



# Rheufix Infiximab

**Package leaflet: Information for the patient**

**Rheufix 100 mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion**

Infiximab

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### What is in this leaflet:

- What Rheufix is and what it is used for
- What you need to know before you use Rheufix
- How to use Rheufix
- Possible side effects
- How to store Rheufix
- Contents of the pack and other information

#### 1. What Rheufix is and what it is used for

Rheufix contains the active substance infiximab. Infiximab is a monoclonal antibody – a type of protein that attaches to a specific target in the body called TNF (tumour necrosis factor) alpha. Rheufix belongs to a group of medicines called “TNF-blockers”. It is used in adults for the following inflammatory diseases:

- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Psoriatic arthritis
- Ankylosing spondylitis (Betchterew’s disease)
- Psoriasis

Rheufix is also used in adults and children for:

- Crohn’s disease
- Ulcerative colitis.

This medicine can also be prescribed in the following cases, according to the doctor’s opinion:

**Adults:**

- hospitalized patients with COVID-19
- Pustular psoriasis
- Refractory sarcoidosis
- Colitis caused by taking immune checkpoint inhibitor induced

**Children:**

- Juvenile idiopathic arthritis, resistant to conventional medications
  - Kawasaki disease resistant to IVIG
  - SARS-COVID-2-associated multisystem inflammatory syndrome
- Rheufix works by selectively attaching to TNF alpha and blocking its action. TNF alpha is involved in inflammatory processes of the body so blocking it can reduce the inflammation in your body.

#### Rheumatoid arthritis

Rheumatoid arthritis is an inflammatory disease of the joints. If you have active rheumatoid arthritis, you will first be given other medicines. If these medicines do not work well enough, you will be given Rheufix which you will take alone or in combination with another medicine called methotrexate to reduce the signs and symptoms of your disease, slow down the damage in your joints and improve your physical function.

#### Psoriatic arthritis

Psoriatic arthritis is an inflammatory disease of the joints, usually accompanied by psoriasis. If you have active Psoriatic arthritis, you will first be given other medicines. If these medicines do not work well enough, you will be given Rheufix to reduce the signs and symptoms of your disease, slow down the damage in your joints and improve your physical function.

#### Ankylosing spondylitis (Bechterew’s disease)

Ankylosing spondylitis is an inflammatory disease of the spine. If you have Ankylosing spondylitis, you will first be given other medicines. If these medicines do not work well enough, you will be given Rheufix to reduce the signs and symptoms of your disease and improve your physical function.

#### Psoriasis

Psoriasis is an inflammatory disease of the skin. If you have moderate to severe plaque psoriasis, you will first be given other medicines or treatments, such as phototherapy. If these medicines or treatments do not work well enough, you will be given Rheufix to reduce the signs and symptoms of your disease.

#### Ulcerative colitis

Ulcerative colitis is an inflammatory disease of the bowel. If you have ulcerative colitis, you will first be given other medicines. If these medicines do not work well enough, you will be given Rheufix to treat your disease.

#### Crohn’s disease

Crohn’s disease is an inflammatory disease of the bowel. If you have Crohn’s disease you will first be given other medicines. If these medicines do not work well enough, you will be given Rheufix to:

- Treat active Crohn’s disease
- Reduce the number of abnormal openings (fistulae) between your bowel and your skin or between your bowel and the vagina that have not been controlled by other medicines or surgery.

#### 2. What you need to know before you use Rheufix

**Do not use Rheufix if:**

- You are allergic to infiximab or to any of the other ingredients in Rheufix (listed in section 6).
- You are allergic (hypersensitive) to proteins that come from mice.
- You have tuberculosis (TB) or another serious infection such as pneumonia or sepsis.
- You have heart failure that is moderate to severe.

Do not use Rheufix if any of the above applies to you. If you are not sure, talk to your doctor before you are given Rheufix.

#### Warnings and precautions

**Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or your nurse before treatment with Rheufix.**

- Rheufix contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, that is to say essentially “sodium free”.

However, before Rheufix is given to you, it is mixed with a solution that contains sodium. Talk to your doctor if you are on a low salt diet.

- Rheufix contains 0.5 mg polysorbate 80 in each dosage unit before dilution and contains 0.05 mg/mL polysorbate after dilution. Polysorbate may cause delayed hypersensitivity reaction. If you experience allergic reaction symptoms including face, lips, mouth or throat swelling, low blood pressure, difficulty breathing or swallowing, skin rash or severe weakness, seek medical attention immediately. Polysorbate may cause low blood pressure and heart rate changes. Also, in premature infants, after receiving injectable medicinal products containing polysorbate 80, symptoms including thrombocytopenia, ascites, pulmonary disorders, and renal and hepatic failure have been observed.

Talk to your doctor before or during treatment with Rheufix if you have:

**Had treatment with infiximab before**

- Tell your doctor if you have had treatment with infiximab in the past and are now starting infiximab treatment again.

If you have had a break in your infiximab treatment of more than 16 weeks, there is a higher risk for allergic reactions when you start the treatment again. Make sure to inform your doctor.

#### Infections

- Tell your doctor before you are given Rheufix if you have an infection even if it’s a mild one.
- Tell your doctor before you are given Rheufix if you have ever lived in or travelled to an area where infections called histoplasmosis, coccidioidomycosis, or blastomycosis are common. These infections are caused by specific types of fungi that can affect the lungs or other parts of your body.
- You may get infections more easily when you are being treated with Rheufix. If you are 65 or older, you have a greater risk.
- These infections may be serious and include tuberculosis, infections caused by viruses, fungi, bacteria, or other organisms in the environment and sepsis (serious bacterial infection of the blood), which can be life-threatening.

Tell your doctor straight away if you get signs of infection during treatment with Rheufix. Signs include fever, cough, flu-like signs, feeling unwell, red or hot skin, wounds or dental problems. Your doctor may recommend temporarily stopping Rheufix.

#### Tuberculosis (TB)

- It is very important that you tell your doctor if you have ever had TB or if you have been in close contact with someone who has had or has TB.
  - Your doctor will test you to see if you have TB. Cases of TB have been reported in patients treated with Rheufix (even in patients who have already been treated with medicines for TB).
  - If your doctor feels that you are at risk for TB, you may be treated with medicines for TB before you are given Rheufix.
- Tell your doctor straight away if you get signs of TB during treatment with Rheufix. Signs include persistent cough, weight loss, feeling tired, fever, night sweats.

#### Hepatitis B virus

- Tell your doctor before you are given Rheufix if you are a carrier of hepatitis B or have ever had it.

- Tell your doctor if you think you might be at risk of contracting hepatitis B.
- Your doctor should test you for hepatitis B virus.
- Treatment with TNF blockers such as Rheufix may result in reactivation of hepatitis B virus in patients who carry this virus, which can be life-threatening in some cases.

#### Heart problems

- Tell your doctor if you have any heart problems, such as mild heart failure.
- Your doctor will want to closely monitor your heart.

Tell your doctor immediately if you get new or worsening signs of heart failure during treatment with Rheufix. Signs include shortness of breath or swelling of your feet.

#### Cancer and lymphoma

- Tell your doctor before you are given Rheufix if you have or have ever had lymphoma (a type of blood cancer) or any other cancer.
- Patients with severe rheumatoid arthritis, who have had the disease for a long time, may be at higher risk of developing lymphoma.
- Children and adults taking Rheufix may have an increased risk of developing lymphoma or another cancer.
- Some patients who have received TNF-blockers, including infiximab have developed a rare type of cancer called hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma. Of these patients, most were teenage boys or young men and most had either Crohn’s disease or ulcerative colitis. This type of cancer is highly life-threatening. Almost all patients had also received medicines containing azathioprine or 6-mercaptopurine in addition to TNF-blockers.
- Some patients treated with infiximab have developed certain kinds of skin cancer. If there are any changes in your skin or growths on the skin during or after therapy, tell your doctor.
- Some women being treated for rheumatoid arthritis with infiximab have developed cervical cancer. For women taking infiximab including those over 60 years of age, your doctor may recommend regular screening for cervical cancer.

#### Lung disease or heavy smoking

- Tell your doctor if you have a lung disease called Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) or if you are a heavy smoker and are being treated with Rheufix.
- Patients with COPD and patients who are heavy smokers may have a higher risk of developing cancer with infiximab treatment.

#### Nervous system disease

- Tell your doctor if you have or have ever had a problem that affects your nervous system before you are given Rheufix. This includes multiple sclerosis, Guillain-Barré syndrome, if you have fits or have been diagnosed with ‘optic neuritis’.
- Tell your doctor straight away if you get symptoms of a nerve disease during treatment with Rheufix. Signs include changes in your vision, weakness in your arms or legs, numbness or tingling in any part of your body.

#### Abnormal skin opening

- Tell your doctor if you have any abnormal skin openings (fistulae) before you are given Rheufix.

#### Vaccination

- Talk to your doctor if you recently have had or are due to have a vaccine.
- You should receive recommended vaccinations before starting Rheufix treatment. You may receive some vaccines during treatment with Rheufix but you should not receive live vaccines (vaccines that contain a living but weakened infectious agent) while using Rheufix because they may cause infections.
- If you received Rheufix while you were pregnant, your baby may also be at higher risk for getting an infection as a result of receiving a live vaccine during the first year of life. It is important that you tell your baby’s doctors and other healthcare professionals about your Rheufix use so they can decide when your baby should receive any vaccine, including live vaccines such as the BCG vaccine (used to prevent tuberculosis).
- If you are breast-feeding, it is important that you tell your baby’s doctors and other healthcare professionals about your Rheufix use before your baby is given any vaccine. For more information see section on Pregnancy and breast-feeding.

#### Therapeutic infectious agents

- Talk to your doctor if you have recently received or are scheduled to receive treatment with a therapeutic infectious agent (such as BCG instillation used for the treatment of cancer).

#### Operations or dental procedures

- If you are planning to have any surgery or dental procedures, tell your doctor and dentist that you are being treated with Rheufix.

#### Liver problems

- Some patients receiving infiximab have developed serious liver problems. Tell your doctor straight away if you get symptoms of liver problems during treatment with Rheufix. Signs include yellowing of the skin and eyes, dark-brown coloured urine, pain or swelling in the upper right side of the stomach area, joint pain, skin rashes, or fever.

#### Low blood counts

- In some patients receiving Rheufix, the body may not make enough of the blood cells that help fight infections or help stop bleeding. Tell your doctor straight away if you get symptoms of low blood counts during treatment with Rheufix. Signs include persistent fever, bleeding or bruising more easily, small red or purple spots cause by bleeding under the skin, or looking pale.

#### Immune system disorder

- Some patients receiving infiximab have developed symptoms of an immune system disorder called Lupus. Tell your doctor straight away if you develop symptoms of lupus during treatment with Rheufix. Signs include joint pain or a rash on cheeks or arms that is sensitive to the sun.

#### Children and adolescents

The information above also applies to children and adolescents. In addition, the following points should be considered in children and adolescents that are given Rheufix:

- Some children and teenage patients who have received TNF-blockers such as Rheufix have developed cancers, including unusual types, which sometimes has been life-threatening to the patient.
- More children taking infiximab developed infections as compared to adults.
- Children should receive recommended vaccinations before starting Rheufix treatment. Children may receive some vaccines during treatment with Rheufix but should not receive live vaccines while using Rheufix. If you are not sure any of the above apply to you, talk to your doctor before you are given Rheufix.

#### Other medicines and Rheufix

Patients who have inflammatory diseases already take medicines to treat their problem. These medicines may cause side effect. Your doctor will advise you what other medicines you must keep using while you are having Rheufix.

Tell your doctor if you are using or have recently used any other medicines, including any other medicines to treat Crohn’s disease, ulcerative colitis, rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, psoriatic arthritis or psoriasis or medicines obtained without a prescription, such as vitamins and herbal medicines.

- In particular, tell your doctor if you are using any of the following medicines:
  - Medicines that affect your immune system.
  - Anakira (Rheufix and anakira should not be used together)
  - Abatacept (Rheufix and abatacept should not be used together)

While using Rheufix you should not receive live vaccines. If you were using Rheufix during pregnancy or if you are receiving Rheufix while breast-feeding, tell your baby’s doctor and other healthcare professionals caring for your baby about your Rheufix use before the baby receives any vaccines. If you are not sure any of the above apply to you, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Rheufix.

#### Pregnancy, breast-feeding, and fertility

- If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor for advice before taking this medicine. Rheufix should only be used during pregnancy or while breast-feeding if your doctor decides that it’s necessary for you.
- You should avoid getting pregnant when you are being treated with Rheufix and for 6 months after you stop being treated with it. Discuss the use of contraception during this time with your doctor.
- If you are breast-feeding, it is important to tell your baby’s doctor and other healthcare professionals about your Rheufix use before your baby is given any vaccine. Live vaccines should not be given to your baby while breast-feeding, unless your baby’s doctor recommend otherwise.
- If you received Rheufix during your pregnancy, your baby may have a higher risk for getting an infection.
- It is important that you tell your baby’s doctors and other healthcare professionals about your Rheufix use before your baby is given any vaccine. If you received Rheufix while pregnant, giving BCG vaccine (used to prevent tuberculosis) to your baby within 12 months after birth may result in infection with serious life-threatening complications.
- Live vaccines such as the BCG should not be given to your baby within 12 months after birth, unless your baby’s doctor recommends otherwise. For more information see section on vaccination.
- Severely decreased numbers of white blood cells have been reported in infants born to women treated with infiximab during pregnancy. If your baby has continual fevers or infections, contact your baby’s doctor immediately.

#### Driving and using machines

Rheufix is not likely to affect your ability to drive or use tools or machines. If you feel tired, dizzy, or unwell after having Rheufix, do not drive or use any tools or machines.

#### 3. How to use Rheufix

Always use this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor if you are not sure.

#### Rheumatoid arthritis

The usual dose is 3 mg for every kg of body weight.

**Psoriatic arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis (Bechterew’s disease), psoriasis, ulcerative colitis, Crohn’s disease, hospitalized patients with COVID-19 (single dose), pustular psoriasis, Colitis caused by taking immune checkpoint inhibitor induced**

The usual dose is 5 mg for every kg of body weight.

#### Refractory sarcoidosis

The usual dose is 3 to 5 mg for every kg of body weight.

#### How Rheufix is given

- Rheufix will be given to you by your doctor or nurse in a hospital or clinic.
- Your doctor or nurse will prepare the medicine for infusion.
- The medicine will be given as an infusion (drip) over 2 hours into one of your veins, usually in your arm. After the third treatment, your doctor may decide to give your dose of Rheufix over 1 hour.
- You will be monitored while you are given Rheufix and also for 1 to 2 hours afterwards.
- Medicines like antihistamines, acetaminophen or corticosteroids can be used for prevention or managing infusion-related reactions. After recovery from minor to moderate reactions, the infusion can be started again at a slower rate.

#### How much Rheufix is given

- The doctor will decide your dose and how often you will be given Rheufix. This will depend on your disease, weight and how well you respond to Rheufix.
- The table below shows how often you will usually have this medicine after your first dose.

Dose order	Injection interval
2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	2 weeks after your 1 <sup>st</sup> dose
3 <sup>rd</sup> dose	6 weeks after your 1 <sup>st</sup> dose
Further doses	Every 6 to 8 weeks (intervals may vary depending on the doctor’s prescription and discretion, based on the type and condition of the disease)

#### Instructions in how to use Rheufix:

- First, calculate the dosage and number of vials of Rheufix needed. Each Rheufix vial contains 100 mg of infiximab. Calculate the total volume of reconstituted infiximab solution required.
- Under aseptic conditions, reconstitute each Rheufix vial with 10 mL of water for injections, using a syringe equipped with a 21-gauge or smaller needle. Remove flip-top from the vial and wipe the top with a 70% alcohol swab. Insert the syringe needle into the vial through the centre of the rubber stopper and direct the stream of water for injections to the glass wall of the vial. Gently swirl the solution by rotating the vial to dissolve the lyophilized powder. Avoid prolonged or vigorous agitation. DO NOT SHAKE. Foaming of the solution on reconstitution is not unusual. Allow the reconstituted solution to stand for 5 minutes. Check that the solution is colourless to light yellow and opalescent. The solution may develop a few fine translucent particles, as infiximab is a protein. Do not use if opaque particles, discolouration, or other foreign particles are present.
- Dilute the total volume of the reconstituted Rheufix solution dose to 250 mL with sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution for infusion (The dilution can be accomplished by withdrawing a volume of the sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution for infusion from the 250-mL glass bottle or infusion bag equal to the volume of reconstituted Rheufix. Slowly add the total volume of reconstituted Rheufix solution to the 250-mL infusion bottle or bag). For volumes greater than 250 mL, either use a larger infusion bag (e.g. 500 mL) or use multiple 250 mL infusion bags. Do not dilute the reconstituted Rheufix solution with any other diluent. Make sure that the concentration of the infusion solution does not exceed 4 mg/mL.
- Administer the infusion solution over a period of not less than the infusion time recommended. Use only an infusion set with an in-line.
- Visually inspect Rheufix for particulate matter or discolouration prior to administration. Do not use if visibly opaque particles, discolouration or foreign particles are observed. The prepared infusion for injection should be infused immediately.

#### Recommended dosing in children and adolescents

Rheufix is prescribed in children 6 years of age and older with ulcerative colitis.

Rheufix is also prescribed for children 3 years of age and older with Crohn’s disease based on doctor’s discretion. The onset dose for children with ulcerative colitis and Crohn’s disease is 5 mg for every kg of body weight at weeks 0, 2, and 6, followed by a maintenance dose of 5 mg for every kg of body weight every 8 weeks.

Patients with low body weight (less than 30kg), high BMI, high inflammatory burden (or severe inflammation) or low albumin levels may require higher doses, such as 10 mg for every kg of body weight, or shorter dosing intervals (for example, once every 4 weeks).

Rheufix may, at the doctor’s discretion, be administered to children 4 years of age and older with juvenile idiopathic arthritis, as well as infants and children with Kawazaki disease or SARS-COVID-2-associated inflammatory syndrome, at a dose of 5 to 10 mg for every kg of body weight.

#### In case you are given too much Rheufix

As this medicine is being given by your doctor or nurse, it is unlikely that you will be given too much. There are no known side effects of having too much Rheufix.

#### In case you forgot or missed your Rheufix infusion

If you forgot or missed an appointment to receive Rheufix, make another appointment as soon as possible.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor.

#### 4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines ,this medicine can cause side effects ,although not everybody gets them .Most side effects are mild to moderate. However, some patients may experience serious side effects and may require treatment. Side effects may also occur after your treatment with Rheufix has stopped.

#### Tell your doctor straight away if you notice any of the following:

- Signs of an allergic reaction** such as swelling of your face, lips, mouth or throat which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing, skin rash, hives, swelling of the hands, feet or ankles. Some of these reactions may be serious or life-threatening. An allergic reaction could happen within 2 hours of your injection or later. More signs of allergic side effects that may happen up to 12 days after your injection include pain in the muscles, fever, joint or jaw pain, sore throat or headache.
  - Signs of a heart problem** such as chest discomfort or pain, arm pain, stomach pain, shortness of breath, anxiety, lightheadedness, dizziness, fainting, sweating, nausea (feeling sick), vomiting, fluttering or pounding in your chest, a fast or slow heartbeat, and swelling of your feet.
  - Signs of infection (including TB)** such as fever, feeling tired, cough which may be persistent, shortness of breath, flu-like symptoms, weight loss, night sweats, diarrhea, wounds, collection of pus in the gut or around the anus (abscess), dental problems or burning sensation when urinating.
  - Possible signs of cancer** including but not limited to swelling of lymph nodes, weight loss, fever, unusual skin nodules, changes in moles or skin colouring, or unusual vaginal bleeding.
  - Signs of lung problem** such as coughing, breathing difficulties or tightness in the chest.
  - Signs of a nervous system problem (including eye problems)** such as signs of a stroke (sudden numbness or weakness of your face, arm or leg, especially on one side of your body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; trouble seeing in one or both eyes, trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination or a severe headache), fits, tingling/numbness in any part of your body, or weakness in arms or legs, changes in eyesight such as double vision or other eye problems.
  - Signs of a liver problem** (including hepatitis B infection when you have had hepatitis B in the past) such as yellowing of the skin or eyes, dark-brown coloured urine, pain or swelling in the upper right side of the stomach area, joint pain, skin rashes, or fever.
  - Signs of an immune system disorder** such as joint pain or a rash on cheeks or arms that is sensitive to the sun (lupus) or cough, shortness of breath, fever or skin rash (sarcoidosis).
  - Signs of low blood counts** such as persistent fever, bleeding or bruising more easily, small red or purple spots caused by bleeding under the skin, or looking pale.
  - Signs of serious skin problems** such as reddish-target-like spots or circular patches often with central blisters on the trunk, large areas of peeling and shedding skin (exfoliating), ulcers of mouth, throat, nose, genital and eyes or small pus-filled bumps that can spread over the body. These skin reactions can be accompanied by fever.
- Tell your doctor straight away if you notice any of the above.

#### Side effects by frequency of occurrence are:

#### Very common side effects (may affect more than 1 in 10 people):

- Stomach pain, feeling sick
- Viral infections such as herpes or flu
- Upper respiratory infections such as sinusitis
- Headache
- Side effects due to an infusion
- Pain.

#### Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people):

- Changes in how your liver works, increase in liver enzymes (shown in blood tests)
- Lung or chest infections such as bronchitis or pneumonia

- Difficult or painful breathing, chest pain
- Bleeding in the stomach or intestines, diarrhea, indigestion, heartburn, constipation
- Nettle-type rash (hives), itchy rash or dry skin
- Balance problems or feeling dizzy
- Fever, increased sweating
- Circulation problems such as low or high blood pressure
- Bruising, hot flush or nosebleed, warm, red skin (flushing)
- Feeling tired or weak
- Bacterial infections such as blood poisoning, abscess or infection of the skin (cellulitis)
- Infection of the skin due to a fungus
- Blood problems such as anaemia or low white blood cell count
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Depression, problems sleeping
- Eye problems, including red eyes and infections
- Fast heart beat (tachycardia) or palpitations
- Pain in the joints, muscles or back
- Urinary tract infection
- Psoriasis, skin problems such as eczema and hair loss
- Reactions at the injection site such as pain, swelling, redness or itching
- Chills, a buildup of fluid under the skin causing swelling
- Feeling numb or having a tingling feeling.

#### Uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in 100 people):

- Shortage of blood supply, swelling of a vein
- Collection of blood outside the blood vessels (haematoma) or bruising
- Skin problems such as blistering, warts, abnormal skin colouration or pigmentation, swollen lips, thickening of the skin, or red, scaly, and flaky skin
- Severe allergic reactions (e.g. anaphylaxis), an immune system disorder called lupus, allergic reactions to foreign proteins
- Wounds taking longer to heal
- Swelling of the liver (hepatitis) or gall bladder, liver damage
- Feeling forgetful, irritable, confused, nervous
- Eye problems including blurred or reduced vision, puffy eyes or sties
- New or worsening heart failure, slow heart rate
- Fainting
- Convulsions, nerve problems
- A hole in the bowel or blockage of the intestine, stomach pain or cramps
- Swelling of your pancreas (pancreatitis)
- Fungal infections such as yeast infection or fungal infection of the nails
- Lung problems (such as oedema)
- Fluid around the lungs (pleural effusion)
- Narrowed airway in the lungs, causing difficulty breathing
- Inflamed lining of the lung, causing sharp chest pains that feel worse with breathing (pleurisy)
- Tuberculosis
- Kidney infections
- Low platelet count, too many white blood cells
- Vaginal infections
- Blood test result showing ‘antibodies’ against your own body
- Changes in cholesterol and fat levels in the blood
- Weight gain (for most patients, the weight gain was small).

#### Rare side effects (may affect 1 in 1,000 people):

- A type of blood cancer (lymphoma)
- Your blood not supplying enough oxygen to your body, circulation problems such as narrowing of a blood vessel
- Inflammation of the lining of the brain (meningitis)
- Infections due to a weakened immune system
- Hepatitis B infection when you have had hepatitis B in the past
- Inflamed liver caused by a problem with the immune system (autoimmune hepatitis)
- Liver problem that causes yellowing of the skin or eyes (jaundice)
- Abnormal tissue swelling or growth
- Severe allergic reaction that may cause loss of consciousness and could be life-threatening (anaphylactic shock)
- Swelling of small blood vessels (vasculitis)
- Immune disorders that could affect the lungs, skin and lymph nodes (such as sarcoidosis).
- Collections of immune cells resulting from an inflammatory response (granulomatous lesions)
- Lack of interest or emotion
- Serious skin problems such as toxic epidermal necrolysis, Stevens-Johnson Syndrome and acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis
- Other skin problems such as erythema multiforme, lichenoid reactions (itchy reddish-purple skin rash and/or thread like white-grey lines on mucous membranes), blisters and peeling skin, or boils (furunculosis)
- Serious nervous system disorders such as transverse myelitis, multiple sclerosis-like disease, optic neuritis and Guillain-Barré syndrome
- Inflammation in the eye that may cause changes in the vision, including blindness
- Fluid in the lining of the heart (pericardial effusion)
- Serious lung problems (such as interstitial lung disease)
- Melanoma (a type of skin cancer)
- Cervical cancer
- Low blood counts, including a severely decreased number of white blood cells
- Small red or purple spots caused by bleeding under the skin
- Abnormal values of a blood protein called ‘complement factor’ which is part of the immune system.

**Not known side effects (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data):**

- Cancer in children and adults
- A rare blood cancer affecting mostly teenage boys or young men (hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma)
- Liver failure
- Merkel cell carcinoma (a type