


Natalizumab (Tysabri)

Patient Information

This information is for educational purposes only and is not intended to replace the advice of your doctor or health care provider. We encourage you to discuss with your doctor any questions or concerns you may have.

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<p>USED FOR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis (MS) Natalizumab will not cure MS. It may reduce flare-ups and slow the worsening of symptoms. 	
<p>HOW IT WORKS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natalizumab is an antibody that modifies the immune system by preventing immune cells from entering the central nervous system, which is thought to help reduce injury to the nervous system from MS. 	
<p>HOW IT IS GIVEN</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tysabri is mixed in a 100ml fluid bag and is given by infusion through a needle placed in a vein in your arm (intravenous infusion). You will be required to go to an infusion center for the administration of the drug. 	
<p>DOSE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natalizumab is typically dosed at 300 mg IV for 1 dose every 4 weeks 	
<p>UCSF INFUSION CENTERS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BEFORE scheduling your appointment with an infusion center, you must get authorization from your insurance 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ron Conway Family Gateway Medical Building <p>1825 Fourth St., Third Floor San Francisco, CA 94158 Phone: (415) 353-7155 Hours: Monday to Friday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ida Friend Infusion Center <p>1600 Divisadero St., Fifth Floor San Francisco, CA 94143 Phone: (415) 353-7155 Hours: Monday to Friday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.</p>
<p>WHAT TO EXPECT DURING THE INFUSION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natalizumab will be infused at slow rate that will last for 1 hour You will be observed for 1 hour after the infusion is complete to make sure there are not any side effects or hypersensitivity reactions. Plan to be at the infusion center for at least 2 hours. 	

<p>INFUSION SIDE EFFECTS AND REACTIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If hypersensitivity reactions occur, it will usually be within 2 hours after starting the infusion, but can also happen at any time. • You will be monitored closely and treated with medications if any of these symptoms occur: hives, dizziness, fever, rash, chills, itching, nausea, flushing, low blood pressure, shortness of breath, and chest pain 	
<p>COMMON SIDE EFFECTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • headache • lung infection • vaginitis • stomach area pain • feeling tired • depression • rash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • urinary tract infection • pain in your arm and legs • nose and throat infections • joint pain • diarrhea • nausea
<p>RARE, BUT SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natalizumab increases your risk of getting a rare brain infection called progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML). It can lead to death or severe disability and there is no known treatment, prevention, or cure. • The risk of PML is higher if you have a weakened immune system, an infection with the John Cunningham Virus (JCV), or if you have received Natalizumab for more than 2 years. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Call your doctor right away if you develop symptoms of PML: ○ Problems with thinking, memory, confusion, eye sight, or strength, weakness on 1 side of your body, or difficulty using arms and legs. ○ These symptoms will develop over days to weeks and can lead to death or severe disability over weeks to months. • Other side effects: Liver damage, herpes infection of the brain 	
<p>MONITORING</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BEFORE starting Natalizumab, you will need a complete blood cell count, lymphocyte subsets, JCV antibody test, and liver function tests • Prior to re-infusion, you will need a JCV antibody test every 6 months or every 3 months as determined by your doctor, as well as other safety labs 	
<p>MORE INFORMATION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Websites: www.tysabri.com, www.nationalmssociety.org • Clinical Trials: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Polman CH, et al. N Engl J Med. 2006;354(9):899-910. 2. Rudick RA, et al. N Engl J Med. 2006;354(9):911-23. 	