

Reximed®

Methotrexate

Solution for Injection

Read this leaflet carefully before you start taking Reximed®. This leaflet provides answers to the most common questions. If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist. This medicine has been prescribed for your current illness only. Do not take it in similar conditions and do not pass it on to others. The information in this leaflet was last updated on the date listed on the bottom of the page. More recent information on the medicine may be available. You should ensure that you speak to your doctor or pharmacist to obtain the most up-to-date scientific information on the medicine. The latest version of this leaflet is available on www.nanoalvand.com.

What is in this leaflet

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1. What Reximed® is and what it is used for

Reximed® contains the active substance methotrexate. This medicine is a cytostatic agent that inhibits cell growth. Reximed® has its greatest effect on cells which increase frequently like cancer cells, bone marrow cells and skin cells.

Reximed® is used in the treatment of the following types of cancer:

- acute lymphocytic leukemia
- non-Hodgkin's lymphomas
- osteogenic sarcoma
- breast cancer
- metastatic or recurrent head and neck cancer
- choriocarcinoma and similar trophoblastic diseases
- advanced cancer of urinary bladder

Reximed® may be used for other indications not mentioned in this leaflet.

If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

2. What you need to know before you use Reximed®

Do not use Reximed®

- If you are allergic to methotrexate or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- If you have severe liver or kidney disease.
- If you have increased alcohol consumption.
- If you have disorders of the blood-forming system.
- If you have severe or existing infection such as tuberculosis and HIV.
- If you have ulcers in the mouth and throat or ulcers in the stomach and gut.
- If you are breast-feeding (see section "Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility").

You should not be given live vaccines during treatment with Reximed®.

Warnings and precautions

Reximed® can cause serious and sometimes life-threatening undesirable effects. Your doctor will talk to you about the advantage and risks of the treatment and what the early signs and symptoms of undesirable effects are.

- Your skin or eyes can be extremely sensitive to sunlight or other forms of light during the treatment with Reximed®. Therefore, sunlight and solarium should be avoided.
- Reximed® can cause decrease in cells responsible for providing immunity, carrying oxygen, and those responsible for normal blood clotting, thereby increasing chances of you getting the infections (e.g pneumonia) or increased bleedings.
- Acute bleeding from the lungs in patients with underlying rheumatologic disease has been reported with methotrexate.
- Reximed® temporarily affects sperm and egg production. Reximed® can cause miscarriage and severe birth defects. You and your partner should avoid having a baby if you are being given Reximed® at the time and for at least 6 months after the end of your treatment with Reximed®. See also section "Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility".

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before taking Reximed®:

- If you are to undergo radiotherapy at the same time as the Reximed® treatment. The risk of tissue and bone damage can increase with simultaneous treatment.
- If you are having treatment in your spine (intrathecally) or in a vein (intravenously). This can cause a potentially life-threatening inflammation in the brain.
- If you have a medical condition that means that fluid is retained in your body, for example in the lungs or in the stomach.
- If you have impaired kidney function.
- If you have impaired liver function.
- If you have an infection.
- If you need to be vaccinated. Reximed® can reduce the effect of the vaccines.
- If you have insulin dependent diabetes, Reximed® treatment should be carefully monitored.

Reximed® 100 mg/ml must not be administered in your spine (intrathecally).

If you notice new onset or worsening of neurological symptoms including general muscle weakness, disturbance of vision, changes in thinking, memory and orientation leading to confusion and personality changes contact your doctor immediately because these may be symptoms of a very rare, serious brain infection called progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML).

Before treatment is started your doctor may carry out blood tests, and also to check how well your kidneys and liver are working. You may also have a chest X-ray. Further tests may also be done during and after treatment. Do

not miss appointments for blood tests. Even if Reximed® is used in low doses, serious side effects can occur. In order to detect them in good time, your doctor must carry out check-ups and laboratory tests.

Other medicines and Reximed®

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines. Reximed® affects or is affected by certain other medicinal products against:

- Pain and inflammation (so called NSAIDs and salicylates)
- Cancer (cisplatin, cytarabine, mercaptopurine)
- Infections (ciprofloxacin and antibiotics such as penicillin, tetracycline and chloramphenicol)
- Asthma (theophylline)
- Vitamin preparations containing folic acid or substances like folic acid
- Rheumatism (leflunomide)
- High blood pressure (furosemide)
- Gout (probenecid)
- Stomach ulcers, heartburn, reflux (such as omeprazole, pantoprazole, lansoprazole)
- Epilepsy (phenytoin)
- Psoriasis or severe acne (retinoids, such as acitretin or isotretinoin)
- Rheumatoid arthritis or bowel disease (sulfasalazine)
- Rejection after an organ transplant (azathioprine)
- If you need to be vaccinated with a live vaccination

Reximed® with food and drink

During treatment with Reximed®, you should not drink any alcohol and you should avoid excessive consumption of coffee, soft drinks containing caffeine and black tea. Also make sure you drink plenty of liquids during treatment with Reximed® because dehydration (reduction in body water) can increase the toxicity of Reximed®.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Pregnancy

Do not use Reximed® during pregnancy except if your doctor has prescribed it for oncology treatment. Reximed® can cause birth defects, harm the unborn child or cause miscarriage. It is associated with malformations of the skull, face, heart and blood vessels, brain, and limbs. It is therefore very important that Reximed® is not given to pregnant women or to women who are planning to become pregnant unless used for oncology treatment.

For non-oncological indications, in women of child-bearing age the possibility of a pregnancy must be ruled out, e.g., by pregnancy tests, before treatment is started.

Do not use Reximed® if you are trying to become pregnant. You must avoid becoming pregnant during treatment with Reximed® and for at least 6 months after the end of treatment (see also section "Warnings and precautions").

If you become pregnant during treatment or suspect you might be pregnant, speak to your doctor as soon as possible. If you do become pregnant during treatment, you should be offered advice regarding the risk of harmful effects on the child through treatment.

If you want to become pregnant, you should speak with your doctor, who may refer you for specialist advice before the planned start of treatment.

Contraception

Men and women must ensure that they are taking effective contraception during treatment with Reximed® and for at least 6 months after the end of treatment.

Breast-feeding

Methotrexate is excreted into breast milk in such quantities that there are risks of affecting the baby. Breast-feeding should therefore be suspended during treatment with Reximed®.

Fertility

The available evidence does not indicate an increased risk of malformations or miscarriage if the father takes methotrexate less than 30 mg/week. However, a risk cannot be completely excluded and there is no information regarding higher methotrexate doses. Methotrexate can have a genotoxic effect. This means that the medicine can cause genetic mutations. Methotrexate can affect the production of sperm, which is associated with the possibility of birth defects.

As treatment with methotrexate at higher doses commonly used in cancer treatment can cause infertility and genetic mutations, it may be advisable for male patients treated with methotrexate doses higher than 30 mg/week to consider sperm preservation before the beginning of treatment (see also section "Warnings and precautions").

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking any medicine.

Driving and using machines

Undesirable effects such as tiredness and dizziness may occur. If you feel tired or dizzy do not drive or operate tools or machinery.

Reximed® contains sodium

Reximed® contains 194 mg of sodium per maximum daily dose. To be taken into consideration by patients on a controlled sodium diet.

3. How to use Reximed®

Reximed® is given to you by healthcare professionals.

The dose you receive and how often you receive the dose, depend on the disease you are being treated for, your state of health and your age, weight and body surface. Reximed® can be given in a muscle (intramuscularly), in a vein (intravenously), or in an artery (intra-arterially). Reximed® can also be given as an intravenous infusion.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. Reximed® can have undesirable effects which may be dangerous or life-threatening. During the treatment you should be alert to signs of undesirable effects and report them to your doctor.

Serious side effects

Contact a doctor immediately if you notice any of the following undesirable effects. You may need immediate medical care:

- unexplained breathlessness, dry cough or wheezing

(symptoms of lung problems)

- sudden itching, skin rash (urticaria), swollen hands, feet, ankles, face, lips, mouth or throat (which can make it hard to breathe and swallow). It can also feel as if you are going to faint (symptoms of a severe allergic reaction)
- vomiting, diarrhea or stomatitis and peptic ulcers (symptoms of effect on gastrointestinal track)
- yellowing of the skin or eyes, dark colored urine (symptoms of effect on the liver)
- fever, shivering, aching body and sore throat (symptoms of infection)
- unexpected bleeding (for example bleeding gums, dark urine, blood in the urine or vomit) or unexpected bruising, black, tar-like feces; this can be due to a reduced coagulation capacity or bleeding from the stomach or gut
- skin rashes with flaking or blistering and effects on mucous membranes, e.g., in the nose (symptoms of Stevens-Johnsons syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis and erythema multiforme)
- abnormal behavior, transient blindness and generalized seizures (symptoms of effect on central nervous system)
- paralysis (paresis)

Other side effects

Very common (may affect more than 1 in 10 people):

- loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, impaired digestion, dyspepsia
- inflammation and ulceration in mouth and throat
- increase in level of liver enzyme

Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people):

- herpes zoster
- effects on the blood e.g., anemia, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia
- diarrhea
- dry cough, shortness of breath, chest pain, fever
- rashes, redness and itching
- headache, tiredness, drowsiness

Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people):

- pancytopenia, agranulocytosis
- inflammation of blood vessels
- anaphylactoid reactions
- vertigo, confusion, depression
- convulsions, encephalopathy
- lymphoma (tumor in lymph tissue)
- pulmonary fibrosis
- bleeds and ulcers in the stomach and intestinal tract
- inflammation of pancreas
- diabetic complications
- reduced level of albumin
- enhanced pigmentation of the skin
- loss of hair, painful lesions of scaly patches caused by psoriasis
- increase of rheumatic nodules (lumps of tissues)
- effects on skin and mucous membrane, sometimes serious (Stevens-Johnsons syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis)
- skin becoming hypersensitive to sunlight, urticaria
- brittle bones (osteoporosis), arthralgia, myalgia
- liver fibrosis and cirrhosis, fatty liver
- inflammation and ulceration of urinary bladder, hematuria, dysuria
- inflammation and ulceration of vagina

Rare (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people):

- pericarditis, pericarditis effusion and tamponade
- megaloblastic anemia
- mood swings
- paresis
- effects on speech including dysarthria and aphasia
- myelopathy
- visual disturbance, blurred vision
- thrombosis (cerebral, deep vein and retinal vein)
- low blood pressure
- diabetes
- pharyngitis apnea, bronchial asthma, gingivitis
- inflammation in the small intestine
- blood in the feces
- malabsorption
- acne, sores on the skin, pigment changes of the nails, bruises
- fractures
- renal failure, oliguria, azotemia and anuria
- hyperuricemia
- elevated serum creatinine and urea level
- liver damage
- abnormal development of mammary glands

Very rare (may affect up to 1 in 10,000 people):

- infections, sepsis, opportunistic infections
- severe failure of the bone marrow, anemia due to the fact that the bone marrow cannot produce blood cells (aplastic anemia), lymphadenopathy, lymphoproliferative disorder (excessive growth of white blood cells), eosinophilia, neutropenia and hypogammaglobulinemia
- immunosuppression
- insomnia
- impaired intellectual functions such as thinking, remembering and reasoning
- joint and/or muscle pain, lack of strength
- myasthenia (muscle weakness)
- meningism (paralysis, vomiting), acute aseptic meningitis

- abnormal sensations, changes in sense of taste (metallic taste)
- conjunctivitis, retinopathy, loss of vision, puffy eye
- inflammation of eye follicles, epiphora and photophobia
- tumor lysis syndrome
- allergic vasculitis, hidradenitis
- problem with lung function, shortness of breath, pneumonia
- infections of lungs
- pleural effusion
- dilation of colon (Toxic megacolon), blood in vomit
- reactivation of chronic hepatitis, acute liver degeneration, herpes simplex hepatitis, liver insufficiency
- painful swelling of skin around nail
- expansion of small blood vessels in the skin
- proteinuria
- loss of libido, impotence
- menstrual disorder
- discharge from the vagina
- infertility
- fever, impaired wound healing

Not known (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data):

- bleeding, blood outside of vessels
- psychosis
- accumulation of fluid in brain and lungs
- metabolic disorder
- skin necrosis, exfoliative dermatitis
- bone damage in the jaw (secondary to excessive growth of white blood cells)
- redness and shedding of skin

Reximed® 100 mg/ml must not be given in the spine as it may cause very serious side effects.

5. How to store Reximed®

- Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.
- Do not use this medicine after the expiry date.
- Store below 30°C.
- Store in the original package in order to protect from light.
- Cytotoxic agent. Must be transported, stored and used according to guidelines for handling of cytotoxic compounds.
- Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Reximed® contains

The active substance is methotrexate. The other ingredients are sodium hydroxide and water for injection.

Each ml of solution contains 100 mg of methotrexate.

What Reximed® looks like and contents of the pack

Reximed® injection is a clear, yellow to orange, and free of particulate solution.

Reximed® 100 mg/ml is supplied in three strengths. One vial of Reximed® contains 500 mg/5 ml, 1000 mg/10 ml, 5000 mg/50 ml of methotrexate.

Each vial is packed in a box with a leaflet.

Not all strengths may be marketed.

For medical or healthcare professionals only

The product should be used and administered only by trained personnel; the mixing of the solution should take place in designated areas, designed to protect personnel and the environment (e.g., safety cabins); protective clothing should be worn (including gloves, eye protection, and masks if necessary).

Reximed® should not come into contact with the skin or mucosa. In the event of contamination, the affected area must be irrigated immediately with copious quantities of water at least ten minutes.

Pregnant healthcare personnel should not handle and/or administer Reximed®.

The solution should be visually inspected prior to use. Only clear solution practically free from particles should be used.

Reximed® may be further diluted with an appropriate preservative-free medium such as dextrose solution (5%) or sodium chloride solution (0.9%).

Chemical and physical stability of the diluted solution have been demonstrated in dextrose solution (5%) and sodium chloride solution (0.9%) at concentrations of 5 mg/ml and 20 mg/ml for 24 hours at room temperature and 30 days in a refrigerator (2°C to 8°C).

From a microbiological point of view, the product should be used immediately. If not used immediately, in-use storage times and condition prior to use are the responsibility of the user.

For single use only. Any unused solution should be discarded.

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