

Mepolizumab

[Mep-o-LIZ-you-mab]
Nucala®

<http://Rheuminfo.com>
your rheumatology resource

How to use this medication

What is it



Mepolizumab is a medication used to treat Eosinophilic Asthma and Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis (EGPA). Mepolizumab blocks a protein called IL-5 which limits the production of a blood cell called eosinophils.

Given by injection



Mepolizumab is given by injection once every 4 weeks. The normal dose is 100 mg for Eosinophilic Asthma and 300 mg for EGPA.

Take it once every 4 weeks



Mepolizumab is taken every four (4) weeks. You, a friend, or a family member can be taught how to give the injections.

Give it some time



Although some patients can feel better quite quickly in others it can take a little longer. Keep taking your medication.

What you need to do

Get occasional blood tests



It is important to occasionally have your blood tested while taking mepolizumab. This is important to keep track of your progress.

Vaccinations



Mepolizumab may increase your risk of developing shingles. Please talk to your doctor about the shingles vaccine.

Side effects & important facts

Injection site reaction



Mepolizumab can rarely cause a reaction (redness, pain, & itching) at the injection site. Tell your doctor if these are severe.

Allergic reaction



Patients have very rarely developed allergic reactions to mepolizumab. Stop taking mepolizumab if you develop hives or have an allergic reaction.

Pregnancy & breastfeeding



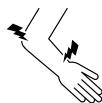
Mepolizumab has not been studied in pregnancy. Let your doctor know if you are planning to get pregnant or if you are breastfeeding.

Headaches & Fatigue



Mepolizumab can rarely cause headaches and fatigue.

Back Pain & Sore Joints



Mepolizumab can rarely cause back and joint pain.

When should I call my doctor

Please call if you need to stop



- If you feel sick and want to stop
- If you are concerned about any side effects
- If you want to or have already stopped the medicine

Other reasons to call your doctor:



If you become pregnant



If you plan to get any vaccinations



Rash

Other important information

Stopping mepolizumab



You can simply stop taking mepolizumab. You do not need to wean off it.