



Nufactor Specialty Pharmacy has earned The Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval



ACCREDITED  
Specialty Pharmacy  
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## Infliximab Therapy Side Effects

When receiving infliximab (a common brand is Remicade®), it is important to recognize side effects. Some patients may experience no side effects, while others may experience side effects ranging from mild, moderate and severe to serious. The table below lists the side effects experienced by some patients receiving infliximab and how to manage them.

### MILD SIDE EFFECTS

Possible effects; can be managed at home.

These symptoms should not interfere with daily activities and include infusion reactions (such as fever, chills, shortness of breath, chest pain, rash, itching, blood pressure changes) during and up to 2 hours after infusion, headache (pain rated 1–4 on a 0–10 scale), stomach pain (pain rated 1–4 on a 0–10 scale), coughing.

If symptoms occur during the infusion, inform the nurse so the rate can be decreased or stopped until symptoms improve. Maintain good oral hydration before, during and after therapy. Take ordered premedications before therapy and repeat as needed if ordered. Eat small meals.

### MODERATE SIDE EFFECTS

Unexpected and needs to be reported. May need to seek medical intervention.

These symptoms affect daily activities and include headache (pain rated 5–7 on a 0–10 scale) lasting more than 24 hours, stomach pain (pain rated 5–7 on a 0–10 scale).

These side effects are **NOT** expected. You may need changes in treatment ordered by your doctor. **Report these side effects to the Nufactor pharmacist as soon as possible. Please call: (800) 323-6832. We will work with your physician to reduce side effects.**

### SEVERE TO SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS

Unexpected and needs to be reported. May need to seek medical intervention.

#### New or worsening of infection.

**Tuberculosis:** symptoms include severe cough lasting 3 weeks or longer, chest pain, coughing up blood or sputum, weakness or fatigue, unexplained weight loss, loss of appetite, chills, fever, night sweats.

**Hepatitis B reactivation:** symptoms include abdominal pain, dark urine, fever, joint pain, loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting, weakness and fatigue and yellowing of skin or whites of eyes.

**Liver problems:** symptoms include right-sided abdominal pain, dark urine, fever, nausea and vomiting, weakness and fatigue, rash and yellowing of skin or whites of eyes.

**New or worsening of heart failure:** symptoms include shortness of breath with activity or while laying down, fatigue and weakness, swelling of legs/ankles/feet, sudden weight gain from fluid retention and chest pain

**Blood problems:** symptoms include signs of infection, shortness of breath or very pale look and bruising easily or bleeding.

These side effects are **NOT** expected. You may need changes in treatment ordered by your doctor. **Report these side effects to the Nufactor pharmacist as soon as possible. Please call: (800) 323-6832. We will work with your physician to reduce side effects.**

### SEVERE TO SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS

MUST SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION

Severe allergic reaction, including difficulty breathing, shortness of breath and swelling around the eyelids, lips and cheeks.

**Immediate medical attention is required.** You may need evaluation at a local emergency room. Depending on severity of symptoms, either call 911 or have a family member/caregiver drive you to the ER. **Report these side effects to the Nufactor pharmacist as soon as possible. Please call: (800) 323-6832.**