

Risankizumab

[Rizz-an-KIZZ-you-mab]
Skyrizi®

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

How to use this medication

What is it



Some people with arthritis have too much IL-23. IL-23 is a protein found in the body that can cause pain and swelling in the joints. Risankizumab is a biologic medicine that blocks IL-23 and helps the pain and swelling of arthritis.

Given by injection



Risankizumab is given by injection once every 12 weeks. The normal dose is 150 mg.

Take it once every 12 weeks



You will receive an injection on week 0, week 4, and then every 12 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

Stop if you have an infection



Risankizumab can make it harder for you to fight off infections. Call your doctor if:

1. You develop a fever
2. You think you have an infection
3. You are given antibiotics to treat an infection

Make sure to get tuberculosis testing



All patients should have a tuberculosis skin test & chest x-ray before starting risankizumab. Talk to your doctor.

Get occasional blood tests



It is important to occasionally have your blood tested while taking risankizumab. This is important to keep track of your arthritis and to make sure your blood counts are ok.

Side effects & important facts

Injection site reaction



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

Surgery



Risankizumab should be stopped before surgery. It can be restarted once things have healed and there is no sign of infection. If you are having surgery, talk to your doctor about when to stop the medicine.

Pregnancy & breastfeeding



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

Headaches & Fatigue



Risankizumab can rarely cause headaches and fatigue.

Fungal Infection of the Skin



Risankizumab has been associated with the development of fungal skin infections including athlete's foot, jock itch, or ringworm.

Upper Respiratory Tract Infection



The most common side effect of risankizumab is symptoms of a cold.

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:



Fever or think you have an infection



If you are having surgery



If you become pregnant



If you plan to get any vaccinations



Rash

Other important information

Stopping risankizumab



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