PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Teplizumab

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

Tzield

Brand Names: Canada

Tzield

Warning

- If your child has had a cytomegalovirus (CMV) or Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) infection, talk with the doctor. These infections have become active again while taking this drug. This can be severe or life-threatening. The risk of these infections may be higher in people who have a weak immune system, including those with Down syndrome. Most severe cases happened in people who kept taking this drug while having very low white blood cell levels for a long time. Severe cases have also happened in adults with other health problems like adrenal gland disease or heart disease.
- Your child will be tested for CMV and EBV before starting this drug. This drug may not be right for people with these infections. Have blood tests as you have been told. Have your child take this drug exactly as you have been told by the doctor. Your child will be watched for signs of infection while taking this drug and for at least 2 months after the last dose. If your child has any signs of infections, call the doctor right away.

What is this drug used for?

- It is used in people with stage 2 type 1 diabetes to delay stage 3 type 1 diabetes.
- It is used in children with stage 3 type 1 diabetes to delay the loss of the body's ability to make insulin.

What do I need to tell the doctor BEFORE my child takes this drug?

- If your child is allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell the doctor about the allergy and what signs your child had.
- If your child has type 2 diabetes. Do not use this drug to treat type 2 diabetes.

- If your child's diabetes is not caused by an autoimmune disease.
- If your child has any of these health problems: Low white blood cell count, low platelet count, or low red blood cell count.
- If your child has liver disease or raised liver enzymes.
- If your child has an infection. This includes an Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) or cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection.

If your child is pregnant or breast-feeding a baby:

- If your child is pregnant or plans to get pregnant within the next month. Do not give this drug to your child during pregnancy or if your child is planning to get pregnant within the next month.
- Be sure your child does not breast-feed a baby while taking this drug and for 20 days after the last dose.

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

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

What are some things I need to know or do while my child takes this drug?

- Tell all of your child's health care providers that your child is taking this drug. This includes your child's doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Have your child's blood work and other lab tests checked as you have been told by the doctor.
- Make sure your child is up to date with all vaccines before treatment with this drug.
- Talk with the doctor if your child has recently had a vaccine or is planning to get a vaccine. Some vaccines need to be avoided for some time before,

during, and after treatment with this drug.

- Your child may have a higher risk of getting an infection during treatment with this drug and for some time after. Have your child wash hands often. Avoid crowds and people with infections, colds, or flu.

If your child is or may be sexually active:

- This drug may cause harm to the unborn baby if your child takes it during pregnancy. If your child is pregnant or gets pregnant while taking this drug, call the doctor right away.

What are some side effects that I need to call my child's 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 child's doctor or get medical help right away if your child has 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 infection like fever, chills, very bad sore throat, ear or sinus pain, cough, more sputum or change in color of sputum, pain with passing urine, mouth sores, or wound that will not heal.
- Swollen gland.
- Feeling very tired or weak.
- Any unexplained bruising or bleeding.
- Swelling, warmth, or redness of the skin.
- Severe dizziness or passing out.
- A severe health problem called cytokine release syndrome (CRS) has happened with this drug. Most of the time, this happened during the first 5 days of treatment. Call your child's doctor right away if your child has

tiredness, fever, headache, upset stomach, muscle or joint pain, dark urine, or yellow skin or eyes.

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 child's doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother your child or do not go away:

- Headache.
- Diarrhea, stomach pain, upset stomach, or throwing up.
- Nose or throat irritation.

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

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

How is this drug best given?

Give this drug as ordered by your child's doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

- It is given as an infusion into a vein over a period of time.
- Other drugs may be given with this drug to help avoid side effects.

What do I do if my child misses a dose?

- Call your child's 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 child's doctor, nurse, or pharmacist about how to store it.

General drug facts

- If your child's symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your child's doctor.
- Do not share your child's drug with others and do not give anyone else's drug to your child.
- 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 child's 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.

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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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