

Natalizumab
(Tysabri®)

Patient Information

Updated: 10.2019

USED FOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis (MS) Natalizumab (Tysabri®) will not cure MS. It may reduce flare-ups and slow the worsening of symptoms. 	
HOW IT WORKS	<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. 	
HOW IT IS GIVEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natalizumab 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. 	
DOSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natalizumab is typically dosed at 300 mg IV for 1 dose every 4 weeks 	
UCSF INFUSION CENTERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BEFORE scheduling your appointment with an infusion center, you must get authorization from your insurance 	
	<p>Ida Friend Infusion Center (Mt. Zion)</p> <p>1600 Divisadero St., 5th Floor San Francisco, CA 94143 Phone: (415) 353-7155 Hours: Monday to Friday 8 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Ron Conway Family Gateway Medical Building (Mission Bay)</p> <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 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p>
WHAT TO EXPECT DURING THE INFUSION	<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. 	

INFUSION SIDE EFFECTS AND REACTIONS	<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
COMMON SIDE EFFECTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • headache • lung infection • vaginitis • stomach area pain • feeling tired • depression • rash
RARE, BUT SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS	<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. <p>⇒ Call your doctor right away if you develop symptoms of PML:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ 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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other side effects: Liver damage, herpes infection of the brain
MONITORING	<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
MORE INFORMATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Websites: www.tysabri.com, www.nationalmssociety.org • Clinical Trials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polman CH, et al. N Engl J Med. 2006;354(9):899-910. • Rudick RA, et al. N Engl J Med. 2006;354(9):911-23.