



Consumer Medicine Information

Ocrevus[®]

Ocrelizumab

300 mg in 10 mL concentrate for solution for infusion

What is in this leaflet

Please read this leaflet carefully before you start using Ocrevus.

This leaflet answers some common questions about Ocrevus. It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you being given Ocrevus against the benefits he/she expects it will have for you.

If you have any concerns about using this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine.

You may need to read it again.

What Ocrevus is used for

Ocrevus contains the active ingredient ocrelizumab.

Ocrevus is used to treat relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis (RMS) and primary progressive multiple sclerosis (PPMS). Ocrevus decreases the number of flare-ups (relapses) and slows the worsening of RMS. Ocrevus also slows the worsening of PPMS.

In MS (multiple sclerosis) your immune system mistakenly attacks the protective layer (myelin) around your nerve cells. This causes inflammation and damage which stops your nervous system working properly. Ocrevus works on your immune system to reduce the inflammation and attacks on your nervous system. This reduces the chance of a flare-up and slows the progression of your disease.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why Ocrevus has been prescribed for you.

Your doctor may have prescribed Ocrevus for another reason.

This medicine is available only with a doctor's prescription.

Before you are given Ocrevus

When you must not be given Ocrevus

Do not use Ocrevus if:

- **you have had an allergic reaction to Ocrevus or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet**

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty breathing, swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body, rash and/or itching or hives on the skin

Before you are given Ocrevus

Tell your doctor if:

- **you have an infection, or a history of a recurring or long-term infection such as hepatitis B**

If you are taking or have taken medicines which affect your immune system, you may have an increased risk of infections.

- **you are taking or have previously taken medicines which may affect your immune system, such as medicines for MS**

Your doctor will consider the best time for you to begin treatment with Ocrevus.

There have been reports of a rare, serious brain infection called PML (progressive multifocal leucoencephalopathy) in patients receiving medicines for MS. PML can occur in patients taking Ocrevus and mostly associated with risk factors, such as age and pre-existing use of immunosuppressants. PML can cause severe disability or even death.

Symptoms of PML can be similar to those of MS. Tell your partner or carer about your Ocrevus treatment. They might notice symptoms that you do not, such as changes in movement or behaviour, which your doctor may need to investigate.

- **you or your child intend to have or have had immunisation with any vaccine**

Some vaccines should not be given at the same time as Ocrevus, or in the months after you receive Ocrevus. Your doctor will check if you should have any vaccines before you receive Ocrevus.

There may be changes in the blood cells (B-cells) in babies whose mothers were exposed to Ocrevus during pregnancy and it may be recommended that the babies' vaccination schedule is amended/delayed.

- **you are allergic to any other medicines or any other substances such as foods, preservatives or dyes**

- **you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant**

It is not known whether Ocrevus is harmful to an unborn baby. It is not recommended that you are given Ocrevus while you are pregnant. If you are of child bearing potential, it is recommended that you do not become pregnant for 6 months following the end of treatment with Ocrevus. If you are of child bearing potential, it is recommended that you use effective contraceptive methods during treatment and for up to 6 months following the end of treatment with Ocrevus.

- **you are breast feeding or plan to breast feed**

It is not known if Ocrevus passes into breast milk. It is recommended that you discontinue breast feeding while you are treated with Ocrevus.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you start taking Ocrevus.

Use in children

The safety and effectiveness of Ocrevus in children and adolescents under 18 years of age have not been established.

Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you have bought without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

As well as Ocrevus, there are other treatments (including those for MS, or to treat other conditions) which could affect your immune system and so could affect your ability to fight infections. If you have used another MS treatment in the past, your doctor may ask you to stop the other medicine in advance of starting treatment with Ocrevus.

As Ocrevus may cause a temporary drop in your blood pressure, your doctor may advise you to temporarily stop taking your blood pressure medicine before you are given Ocrevus.

Your doctor and pharmacist have more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while taking Ocrevus.

How Ocrevus is given

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or nurse carefully.

They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

Ocrevus must be prepared by a healthcare professional and will be given in a hospital or clinic by a doctor or nurse.

Ocrevus is given by slow infusion into a vein (intravenous (IV) infusion). The amount of Ocrevus you are given and how long each infusion lasts are different for the first and following doses. Before you receive Ocrevus you will be given other medicines to help reduce the severity of possible infusion reactions.

The first infusion: you will be given 300 mg of Ocrevus by IV infusion over about 2.5 hours.

The second infusion: if the first infusion was well tolerated, you will be given 300 mg of Ocrevus by IV infusion 2 weeks after the first infusion.

Subsequent infusions: if the previous infusion was well tolerated, you will be given 600 mg of Ocrevus by IV infusion 6 months after the previous infusion. The infusion will be over about 3.5 hours.

If you did not experience a serious infusion related reaction with any previous infusion, a shorter infusion of approximately 2 hours can be given for subsequent doses.

You will be closely monitored during each infusion. Your doctor may adjust your infusion depending on how well each one is tolerated.

If you miss a dose

As Ocrevus is given under the supervision of your doctor, you are unlikely to miss a dose. However, if you forget or miss your appointment to receive Ocrevus, you should not wait until the next planned dose but make another appointment as soon as possible.

If you are given too much (overdose)

As Ocrevus is given under the supervision of your doctor, it is very unlikely that you will be given too much. However, if you experience any side effects after being given Ocrevus, tell your doctor immediately.

While you are receiving Ocrevus

Things you must do

Tell your doctor or nurse immediately if you have any signs or symptoms of an infusion reaction or allergic reaction, or heart problems.

Some signs and symptoms can include:

- swelling of your face, lips, tongue or throat with difficulty breathing
- swelling of other parts of your body
- shortness of breath, wheezing or trouble breathing
- rash, itching or hives on the skin
- feeling sick (nausea)
- fever, chills
- feeling tired
- headache
- chest pain
- abnormal or irregular heartbeat

Tell your doctor or nurse straight away if you have any signs of infection during or after Ocrevus treatment. Some signs and symptoms can include:

- **fever or chills**
- **cough that does not go away**
- **herpes (such as cold sores, shingles or genital sores)**

Tell your partner or caregiver you are receiving Ocrevus and ask them to tell you if they notice any changes in your movement or behaviour. If they notice any changes you should tell your doctor about them immediately.

Your doctor may need to perform some tests and alter your treatment.

Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are receiving Ocrevus.

Tell your doctor if you become pregnant or intend to start a family while receiving Ocrevus, or if you intend to breast feed whilst receiving Ocrevus.

Be sure to keep all of your appointments with your doctor so that your progress can be checked.

Things you must not do

Do not stop your Ocrevus treatment without talking to your doctor first.

Tell your doctor if you feel that Ocrevus is not helping your condition.

Do not take any other medicines, whether they require a prescription or not without first telling your doctor or consulting with a pharmacist.

Things to be careful of

Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how Ocrevus affects you.

Side Effects

Tell your doctor or nurse as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are receiving Ocrevus.

Ocrevus helps most people with multiple sclerosis, but it may have unwanted side effects in some people.

All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical attention if you get some of the side effects.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

Do not be alarmed by the following lists of side effects.

You may not experience any of them.

During an infusion

Tell your doctor or nurse immediately if you notice any of the following while receiving an infusion:

- swelling of your face, lips, tongue or throat with difficulty breathing
- swelling of other parts of your body
- shortness of breath, wheezing or trouble breathing
- rash, itching or hives on the skin
- feeling sick (nausea)
- fever, flushing or chills
- cough, throat irritation or pain
- feeling tired
- headache
- dizziness or light headedness
- fast heartbeat

These may be serious side effects. You may need medical attention.

After an infusion

Tell your doctor immediately or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital if you notice any of the following:

- swelling of your face, lips, tongue or throat with difficulty breathing

- swelling of other parts of your body
- shortness of breath, wheezing or trouble breathing
- skin problems including rash, itchiness or hives
- fever, flushing or chills
- cough, throat irritation or pain
- feeling tired
- headache
- dizziness or light headedness

These may be serious side effects. You may need medical attention.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following:

- signs of an infection such as fever or chills
- cold sore, shingles or genital sores
- stuffy nose or chest
- thick mucus in the nose, throat or chest
- persistent cough
- difficulty sleeping (insomnia)
- diarrhoea, vomiting and/or stomach cramps (gastroenteritis)
- skin infections
- sinus infections

This is not a complete list of all possible side effects. Your doctor or pharmacist has a more complete list. Others may occur in some people and there may be some side effects not yet known.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that is making you feel unwell, even if it is not on this list.

Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you don't understand anything in this list.

Product Description

Storage

Ocrevus will be stored in the pharmacy or on the hospital ward in a refrigerator at a temperature between 2°C and 8°C.

Availability

Ocrevus is supplied as a single-dose glass vial containing 10 mL of solution for intravenous infusion (30 mg/mL). It is diluted before infusion into a vein.

What Ocrevus looks like

Ocrevus is a clear or slightly opalescent, colourless to pale brown liquid.

Ingredients

Each vial of Ocrevus contains 300 mg of the active ingredient ocrelizumab. It also contains:

- sodium acetate trihydrate
- trehalose dihydrate
- acetic acid - glacial



- polysorbate 20
- water for injections

Sponsor Details

Ocrevus is supplied in New Zealand by:

Roche Products (New Zealand) Limited
PO Box 109113
Newmarket
Auckland 1149
NEW ZEALAND

Medical enquiries: 0800 276 243

Date of Preparation

This leaflet was prepared on 12 August 2022.