

If you've been diagnosed with giant cell arteritis (GCA), try to keep an active partnership with your healthcare professional. An active partnership is helpful to ensure you get the most out of your treatment plan. This guide may lead you through a conversation with your healthcare professional. **Be sure to print this guide and bring it to your next appointment.**

## Telling your healthcare professional how you feel

Any symptoms you may be feeling could be caused by GCA or the medication you're taking to treat it. Help your healthcare professional understand how you're feeling by answering the question below.

➤ Have you noticed any new symptoms or changes in your body since your last appointment?

Yes     No

If yes, please explain.

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## What does ACTEMRA treat?

ACTEMRA is a prescription medicine used to treat adults with giant cell arteritis (GCA).

## ACTEMRA can cause serious side effects

### Serious Infections

**ACTEMRA changes the way your immune system works. This can make you more likely to get infections or make any current infection worse. Some people have died from these infections. Your healthcare provider should test you for TB before starting and during treatment with ACTEMRA.**

Please see Important Side Effect Information on pages 3-4. For additional safety information, please see the full Prescribing Information and Medication Guide enclosed.

 **ACTEMRA**<sup>®</sup>  
tocilizumab

## Making a GCA treatment plan

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You may not have started on a GCA treatment yet. Or you may not be satisfied with your current GCA treatment. In either case, ask your healthcare provider about what treatment options are available. Below are some questions that may guide this important conversation.

- What are my treatment options?
- What are the benefits and risks of steroids?
- Is there a way to treat my GCA with fewer steroids?
- When is it time to consider a different treatment?
- What is a biologic? How is it different from steroids?
- What is the most important information I should know about ACTEMRA?
- What are the benefits and risks of ACTEMRA?

**Add your own questions and take notes here:**

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**ACTEMRA could help you manage your GCA while allowing your healthcare professional to gradually lower your steroid dose. Ask your healthcare professional about the benefits and risks of ACTEMRA.**

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## IMPORTANT SIDE EFFECT INFORMATION

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**Do not take ACTEMRA if you are allergic to tocilizumab, or any of the ingredients in ACTEMRA.**

### ACTEMRA can cause other serious side effects. These include:

#### Tears (perforation) of the Stomach or Intestines

If you have diverticulitis (inflammation in parts of the large intestine), talk to your healthcare provider before taking ACTEMRA. Some people taking ACTEMRA may develop a hole in the wall of their stomach or intestines (also known as a perforation).

#### Liver problems (Hepatotoxicity)

Some people have experienced serious life-threatening liver problems, which required a liver transplant or led to death. Your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking ACTEMRA if you develop new or worsening liver problems during treatment with ACTEMRA.

#### Changes in Blood Test Results

Your healthcare provider should do blood tests before and after you start receiving ACTEMRA. You should not receive ACTEMRA if your neutrophil and platelet counts are too low or your liver function test levels are too high. These may cause your healthcare provider to stop your ACTEMRA treatment for a time or change your dose.

#### Cancer

ACTEMRA may increase your risk of certain cancers by changing the way your immune system works.

Please see additional Important Side Effect Information on page 4. For additional safety information, please see the full Prescribing Information and Medication Guide enclosed.

## IMPORTANT SIDE EFFECT INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

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### Hepatitis B Infection

If you have or are a carrier of the hepatitis B virus (a virus that affects the liver), the virus may become active while you use ACTEMRA. Your healthcare provider may do blood tests before you start treatment with ACTEMRA and while you are using ACTEMRA.

### Serious Allergic Reactions

Serious allergic reactions, including death, can happen with ACTEMRA. These reactions can happen with any infusion or injection of ACTEMRA, even if they did not occur with an earlier infusion or injection.

### Nervous System Problems

While rare, Multiple Sclerosis has been diagnosed in people who take ACTEMRA.

### The most common side effects of ACTEMRA include:

- upper respiratory tract infections (common cold, sinus infections)
- headache
- increased blood pressure (hypertension)
- injection site reactions

### ACTEMRA & Pregnancy

Tell your healthcare provider if you are planning to become pregnant, are pregnant, plan to breast-feed, or are breast-feeding. If you are pregnant and taking ACTEMRA, join the pregnancy registry. To learn more, call 1-877-311-8972 or talk to your healthcare provider to register.

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects. You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088. You may also report side effects to Genentech at 1-888-835-2555.

Please see full Prescribing Information and the Medication Guide, including Serious Side Effects, for more Important Safety Information.

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tocilizumab