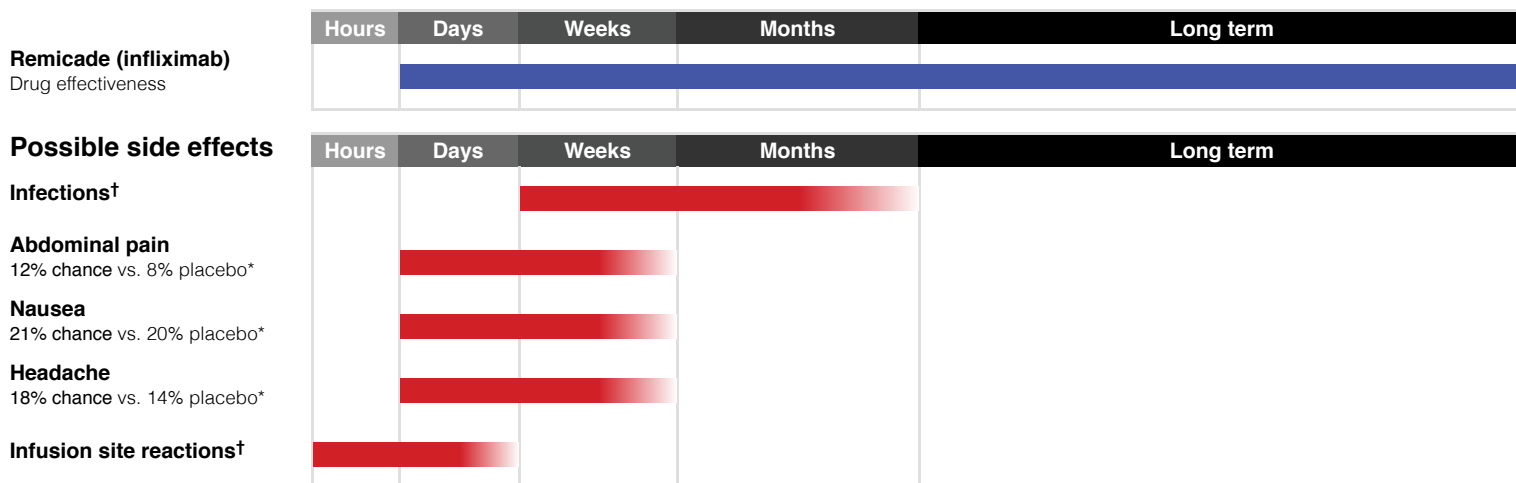


Remicade (infliximab) basics

Calms down your immune system. Remicade (infliximab) is an effective treatment for many autoimmune diseases, but you can have serious side effects.

What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.



* Placebo is a sugar pill with no medicinal benefit.

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

Tips from pharmacists

- Remicade (infliximab) can in some cases cause a serious allergic reaction either immediately or several days after the treatment. Your doctor can give you medicines that will lower this risk.
- Your doctor will test you for tuberculosis before taking Remicade (infliximab) and regularly during treatment.
- Remicade (infliximab) lowers your immune system's ability to fight infections, so it's important to let your doctor know if you notice a fever, cough, or flu-like symptoms.
- You should not receive any live vaccines while taking Remicade (infliximab). Tell your doctor that you are taking Remicade (infliximab) before receiving any vaccines.
- If you have any signs or new or worsening symptoms such as heart, neurological, or autoimmune conditions, talk to your doctor. Tell your doctor about symptoms such as bruising or bleeding.

Risks and warnings

The FDA has identified these as possible serious or life-threatening risks with this medication. Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Serious infections

Remicade (infliximab) can increase your risk of serious or life-threatening infections. In some cases, infections can be reactivated in your body like tuberculosis or hepatitis B virus. You may need to take medicine for tuberculosis before you can begin taking Remicade (infliximab). If you notice cough, fever, chills, muscle aches, feel very tired, or you notice dark urine, change in stool color, yellowing of skin/eyes, loss of appetite, vomiting, stomach discomfort, or skin rash, tell your doctor and get medical care right away. Live vaccines are not recommended with Remicade (infliximab) - talk to your doctor before receiving any vaccines.

Cancer

Rarely, children under 18 who take medicines called TNF blockers like Remicade (infliximab) have had certain types of cancers. This is more likely to happen if people are taking other medicines that lower the immune system. Your child's doctor will talk to you about the risk.

Heart failure

If you have heart failure, talk to your doctor to see if Remicade (infliximab) is right for you, since it can make your heart failure symptoms worse. Your doctor will check your heart regularly.

