

Rituximab is a medication that can be used to treat certain neurological conditions, such as myasthenia gravis, neuromyelitis optica, and autoimmune encephalitis. It works by targeting and eliminating specific cells in the immune system that may be causing inflammation and damage in the nervous system.

Before starting rituximab, your healthcare provider will perform a thorough evaluation to determine if it is the right treatment option for you. This may include blood tests, imaging studies, and other diagnostic tests. You should also inform your healthcare provider of any medications you are currently taking, as well as any allergies or medical conditions you have.

Rituximab is typically administered through an intravenous (IV) infusion via a drip. The infusion process usually takes several hours, and you may need to receive multiple infusions over several weeks or months. During the infusion, you will be monitored for any side effects or reactions.

Some common side effects of rituximab include:

- Nausea and vomiting
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Muscle and joint pain
- Fever
- Infusion reactions (such as chills, fever, and difficulty breathing)

Your healthcare provider may give you medications to help manage these side effects.

It is important to follow your healthcare provider's instructions carefully and attend all scheduled appointments for rituximab infusions. You should also inform your healthcare provider if you experience any new or worsening symptoms while taking this medication.

In some cases, rituximab may increase your risk of infections or certain types of cancer. Your healthcare provider will monitor you for these potential risks and take appropriate measures to minimise them.

Your specialist will weigh the potential benefits and risks with you to determine if it is the right choice for you.