Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Rho(D) Immune Globulin

This information from UpToDate® Lexidrug™ explains what you need to know about this medication, including what it's used for, how to take it, its side effects, and when to call your healthcare provider.

Brand Names: US

HyperRHO; HyperRHO Mini-Dose; MICRhoGAM Ultra-Filtered Plus [DSC]; RhoGAM Ultra-Filtered Plus; Rhophylac; WinRho SDF

Brand Names: Canada

HypRho-D; WinRho SDF

Warning

For people with immune thrombocytopenia (ITP):

- Some patients with immune thrombocytopenia (ITP) have had a severe or even deadly reaction called hemolytic anemia with this drug. Severe problems have also happened in the blood, kidneys, lungs, and other organs.
- Call your doctor **right away** if you have dark urine, back pain, fever, chills, less urine passed, swelling, sudden weight gain, shortness of breath, rash, dizziness, or shaking. Most of the time, this happened within 4 to 8 hours after a dose. Watch for these effects for 72 hours after getting this drug.
- You will be watched closely by your doctor.

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to prevent Rh hemolytic disease in the newborn baby after an Rh-incompatible pregnancy.
- It is used to treat immune thrombocytopenia (ITP).
- It may be given to you for other reasons. Talk with the doctor.

What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take this drug?

For all patients taking this drug:

- If you are allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell your doctor about the allergy and what signs you had.
- If you have an allergy to corn or corn products.
- If you have any of these health problems: Autoimmune hemolytic anemia, breakdown of red blood cells or have been told you are at risk for this, or you have had your spleen removed.
- If you have IgA deficiency.
- If you have recently had a live vaccine.

Children:

- If your child is a newborn. Some brands of this drug are not for use in newborns.

This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with this drug.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all of your drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe for you to take this drug with all of your drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug without checking with your doctor.

What are some things I need to know or do while I take this drug?

- Tell all of your health care providers that you take this drug. This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Avoid driving and doing other tasks or actions that call for you to be alert until you see how this drug affects you.
- Have your blood work and other lab tests checked as you have been told by your doctor.
- This drug may affect certain lab tests. Tell all of your health care providers and lab workers that you take this drug.
- If you have high blood sugar (diabetes), talk with your doctor about which glucose tests are best to use.
- Severe kidney problems have happened with this type of drug. If not treated right away, this can cause lasting harm or lead to death. The chance of these problems may be raised if you are dehydrated or you have kidney problems, diabetes, a severe infection, or certain abnormal blood proteins. The chance may also be raised if you are 65 or older or if you take other drugs that may harm the kidneys. People using products that have sucrose also have a higher chance of these problems. Most immune globulin products do not have sucrose. Talk with your doctor.
- You will need to be sure that you are not dehydrated before getting this drug. Check with your doctor to see if you need to drink extra fluids before getting this drug.
- This drug is made from human plasma (part of the blood) and may have viruses that may cause disease. This drug is screened, tested, and treated to lower the chance that it carries an infection. Talk with the doctor.
- Do not get any vaccines for 3 months after getting immune globulin without talking with your doctor.
- If you are 65 or older, use this drug with care. You could have more side effects.

- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan on getting pregnant, or are breast-feeding. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks to you and the baby.

What are some side effects that I need to call my doctor about right away?

WARNING/CAUTION: Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your doctor or get medical help right away if you have any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Signs of high or low blood pressure like very bad headache or dizziness, passing out, or change in eyesight.
- Signs of kidney problems like unable to pass urine, change in how much urine is passed, blood in the urine, or a big weight gain.
- Back pain.
- Stomach pain.
- Dark urine or yellow skin or eyes.
- Shortness of breath, a big weight gain, or swelling in the arms or legs.
- Fever, chills, or sore throat; any unexplained bruising or bleeding; or feeling very tired or weak.
- Pale skin.
- Shivering.
- Muscle spasm.
- Severe lung problems have happened with this drug. This type of lung problem can be life-threatening. Call your doctor right away if you have lung or breathing problems like trouble breathing, shortness of breath, or a

cough that is new or worse.

- There is a chance of blood clots with this drug. The chance is raised in older people and in people with thick blood, heart problems, or a history of blood clots. The chance may also be higher if you must be in a bed or chair for some time, if you take estrogen, or if you use certain catheters. However, blood clots can happen even if you do not have any of these health problems. Call your doctor right away if you have numbness or weakness on 1 side of your body; pain, redness, tenderness, warmth, or swelling in the arms or legs; change in color of an arm or leg; chest pain or pressure; shortness of breath; fast heartbeat; or coughing up blood. Talk with your doctor.

What are some other side effects of this drug?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother you or do not go away:

- Headache.
- Feeling dizzy, sleepy, tired, or weak.
- Pain, redness, or swelling where the shot was given.
- Diarrhea, upset stomach, or throwing up.
- Muscle or joint pain.
- Flushing.
- Sweating.

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-332-1088. You may also report side effects at https://www.fda.gov/medwatch.

How is this drug best taken?

Use this drug as ordered by your doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

- It is given as an injection into a muscle or vein.

What do I do if I miss a dose?

- Call your doctor to find out what to do.

How do I store and/or throw out this drug?

- If you need to store this drug at home, talk with your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist about how to store it.

General drug facts

- If your symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your doctor.
- Do not share your drugs with others and do not take anyone else's drugs.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. Check with your pharmacist. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how

much, and when it happened.

Consumer Information Use and Disclaimer

This generalized information is a limited summary of diagnosis, treatment, and/or medication information. It is not meant to be comprehensive and should be used as a tool to help the user understand and/or assess potential diagnostic and treatment options. It does NOT include all information about conditions, treatments, medications, side effects, or risks that may apply to a specific patient. It is not intended to be medical advice or a substitute for the medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment of a health care provider based on the health care provider's examination and assessment of a patient's specific and unique circumstances. Patients must speak with a health care provider for complete information about their health, medical questions, and treatment options, including any risks or benefits regarding use of medications. This information does not endorse any treatments or medications as safe, effective, or approved for treating a specific patient. UpToDate, Inc. and its affiliates disclaim any warranty or liability relating to this information or the use thereof. The use of this information is governed by the Terms of Use, available at https://www.wolterskluwer.com/en/know/clinical-effectiveness-terms.

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If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.

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