours at 25 °C.1

Reconstituted solution: stable for 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C.1

Infusion solution: stable for 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C. Protect from light. Stable for 8 hours

at 25 °C in room light. Complete the infusion within 24 hours of preparation.1

**ADMINISTRATION** 

IM injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup> **SUBCUT injection** Not recommended<sup>1</sup> IV injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

> Infuse undiluted or dilute to a concentration of not less than 1 mg/mL with sodium IV infusion

chloride 0.9% or glucose 5%. Mix gently. Do not shake.1

Infuse over 60 minutes. 1 Use a low protein-binding, 0.2–1.2 micron inline filter. 1

COMPATIBILITY

**Fluids** Glucose 5%<sup>1</sup>, sodium chloride 0.9%<sup>1</sup>

Y-site No information

**INCOMPATIBILITY** 

Fluids No information Drugs No information

SPECIAL NOTES Infusion reactions may be severe and include fever, chills and hypertension. For mild

to moderate infusion reactions, slow the rate of the infusion and monitor carefully.

Stop the infusion if the reaction is severe.<sup>2</sup>

Check your local guidelines for premedication requirements.

Anaphylactic reactions are rare but are a medical emergency. Stop the infusion and

commence treatment immediately.

#### **REFERENCES**

1. Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 11/10/17.
2. Cancer Institute NSW. Melanoma metastatic nivolumab. Sydney: eviQ Cancer Treatments Online. Version 2. Updated 11/08/17. Available from www.eviq.org.au. Accessed 10/11/17.

# **OCRELIZUMAB**

TRADE NAME OCREVUS

DRUG CLASS Monoclonal antibody (humanised) for multiple sclerosis

AVAILABILITY Vial contains 300 mg/10 mL of ocrelizumab. Also contains sodium acetate trihydrate.

trehalose dihydrate, glacial acetic acid, and polysorbate-20.1

The solution is clear to slightly opalescent and colourless to pale brown.<sup>1</sup>

WARNING The occupational hazard of intermittent low dose exposure to ocrelizumab is not

known. Wear a mask and gloves when preparing the infusion solution to minimise

exposure.

Severe infusion reactions may occur. Resuscitation facilities must be readily

available.1

pH 5.3<sup>1</sup>

PREPARATION Not required. **Do not shake.** 

STABILITY Vial: store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light.<sup>1</sup>

Infusion solution: stable for 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C. Stable for 8 hours below 25 °C.1

ADMINISTRATION

**IM injection** Not recommended<sup>1</sup> **SUBCUT injection** Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

**IV injection** Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

IV infusion Dilute the required dose to either 250 mL or 500 mL of sodium chloride 0.9% to make

an approximate concentration of 1.2 mg/mL. Invert the bag and mix gently. **Do not** 

shake.1

**The first dose is given as two infusions** of 300 mg/250 mL over approximately 2.5 hours and two weeks apart. Start the infusion at 30 mL/hour. If well-tolerated increase the rate by 30 mL/hour every 30 minutes to a maximum rate of

180 mL/hour.1

Subsequent doses are given as one infusion of 600 mg/500 mL over approximately

3.5 hours. Start the infusion at 40 mL/hour and if well-tolerated increase by

40 mL/hour every 30 minutes to a maximum rate of 200 mL/hour.<sup>1</sup>

Use a low protein-binding, 0.2-0.22 micron inline filter.<sup>1</sup>

COMPATIBILITY

Fluids Sodium chloride 0.9%1

Y-site No information

**INCOMPATIBILITY** 

**Fluids** No information **Drugs** No information

SPECIAL NOTES Infusion reactions are common with the first infusion and may be severe including

dyspnoea, pharyngeal or laryngeal oedema, hypotension, pyrexia, fatigue, nausea and tachycardia. Reactions may occur up to 24 hours after the infusion. Monitor the

patient during the infusion and for at least an hour after the infusion<sup>1</sup>

For mild or moderate infusion reactions slow the rate of the infusion and monitor carefully. For severe infusion reactions stop the infusion and treat accordingly.<sup>1</sup> Give a corticosteroid, antihistamine and paracetamol 30 minutes before the infusion.<sup>1</sup>

Check your local guidelines.

Anaphylactic reactions are rare but are a medical emergency. Stop the infusion and

commence treatment immediately.

## **REFERENCES**

1. Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 12/10/2017.

Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook 7th Edition Update January 2018

## RAMUCIRUMAB

TRADE NAME **CYRAMZA** 

**DRUG CLASS** Non-cytotoxic antineoplastic, monoclonal antibody (human)

**AVAILABILITY** Vial contains 100 mg/10 mL and 500 mg/50 mL of ramucirumab. Also contains

histidine, histidine hydrochloride, glycine, sodium chloride, and polysorbate-80.1

The solution is clear to opalescent and colourless to slightly yellow.<sup>1</sup>

The occupational hazard of intermittent low dose exposure to ramucirumab is not WARNING

known. Wear a mask and gloves when preparing the infusion solution to minimise

exposure. Ramucirumab is not cytotoxic.

Severe hypersensitivity reactions may occur. Resuscitation facilities must be readily

available.1

Do not shake.1

рН No information **PREPARATION** 

**STABILITY** Vial: store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light.<sup>1</sup>

Infusion solution: stable for 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C and for 4 hours at 25 °C.1

**ADMINISTRATION** 

IM injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup> **SUBCUT injection** Not recommended<sup>1</sup> IV injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

**IV infusion** Dilute the required dose to 250 mL with sodium chloride 0.9%. Mix gently.

Do not shake.1

Infuse over 60 minutes.<sup>1</sup> Use a low protein-binding, 0.22 micron inline filter.<sup>1</sup>

**COMPATIBILITY** 

Fluids Sodium chloride 0.9%<sup>1</sup> Y-site No information

**INCOMPATIBILITY** 

Fluids Glucose 5%<sup>1</sup> **Drugs** No information

SPECIAL NOTES Monitor for hypersensitivity reactions including tremors, back pain, chest pain, chills,

flushing, dyspnoea, wheezing, hypoxia, paraesthesia, bronchospasm, supraventricular

tachycardia and hypotension.1

For mild to moderate infusion reactions slow the infusion and give subsequent

infusions at the slower rate. Stop the infusion if the reaction is severe.1 Give an antihistamine before the infusion. 1 Check your local guidelines.

Anaphylactic reactions are rare but are a medical emergency. Stop the infusion and

commence treatment immediately.

#### REFERENCES

1. Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 11/10/2017.

# **SILTUXIMAB**

TRADE NAME SYLVANT

DRUG CLASS Non-cytotoxic antineoplastic, monoclonal antibody (chimeric)

AVAILABILITY Vial contains 100 mg and 400 mg of siltuximab. Also contains histidine, polysorbate-

80 and sucrose.1

WARNING The occupational hazard of intermittent low dose exposure to siltuximab is not

known. Wear a mask and gloves when preparing the infusion solution to minimise

exposure. Siltuximab is not cytotoxic.

Anaphylactic reactions may occur. Resuscitation facilities must be readily available.<sup>1</sup>

pH No information

PREPARATION Allow 30 minutes for the vial to reach room temperature before reconstitution.

Reconstitute the 100 mg vial with 5.2 mL of water for injection and the 400 mg vial

with 20 mL of water for injection to make a concentration of 20 mg/mL<sup>1</sup>

Swirl the vial gently. **Do not shake**.<sup>1</sup> It may take up to 60 minutes to dissolve.<sup>1</sup>

STABILITY Vial: store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light.<sup>1</sup>

Reconstituted solution: stable for 2 hours below 25 °C.1 Infusion solution: stable for 8 hours below 25 °C.1

ADMINISTRATION

IM injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>
SUBCUT injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>
IV injection Not recommended<sup>1</sup>

IV infusion Dilute the required dose to 250 mL with glucose 5%. Gently mix. Do not shake.<sup>1</sup>

Infuse over 60 minutes.<sup>1</sup> Use a low protein-binding, 0.22 micron inline PES filter.<sup>1</sup>

COMPATIBILITY

**Fluids** Glucose 5%<sup>1</sup> **Y-site** No information

**INCOMPATIBILITY** 

Fluids No information

Drugs No information

SPECIAL NOTES For mild or moderate infusion reactions slow the rate of the infusion and monitor

carefully. For severe infusion reactions stop the infusion and treat accordingly.<sup>1</sup>

Check your local guidelines for premedication requirements.

Anaphylactic reactions are rare but are a medical emergency. Stop the infusion and

commence treatment immediately.

#### **REFERENCES**

1. Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 12/10/2017.