

Axicabtagene ciloleucel (Yescarta)

About This Treatment

Axicabtagene ciloleucel is used to treat cancer. It is made using your own T-cells, a type of white blood cell. Your T-cells will be collected via leukapheresis, a procedure that circulates your blood through a machine and removes some of your T-cells. Your collected T-cells are then genetically modified to recognize your cancer cells and attack them. Axicabtagene ciloleucel contains your modified T-cells and is given to you through the vein (IV).

Possible Side Effects

- Increased heart rate
- Nausea
- Diarrhea (loose bowel movements)
- Tiredness
- Fever and neutropenic fever. A type of fever that can develop when you have a very low number of white blood cells which can be life-threatening.
- Infection
- Chills
- Decreased appetite (decreased hunger)
- Headache
- Changes in your central nervous system can happen. The central nervous system is made up of your brain and spinal cord. You could feel extreme tiredness, agitation, confusion, hallucinations (see or hear things that are not there), have trouble understanding or speaking, loss of control of your bowels or bladder, eyesight changes, numbness or lack of strength to your arms, legs, face, or body, seizures or coma. **If you start to have any of these symptoms let your doctor know right away.**
- Bone and muscle pain
- Low blood pressure
- Cytokine release syndrome (CRS): Some types of cancer treatments can cause CRS because of the effects of the treatment in your body. If this happens you may feel very sick and get a fever, headache, nausea, or feel weak. You may also have changes to your blood pressure. Because of this, your blood pressure and pulse will be checked while you are getting this treatment.

Note: Each of the side effects above was reported in 30% or greater of patients treated with axicabtagene ciloleucel. All possible side effects are not included. Your side effects may be different

depending on your cancer diagnosis, condition, or if you are receiving other drugs in combination. Please discuss any concerns or questions with your medical team.

Warnings and Precautions

- Cytokine release syndrome (CRS), which can be life-threatening
- Severe changes in your central nervous system, which can be life-threatening
- Allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis are rare but may happen in some patients. Signs of allergic reaction may be swelling of the face, feeling like your tongue or throat are swelling, trouble breathing, rash, itching, fever, chills, feeling dizzy, and/or feeling that your heart is beating in a fast or not normal way. **If this happens, you should get urgent medical treatment.**
- Risk of severe and life-threatening infections
- This treatment may raise your risk of getting a second cancer.
- Bone marrow suppression. This is a decrease in the number of white blood cells, red blood cells, and platelets. This may raise your risk of infection, make you tired and weak, and raise your risk of bleeding.
- Decreased immunoglobulins in your body, which are antibodies and help you fight off infection.

Note: *Some of the side effects above are very rare. If you have concerns and/or questions, please discuss them with your medical team.*

Important Information

- You will need to sign up for a special program called the Yescarta REMS when you start taking this drug. Your nurse will help you get started.
- Because of the possible effect on your central nervous system, this treatment may impair your ability to drive or use machinery. Do not drive or use machinery during your treatment and for 8 weeks after treatment.
- Talk to your doctor before receiving any vaccinations during your treatment. Some vaccinations are not recommended for at least 6 weeks prior to treatment, while receiving axicabtagene ciloleucel, and after receiving axicabtagene ciloleucel - until your immune system is fully recovered.
- This treatment and other chemotherapy agents you may receive may be present in the saliva, tears, sweat, urine, stool, vomit, semen, and vaginal secretions. Talk to your doctor and/or your nurse about the necessary precautions to take during this time.
- Do not donate blood, organs, tissues, and cells for transplantation.

Treating Side Effects

- Manage tiredness by pacing your activities for the day.
- Be sure to include periods of rest between energy-draining activities.
- Get regular exercise. If you feel too tired to exercise vigorously, try taking a short walk.
- To decrease the risk of infection, wash your hands regularly.
- Avoid close contact with people who have a cold, the flu, or other infections.



- Take your temperature as your doctor or nurse tells you, and whenever you feel like you may have a fever.
- To help decrease the risk of bleeding, use a soft toothbrush. Check with your nurse before using dental floss.
- Use an electric shaver instead of a razor.
- Be very careful when using knives or tools.
- To help with decreased appetite, eat small, frequent meals. Eat foods high in calories and protein, such as meat, poultry, fish, dry beans, tofu, eggs, nuts, milk, yogurt, cheese, ice cream, pudding, and nutritional supplements.
- Consider using sauces and spices to increase taste. Daily exercise, with your doctor's approval, may increase your appetite.
- To help with nausea and vomiting, eat small, frequent meals instead of three large meals a day. Choose foods and drinks that are at room temperature. Ask your nurse or doctor about other helpful tips and medicine that is available to help stop or lessen these symptoms.
- Drink plenty of fluids (a minimum of eight glasses per day is recommended).
- If you throw up or have diarrhea, you should drink more fluids so that you do not become dehydrated (lack of water in the body from losing too much fluid).
- If you have diarrhea, eat low-fiber foods that are high in protein and calories and avoid foods that can irritate your digestive tracts or lead to cramping.
- Ask your doctor or nurse about medicines that are available to help stop or lessen diarrhea.
- Keeping your pain under control is important to your well-being. Please tell your doctor or nurse if you are experiencing pain.
- Cytokine release syndrome may happen after your infusion. **If this happens, call 911 for emergency care.**

Food and Drug Interactions

- There are no known interactions of axicabtagene ciloleucel with food.
- This treatment may interact with other medicines. Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all the prescription and over-the-counter medicines and dietary supplements (vitamins, minerals, herbs, and others) that you are taking at this time. Also, check with your doctor or pharmacist before starting any new prescription or over-the-counter medicines, or dietary supplements to make sure that there are no interactions.

When to Call the Doctor

Call your doctor or nurse if you have any of these symptoms and/or any new or unusual symptoms:

- Fever of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher
- Chills
- Tiredness or weakness that interferes with your daily activities
- Feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- Easy bleeding or bruising
- Confusion and/or agitation



- Symptoms of a seizure such as confusion, blacking out, passing out, loss of hearing or vision, blurred vision, unusual smells or tastes (such as burning rubber), trouble talking, tremors or shaking in parts or all of the body, repeated body movements, tense muscles that do not relax, and loss of control of urine and bowels. **If you or your family member suspects you are having a seizure, call 911 right away.**
- Hallucinations
- Trouble understanding or speaking
- Blurry vision or changes in your eyesight
- Numbness or lack of strength to your arms, legs, face, or body
- Headache that does not go away
- Feeling that your heart is beating fast or in a not normal way (palpitations)
- Trouble breathing
- Lasting loss of appetite or rapid weight loss of five pounds in a week
- Nausea that stops you from eating or drinking and/or is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- Throwing up more than 3 times a day
- Diarrhea, 4 times in one day or diarrhea with lack of strength or a feeling of being dizzy
- Signs of infection: fever or chills, cough, trouble breathing, severe pain in your abdomen, difficulty urinating, burning or pain when you pass urine, redness and/or swelling of the skin
- Signs of allergic reaction: swelling of the face, feeling like your tongue or throat are swelling, trouble breathing, rash, itching, fever, chills, feeling dizzy, and/or feeling that your heart is beating in a fast or not normal way. **If this happens, call 911 for emergency care.**
- Signs of cytokine release syndrome such as: fever, chills, or shaking chills, feeling dizzy or lightheaded, have a headache and/or have nausea or throwing up
- Pain that does not go away, or is not relieved by prescribed medicines
- If you think you may be pregnant

Reproduction Warnings

- **Pregnancy warning:** This treatment may have harmful effects on the unborn baby. Women of childbearing potential should use effective methods of birth control during your cancer treatment. Let your doctor know right away if you think you may be pregnant, or if you are planning to become pregnant after receiving axicabtagene ciloleucel. You should also refer to the prescribing information of the chemotherapy drugs you will be receiving in preparation for this treatment.
- **Breastfeeding warning:** It is not known if this treatment passes into breast milk. For this reason, women should talk to their doctor about the risks and benefits of breastfeeding during treatment because this treatment may enter the breast milk and cause harm to a breastfeeding baby. You should also refer to the prescribing information of the chemotherapy drugs you will be receiving in preparation for this treatment.
- **Fertility warning:** Fertility studies have not been done with this treatment. Talk with your doctor or nurse if you plan to have children. Ask for information on sperm or egg banking. You should also refer to the prescribing information of the chemotherapy drugs you will be receiving in preparation for this treatment.



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