

ACTIVE LEARNING TEMPLATE: **Medication**

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MEDICATION Infliximab (Remicade)

REVIEW MODULE CHAPTER _____

CATEGORY CLASS Monoclonal antibody (TNF blocker); Anti-inflammatory

PURPOSE OF MEDICATION

Expected Pharmacological Action

Binds to cytokine TNF factor-alpha, preventing it from binding to its receptors. As a result, TNF-alpha can't produce proinflammatory cytokines + endothelial permeability. Infiltration of inflammatory cells ↓.

Therapeutic Use

Treat and reduce the symptoms of moderate-severely active ~~Crohn's~~ Crohn's disease + ulcerative colitis. error EC - Crohn's

Complications

Chills, dizziness, fatigue, HA, fever, numbness, paresthesia, CP, edema, visual changes, N/V/D
Arrhythmias, bradycardia, abdominal pain, HTN, seizures, laryngeal/pharyngeal edema, bronchospasms, ARDs, melanoma, thrombocytopenia, + bladder pain

Contraindications/Precautions

Doses > 6mg/kg in pts w/ failure
Abatacept, CYP450 substrates, immunosuppressants, live vaccines, therapeutic infectious agents
* Breastfeeding pts.; CNS demyelinating disorders

Interactions

Live vaccinations
Other biological therapies
Abatacept
May reactivate Hep B virus

Evaluation of Medication Effectiveness

Improvement of manifestations related to ~~Crohn's~~ Crohn's disease
Maintained fistula closure in pts w/ fistulizing Crohn's.
error EC - Crohn's

Medication Administration

3-5mg/kg via IV infusion over @ least a hours

Therapy may range from 4-6 wks.

* Premedicate w/ acetaminophen

Nursing Interventions

- Assess vaccination status
- Do not initiate if pt. has an active infection
- Use cautiously in w/ failure pts
- Use cautiously in elderly
- Monitor LFTs
- Discontinue if pt. becomes jaundiced

Client Education

- Infusion reactions may occur up to 1a d after admin
- Report S/Sx's of infection to HCP
- Do not receive live vaccinations during therapy
- Educate on S/Sx's of w/ failure, hepatotoxicity, + hematologic reactions

* Back, tarry stools
* Hematuria or cloudy urine

error EC Crohn's

Compatibility

COMPATIBILITIES

↳ Diluents except for 0.9% NS injection
Other IV drugs infused in the same IV line

Amount

N/A 3-5mg/kg
↳ Therapy continues for 4-8 wks every

Rate of Administration

N/A - Not provided
Infuse over @ least 2 hrs

Diluent

0.9% sodium chloride
↳ Approx. 4mg/mL

Site, supplies, storage, stability

Store unopened vials in a refrigerator
↳ Good for 6 mo. after open date or to exp. date (whichever comes first)
Must use med. in 3 hr of reconstitution
Half-life = 7.7 - 9.6 days