

Canakinumab: Patient drug information

Brand Names: US: Ilaris

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat certain periodic fever syndromes.
- It is used to treat some types of arthritis (juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, Adult-onset Still's disease, gouty arthritis).
- It may be given to you for other reasons. Talk with the doctor.

What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take this drug?

- If you are allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell your doctor about the allergy and what signs you had.
- If you have any of these health problems: Hepatitis B, hepatitis C, HIV, or any other infection.
- If you are taking any of these drugs: Adalimumab, anakinra, certolizumab, etanercept, golimumab, infliximab, riloncept, tocilizumab, or tofacitinib.

What are some things I need to know or do while I take this drug?

- Tell all of your health care providers that you take this drug. This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- You may have more chance of getting an infection. Wash hands often. Stay away from people with infections, colds, or flu.
- Infections have been reported with use of this drug. If you have any infection, are taking antibiotics now or in the recent past, or have many infections, talk with your doctor.
- You will need a TB (tuberculosis) test before starting this drug.
- Have blood work checked as you have been told by the doctor. Talk with the doctor.
- Make sure you are up to date with all your vaccines before treatment with this drug.
- Talk with your doctor before getting any vaccines. Use of some vaccines with this drug may either raise the chance of an infection or make the vaccine not work as well.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan on getting pregnant, or are breast-feeding. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks to you and the baby.

What are some side effects that I need to call my doctor about

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Signs of infection like fever, chills, very bad sore throat, ear or sinus pain, cough, more sputum or change in color of sputum, pain with passing urine, mouth sores, or wound that will not heal.
- Dizziness or passing out.
- A heartbeat that does not feel normal.

What are some other side effects of this drug?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother you or do not go away:

- Irritation where the shot is given.
- Headache.
- Upset stomach or throwing up. Stomach pain or diarrhea.
- Muscle pain.
- Weight gain.
- Nose or throat irritation.
- Flu-like signs. Signs of a common cold.

How is this drug best taken?

- It is given as a shot into the fatty part of the skin.