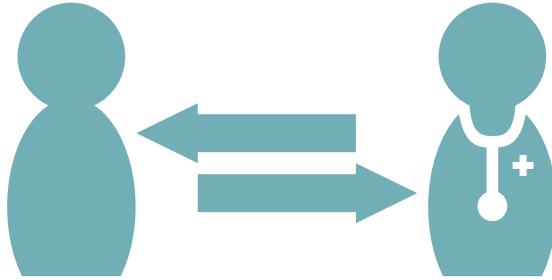


Treatment Plan

You and your doctor have made a decision today about your rheumatoid arthritis medicines.



MEDICINE NAMES AND DOSES

OTHER INSTRUCTIONS:

REFRIGERATE



University of California, San Francisco

Considerations

Most of these medicines should NOT be taken if you are considering pregnancy, have active tuberculosis (TB) or exposure to TB, drink alcohol, or have liver disease. It is very important to talk to your doctor about these issues before you choose a medicine.



Methotrexate

Hydroxychloroquine



Leflunomide

Sulfasalazine



Golimumab

Adalimumab

Certolizumab

Etanercept



Rituximab

Infliximab

Abatacept

Tocilizumab



Cost

Average costs per month.
What you pay will depend on your insurance.



Methotrexate
(Rheumatrex®
or Trexall®)

\$35-\$395

Hydroxychloroquine
(Plaquenil®)

\$30-\$195

Leflunomide
(Arava®)

\$430-\$675

Sulfasalazine
(Azulfidine®)

\$20-\$155



Golimumab
(Simponi®)

\$1,985

Adalimumab
(Humira®)

\$1,830

Certolizumab
(Cimzia®)

\$3,510

Etanercept
(Enbrel®)

\$1,865



Rituximab
(Rituxan®)

\$1,105

Infliximab
(Remicade®)

\$790-\$3,765

Abatacept
(Orencia®)

\$1,185-\$2,365

Tocilizumab
(Actemra®)

\$1,115-\$2,230

How Soon?

These medicines do not work right away. In general, these medicines begin to work between 2 and 12 weeks.



Methotrexate



Hydroxychloroquine



Leflunomide



Sulfasalazine



Golimumab



Adalimumab



Certolizumab



Etanercept



Rituximab



Infliximab



Abatacept



Tocilizumab



How Often?



Methotrexate*



Hydroxychloroquine



Leflunomide



Sulfasalazine



Golimumab



Adalimumab



Certolizumab



Etanercept



*Also available as an injection.

Rituximab



Infliximab



Abatacept*



Tocilizumab



Side Effects



Methotrexate Hydroxychloroquine Leflunomide Sulfasalazine

Common:

Hydroxychloroquine – stomach upset, diarrhea

Methotrexate, Leflunomide, Sulfasalazine – stomach upset, diarrhea, headache, rash, liver inflammation, cold symptoms

Rare serious (less than 1 out of 100 people):

Hydroxychloroquine – eye problems

Methotrexate – lung inflammation

Leflunomide – severe liver injury

Sulfasalazine – severe skin reaction, low blood counts



Golimumab Adalimumab Certolizumab Etanercept

Common: Redness or soreness where needle enters skin, stomach upset, headache, dizziness, high blood pressure.

Rare serious (less than 1 out of 100 people): Reactivation of tuberculosis, serious infection that needs antibiotic by vein in hospital, or cancer (most often skin or blood, like lymphoma).



Rituximab Infliximab Abatacept Tocilizumab

Common: Reaction to infusion, stomach upset, headache, dizziness, high blood pressure.

Rare serious (less than 1 out of 100 people): Reactivation of tuberculosis, serious infection that needs antibiotic by vein in hospital, cancer (most often skin or blood, like lymphoma), or severe infusion reaction.