



Tocilizumab (Actemra) supply allocations during shortage

Information for consumers/patients

- Tocilizumab (Actemra) is commonly used to treat rheumatoid arthritis.
- If you are being treated with tocilizumab (Actemra) contact your prescriber as soon as possible.
- If you have been receiving Actemra by an infusion, your specialist may prescribe a different medicine to treat your condition.
- If you use the prefilled syringe or ACTPen autoinjector, you might need to swap between these two medicines. Ask your prescriber, GP or rheumatology nurse to teach you how to use both types in case you need to swap.

Information for rheumatologists, private hospitals and clinicians treating existing tocilizumab patients in the community setting

- Reserve IV tocilizumab stock for priority conditions (Cytokine Release Syndrome and Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis) and patients who are unable to switch medicines
- Contact patients treated with IV tocilizumab and switch to alternative treatments wherever possible
- Do not switch to subcutaneous presentations of tocilizumab, where possible
- Order through your usual wholesalers
- Additional stock may not be available beyond allocations. If stock is available, it will only be provided for priority conditions.
- Do not initiate new patients on IV or subcutaneous tocilizumab unless alternative treatments are contraindicated or not clinically appropriate.

Information for public hospitals

- Reserve IV tocilizumab stock for priority conditions (Cytokine Release Syndrome and Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis) and patients who are unable to switch medicines
- Switch patients to alternative treatments wherever possible
- Do not switch to subcutaneous presentations of tocilizumab
- Order through your usual wholesalers
- Stock will be managed within jurisdictions. If you need additional supplies for priority patients, contact your jurisdictional health department representative. Note that additional supplies may be limited or not available.

Information for private hospital and community pharmacists

- Contact the prescriber to discuss alternative treatment options
- Do not order IV tocilizumab unless a patient presents a prescription
- Order stock through your usual wholesalers
- Subcutaneous presentations of tocilizumab are available in limited quantities
- The prefilled syringe and ACTPen autoinjector are interchangeable under the [Serious Scarcity Substitution Instrument](#), if the conditions in the instrument are met.



Please scan this code for more information