

Trastuzumab (traz-TU-zoo-mab)

Also Known As: Herceptin[®], Recombinant Humanized Anti-p185 HER2 Monoclonal Antibody

This drug can be used alone or with chemotherapy drugs.

How It Is Given:

Intravenously (by vein)

Immediate Side Effects (beginning within 24 hours) Can Include:

These possible side effects are generally seen with the first treatment only.

- Allergic reactions such as:
 - Rash.
 - Itching.
 - Hives.
 - Wheezing.
 - Life-threatening breathing problems.
- Fever with chills, rash, shortness of breath, and low blood pressure.

Early Side Effects (beginning within the first week) Can Include:

- Pain at the tumor site.
- Abdominal pain.
- Nausea and vomiting and loss of appetite.
- Diarrhea.
- Heartburn.

Late Side Effects (beginning after one week) Can Include:

- Congestive heart failure (uncommon, ranging from no symptoms to serious symptoms).
- Blood clots.
- Headache.
- Dizziness.
- Fatigue or malaise.
- Liver problems (extremely rare when the drug is given alone).
- Worsening of existing numbness or tingling in the hands and feet. It is extremely rare when given alone.

Special Points:

- Talk to your doctor or nurse about contraception.
- Tell your doctor or nurse if you are taking any other medicines or if you have changed medicines. Some may change the way this medicine works. Include:
 - Medicines that do and do not require a prescription.

- Herbal remedies.
- Vitamins.
- Dietary supplements.

Call Your Doctor If You Have:

- A fever of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher.
- Shortness of breath.
- Yellowish skin or eye color.
- Any signs or symptoms of an allergic reaction, such as a rash.
- Any unexpected or unexplained problems.
- Any questions or concerns.

Preparation:

- You may need to have a blood test before each treatment. This will probably be done just before the treatment.
- You may be given premedications to help minimize the risk of an allergic reaction. Ask your doctor or nurse if you will be able to drive safely. You may need someone to escort you home.
- Your doctor or nurse may ask you to have a test to evaluate your heart function. You may need this before, during, and after treatment.

The information on this card is selective and does not cover all possible side effects; others may occur. Please report any problems to your doctor.

