

## Why have I been given this card?

This medicine may make you more likely to get infections. This card tells you:

- What you need to know before having rituximab
  - What the signs of an infection are
  - What to do if you think you might be getting an infection
- It also includes space to write your name, your doctor's name and phone number on the back.

## What should I do with this card?

- Keep this card with you all the time—such as in your wallet or purse
- Show this card to any healthcare professional such as a doctor, nurse, pharmacist or dentist you see—not just the specialist who prescribes your rituximab

Keep this card with you for **2 years** after your last dose of rituximab. This is because side effects can develop several months after you have had treatment.

## When should I not have rituximab?

Do not have rituximab if you have an active (even if it is minor) infection or have ever had a problem with your immune system.

Tell your doctor or nurse if you are taking or have previously taken medicines which may affect your immune system. This includes chemotherapy.

## What are the signs of getting an infection?

Look out for the following possible signs of infection:

- Fever or cough all the time
- Weight loss
- Pain without injuring yourself
- Feeling generally unwell, tired or having low energy
- Burning pain when passing urine

**If you experience any of these symptoms, tell a doctor or nurse straight away. You should also tell them about your rituximab treatment.**

## What else do I need to know?

Rarely, rituximab can cause a serious brain infection called progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy, or PML. This can be fatal.

- Signs of PML include:
  - Confusion, memory loss, or problems thinking
  - Loss of balance or a change in the way you walk or talk
  - Decreased strength or weakness on one side of your body
  - Blurred vision or loss of vision

**If you experience any of these symptoms, tell a doctor or nurse straight away. You should also tell them about your rituximab treatment.**

### Where can I get more information?

See the rituximab package leaflet for more information.

### Treatment start date and contact details

Date of most recent infusion: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of first infusion: \_\_\_\_\_

Patient's name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Doctor's name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Doctor's contact details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Make sure you have a list of all your medicines when you see a healthcare professional.

Please talk to your doctor or nurse if you have any questions about the information in this card.

### Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in the package leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at: <https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk> or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google play or Apple App store. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

Many side effects can be managed effectively if you report them early. Not reporting your side effects can seriously impact your health. Side effects can occur at any time while on the treatment and even weeks or months after your last dose.

Keep this card with you at all times and for 2 years after completing your treatment with rituximab.

**RUXIENCE<sup>®</sup>**  
**(rituximab)**

**Alert Card for patients with  
non-oncology diseases**