

22 September 2025

**Discontinuation of RIBOMUSTIN® (bendamustine hydrochloride) 25mg & 100mg powder for infusion as of 30 November 2025**

Dear Healthcare Professional,

Janssen-Cilag Pty Ltd (**Janssen**), a Johnson and Johnson company, would like to inform you of the discontinuation of RIBOMUSTIN® (bendamustine hydrochloride) 25mg and 100mg powder for infusion in New Zealand as of **30 November 2025** for:

- RIBOMUSTIN® (bendamustine hydrochloride) 25 mg powder for infusion vial: TT50-9353a
- RIBOMUSTIN® (bendamustine hydrochloride) 100 mg powder for infusion vial: TT50-9353

RIBOMUSTIN® is currently **an unfunded medicine in New Zealand**, registered for the treatment of:

First line treatment of Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia (Binet stage B or C).  
Previously untreated indolent Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and Mantle Cell Lymphoma. RIBOMUSTIN® should be used in combination with rituximab in CD20 positive patients.

Relapsed/Refractory indolent Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

Please refer to the full RIBOMUSTIN® Data Sheet should you need any information on this product, available at:

<https://innovativemedicine.jnj.com/newzealand/download/ribomustin-data-sheet.pdf>

RIBOMUSTIN® was licensed from Astellas Deutschland GmbH (Astellas). Pharma& GmbH has since acquired RIBOMUSTIN®. Janssen has made the decision to discontinue RIBOMUSTIN® in certain markets, including New Zealand. The decision to discontinue this product is not due to safety or efficacy reasons. If you are currently treating or planning to treat a patient with RIBOMUSTIN®, there is a reimbursed generic option available in New Zealand.

**Adverse Event and Product Quality Complaints Reporting**

Janssen is committed to monitoring the safety of our products. We encourage Healthcare Professionals to report any suspected adverse events and other safety information for RIBOMUSTIN® to Medsafe at

<https://pophealth.my.site.com/carmreportnz/s/> and/or Janssen's Medical Information Department, and to report product quality complaints to Janssen's Medical Information Department.

If you have further questions, please contact Janssen Medical Information on 0800 800 806 or [medinfo@janau.jnj.com](mailto:medinfo@janau.jnj.com).

Yours sincerely,

*Anna Dekkers*

Electronically signed by: Anna Dekkers  
Reason: I am approving this document  
Date: Sep 22, 2025 09:19:02 GMT+10

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## RIBOMUSTIN® – Minimum Data Sheet

RIBOMUSTIN® is an unfunded medicine – a prescription charge will apply;

**Indications:** First line treatment of Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia (Binet stage B or C). Previously untreated indolent Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and Mantle Cell Lymphoma. RIBOMUSTIN® should be used in combination with rituximab in CD20 positive patients. Relapsed/Refractory indolent Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

**Contraindications:** RIBOMUSTIN® is contraindicated in patients with: Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients; Severe hepatic impairment (serum bilirubin > 3.0 mg/dL); Jaundice; Severe bone marrow suppression and severe blood count alteration (leukocyte and/or platelet values dropped to < 3x10<sup>9</sup>/L or < 75x10<sup>9</sup>/L, respectively); Major surgery less than 30 days before start of treatment; Infections, especially involving leukocytopenia; Yellow fever vaccination; RIBOMUSTIN® is also contraindicated during breast-feeding.

**Precautions:** Myelosuppression; infections; skin reactions; hepatitis B reactivation; patients with cardiac disorders; nausea, vomiting; tumour lysis syndrome; anaphylaxis; extravasation; \*Non-melanoma skin cancer, other malignancies; pregnancy (category C); lactation; children; see full Data Sheet.

**Dose and method of use:** For intravenous infusion over 30 - 60 minutes. Infusion must be administered under the supervision of a physician qualified and experienced in the use of chemotherapeutic agents.

*Monotherapy for chronic lymphocytic leukaemia* 100 mg/m<sup>2</sup> body surface area bendamustine hydrochloride on days 1 and 2; every 4 weeks, for up to 6 cycles. *Monotherapy for indolent non-Hodgkin's lymphomas refractory to rituximab* 120 mg/m<sup>2</sup> body surface area bendamustine hydrochloride on days 1 and 2; every 3 weeks, for at least 6 cycles. *Combination therapy with rituximab for first-line non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and mantle cell lymphoma* 90 mg/m<sup>2</sup> on days 1 and 2 of a 4-week cycle for up to 6 cycles. Treatment should be terminated or delayed if leukocyte and/or platelet values dropped to < 3x10<sup>9</sup>/L or < 75x10<sup>9</sup>/L, respectively.

RIBOMUSTIN® must be diluted with 0.9% NaCl solution and not with any other injectable solution.

**Interactions with other medicines:** Myelosuppressive agents; cyclosporine; tacrolimus; live-virus vaccination; CYP1A2 inhibitors such as fluvoxamine, ciprofloxacin, acyclovir, cimetidine, see full Data Sheet.

**Adverse events:** neutropenia, thrombocytopenia, anaemia, leukopenia, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, constipation, stomatitis, pyrexia, abdominal pain, dyspepsia, fatigue, weight decreased, anorexia, dehydration, decreased appetite, back pain, headache, dizziness, insomnia, dyspnoea, cough, rash, chills, peripheral oedema, asthenia, upper respiratory tract infection, herpes zoster, urinary infection; others, see full Data Sheet

**Presentation:** RIBOMUSTIN® is supplied in Type I brown glass vials of 26 ml or 60 ml with rubber stopper and an aluminum flip-off cap. 26 mL vials contain 25 mg bendamustine hydrochloride; supplied in cartons containing 1 vial. 60 mL vials contain 100 mg bendamustine hydrochloride; supplied in cartons containing 1 vial. The vials are for single use only.

**Date of Preparation:** 26 May 2021

Before prescribing please review full Data Sheet (available from <https://innovativemedicine.jnj.com/newzealand/download/ribomustin-data-sheet.pdf>)  
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