

Actemra DOSING GUIDE

A guide to assist healthcare professionals with the dose preparation and administration of Actemra therapy in patients with:

- Rheumatoid Arthritis [Intravenous]
- Polyarticular Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (also referred to as Juvenile Idiopathic Polyarthritis) [Intravenous]
- Systemic Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis [Intravenous]

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This Actemra Dosing Guide is a requirement of the Actemra product license and contains important safety information that you need to be aware of when administering Actemra. This Actemra Dosing Guide must be read together with the Actemra Healthcare Professional and Patient Brochures [available online at www.pharm.am and the Actemra Labeling/Summary of Product Characteristics that comes with Actemra (and is also available on www.pharm.am as it contains important information about Actemra.

Please read this information carefully before administering the product.

Actemra IV (Actemra 20 mg/ml concentrate for solution for infusion):

Actemra, in combination with methotrexate (MTX), is indicated for:

- The treatment of severe, active and progressive rheumatoid arthritis (RA) in adults not previously treated with MTX.
- The treatment of moderate to severe active RA in adult patients who have either responded inadequately to, or who were intolerant to, previous therapy with one or more disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) or tumour necrosis factor (TNF) antagonists.
- In these patients, Actemra can be given as monotherapy in case of intolerance to MTX or where continued treatment with MTX is inappropriate.
- Actemra has been shown to reduce the rate of progression of joint damage as measured by X-ray and to improve physical function when given in combination with methotrexate.

Actemra is indicated for the treatment of active systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis (sJIA) in patients 2 years of age and older, who have responded inadequately to previous therapy with NSAIDs and systemic corticosteroids. Actemra can be given as monotherapy (in case of intolerance to MTX or where treatment with MTX is inappropriate) or in combination with MTX.

Actemra in combination with methotrexate (MTX) is indicated for the treatment of juvenile idiopathic polyarthritis (pJIA; rheumatoid factor positive or negative and extended oligoarthritis) in patients 2 years of age and older, who have responded inadequately to previous therapy with MTX. Actemra can be given as monotherapy in case of intolerance to MTX or where continued treatment with MTX is inappropriate.

Prior to each infusion:

- It is important that you review the pre-administration checklist found in the Patient Brochure: *What You Should Know About Actemra* with your patient, the patient's parents/guardians, or both.
- Allow ample time to discuss any questions your patient, the patient's parents/guardians, or both may have.
- It is important that you review the information contained within the *Important Efficacy and Safety Information for Healthcare Professionals* for Actemra® (tocilizumab) intravenous (IV) and subcutaneous (SC) formulations and the Patient Brochure: *What You Should Know About Actemra* with your patient, the patient's parents/guardians, or both. These will help them understand what they may expect from the treatment of the patient's condition with Actemra.

For full information, see the Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) and the Actemra Package Leaflet: Information for the user, which can be found on the site of “Scientific Centre of Drug and Medical Technology Expertise after academician E.Gabrielyan” CJSC website: www.pharm.am

Actemra Patient Brochures and other information can be requested from your sales representative. If you have questions or concerns, please visit www.pharm.am or call +374 91796688 Gayane Ghazaryan or 37491721153, Nune Karapetyan.

PART I – INTRAVENOUS (IV) ADMINISTRATION OF ACTEMRA BY INFUSION


This guide will walk you through the Actemra infusion process in **6** steps


1 WEIGH PATIENT AND CALCULATE ACTEMRA DOSE BASED ON INDICATION

Actemra dosing is calculated based on each patient’s weight and the indication for which they are treated. The treatment frequency varies by indication. Verify the patient’s weight and indication, then locate it on the chart to find the corresponding dose and recommended vial combination.

If the patient’s dose has been calculated prior to the infusion date, take his or her weight to make sure that it has not changed from the time of the original calculation to require a change in dose. If the patient’s weight has changed, contact the prescriber to discuss whether a dosing change is needed. Refer to the chart to check whether a dosing adjustment is necessary.

Once the dose is calculated, choose the vial combination of Actemra that best matches the patient’s needs. Actemra is available in three different dosing vials:

 400 mg (20 ml) vials

 80 mg (10 ml) vials

80 mg  4 ml) vials

Inspect the vials for particulate matter and discolouration. Only solutions which are clear to opalescent, colourless to pale yellow and free of visible particles should be used.

RA: Dosing Preparation and Administration Guide with Actemra IV

Actemra IV dosing in RA patients is calculated based on each patient’s weight as follows:

For the 8 mg/kg dose: Patient weight (kg) x 8 (mg/kg) = Actemra 8 mg dose.

For individuals whose body weight is more than 100 kg, doses exceeding 800 mg per infusion are not recommended.

8 mg/kg dose				
Weight (kg)	Weight (lbs)	Dose (mg)	Dose (mL)	Vial combinations
50	110.0	400	20.0	1 red vial
52	114.4	416	20.8	1 red vial + 1 green vial
54	118.8	432	21.6	1 red vial + 1 green vial
56	123.2	448	22.4	1 red vial + 1 green vial
58	127.6	464	23.2	1 red vial + 1 green vial
60	132.0	480	24.0	1 red vial + 1 green vial
62	136.4	496	24.8	1 yellow vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial
64	140.8	512	25.6	1 yellow vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial
66	145.2	528	26.4	1 red vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial
68	149.6	544	27.2	1 red vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial
70	154.0	560	28.0	1 red vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial
72	158.4	576	28.8	1 red vial + 1 yellow vial
74	162.8	592	29.6	1 red vial + 1 yellow vial
76	167.2	608	30.4	1 red vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial
78	171.6	624	31.2	1 red vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial
80	176.0	640	32.0	1 red vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial
82	180.4	656	32.8	1 red vial + 1 yellow vial + 1 green vial
84	184.8	672	33.6	1 red vial + 1 yellow vial + 1 green vial
86	189.2	688	34.4	1 red vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial
88	193.6	704	35.2	1 red vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial
90	198.0	720	36.0	1 red vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial
92	202.4	736	36.8	1 red vial + 1 yellow vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial
94	206.8	752	37.6	1 red vial + 1 yellow vial + 1 green vial + 1 green vial
96	211.2	768	38.4	1 red vial + 1 red vial
98	215.6	784	39.2	1 red vial + 1 red vial
≥100	≥220.0	800	40.0	1 red vial + 1 red vial

pJIA: Dosing Preparation and Administration Guide with Actemra IV

A change in dose of 8mg/kg or 10 mg/kg should only be based on a consistent change in the patient’s body weight over time (e.g., within 3 weeks). If the patient’s weight has changed, contact the prescriber to discuss whether a dosing change is needed. Refer to the chart to check whether a dosing adjustment is necessary.

Actemra IV dosing in pJIA patients is calculated based on each patient’s weight as follows:

For patients weighing <30 kg: Patient’s weight (kg) x 10 mg/kg = Actemra dose

For patients weighing ≥30 kg: Patient’s weight (kg) x 8 mg/kg = Actemra dose

	Weight (kg)	Weight (lbs)	Dose (mg)	Dose (ml)	Vial combinations
10 mg/kg	10	22.0	100	5.0	1 + 1
	12	26.4	120	6.0	1 + 1
	14	30.8	140	7.0	1 + 1
	16	35.2	160	8.0	1 + 1
	18	39.6	180	9.0	1 + 1
	20	44.0	200	10.0	1 + 1
	22	48.4	220	11.0	1 + 1 + 1
	24	52.8	240	12.0	1 + 1 + 1
	26	57.2	260	13.0	1 + 1
	28	61.6	280	14.0	1 + 1
8 mg/kg	30	66.0	240	12.0	1 + 1 + 1
	32	70.4	256	12.8	1 + 1
	34	74.8	272	13.6	1 + 1
	36	79.2	288	14.4	1 + 1 + 1 + 1
	38	83.6	304	15.2	1 + 1 + 1 + 1
	40	88.0	320	16.0	1 + 1 + 1 + 1
	42	92.4	336	16.8	1 + 1 + 1
	44	96.8	352	17.6	1 + 1 + 1
	46	101.2	368	18.4	1 + 1
	48	105.6	384	19.2	1 + 1
	50	110.0	400	20.0	1 + 1
	52	114.4	416	20.8	1 + 1 + 1 + 1
	54	118.8	432	21.6	1 + 1 + 1 + 1
	56	123.2	448	22.4	1 + 1
	58	127.6	464	23.2	1 + 1
	60	132.0	480	24.0	1 + 1
	62	136.4	496	24.8	1 + 1 + 1 + 1
	64	140.8	512	25.6	1 + 1 + 1 + 1
	66	145.2	528	26.4	1 + 1 + 1
	68	149.6	544	27.2	1 + 1 + 1
	70	154.0	560	28.0	1 + 1 + 1
	72	158.4	576	28.8	1 + 1
	74	162.8	592	29.6	1 + 1
	76	167.2	608	30.4	1 + 1 + 1 + 1
	78	171.6	624	31.2	1 + 1 + 1 + 1
	80	176.0	640	32.0	1 + 1 + 1 + 1
	82	180.4	656	32.8	1 + 1 + 1
	84	184.8	672	33.6	1 + 1 + 1
	86	189.2	688	34.4	1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1
	88	193.6	704	35.2	1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1
90	198.0	720	36.0	1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	
92	202.4	736	36.8	1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	
94	206.8	752	37.6	1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	
96	211.2	768	38.4	1 + 1	
98	215.6	784	39.2	1 + 1	
≥100	≥220.0	800	40.0	1 + 1	

sJIA: Dosing Preparation and Administration Guide with Actemra IV

Dosing should take place at 2-week intervals.

A change in dose of 8mg/kg or 12 mg/kg should only be based on a consistent change in the patient’s body weight over time (e.g., within 3 weeks). If the patient’s weight has changed, contact the prescriber to discuss whether a dosing change is needed. Refer to the chart to check whether a dosing adjustment is necessary.

Actemra dosing in sJIA patients is calculated based on each patient’s weight as follows:

For patients weighing <30 kg: Patient’s weight (kg) x 12 mg/kg = Actemra dose

For patients weighing ≥ 30 kg: Patient's weight (kg) x 8 mg/kg = Actemra dose

	Weight (kg)	Weight (lbs)	Dose (mg)	Dose (mL)	Vital certifications
12 mg/kg	10	22.0	120	6.0	• - •
	12	26.4	144	7.2	• - •
	14	30.8	168	8.4	• - •
	16	35.2	192	9.6	• - •
	18	39.6	216	10.8	• - • - •
	20	44.0	240	12.0	• - • - •
	22	48.4	264	13.2	• - •
	24	52.8	288	14.4	• - • - •
	26	57.2	312	15.6	• - • - •
	28	61.6	336	16.8	• - • - •
	30	66.0	360	18.0	• - • - •
	32	70.4	384	19.2	• - •
	34	74.8	408	20.4	• - •
	36	79.2	432	21.6	• - • - •
	38	83.6	456	22.8	• - • - •
	40	88.0	480	24.0	• - • - •
8 mg/kg	42	92.4	336	16.8	• - • - •
	44	96.8	352	17.6	• - • - •
	46	101.2	368	18.4	• - •
	48	105.6	384	19.2	• - •
	50	110.0	400	20.0	• - •
	52	114.4	416	20.8	• - • - •
	54	118.8	432	21.6	• - • - •
	56	123.2	448	22.4	• - • - •
	58	127.6	464	23.2	• - •
	60	132.0	480	24.0	• - •
	62	136.4	496	24.8	• - • - • - •
	64	140.8	512	25.6	• - • - • - •
	66	145.2	528	26.4	• - • - •
	68	149.6	544	27.2	• - • - •
	70	154.0	560	28.0	• - • - •
	72	158.4	576	28.8	• - •
	74	162.8	592	29.6	• - •
	76	167.2	608	30.4	• - • - • - •
	78	171.6	624	31.2	• - • - • - •
	80	176.0	640	32.0	• - • - • - •
	82	180.4	656	32.8	• - • - •
	84	184.8	672	33.6	• - • - •
	86	189.2	688	34.4	• - • - • - •
	88	193.6	704	35.2	• - • - • - •
90	198.0	720	36.0	• - • - • - •	
92	202.4	736	36.8	• - • - • - •	
94	206.8	752	37.6	• - • - • - •	
96	211.2	768	38.4	• - •	
98	215.6	784	39.2	• - •	
≥ 100	≥ 220.0	800	40.0	• - •	

2 GATHER ALL NECESSARY SUPPLIES

You will need:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Actemra, at room temperature | Gauze |
| Syringes and large-bore needles | Tourniquet |
| One primary infusion set | Gloves |
| One 100 ml bag of 0.9% (9 mg/mL) sterile, non-pyrogenic sodium chloride solution for injection | Alcohol/cleansing wipes |
| One intravenous (IV) catheter | |

3 TAKE BASELINE ASSESSMENTS

Take baseline assessments to ensure the patient is healthy enough to receive the infusion.

Vital signs may include:

- Blood pressure
- Temperature

- Pulse

Follow the recommended baseline patient questions as described in the Actemra Healthcare Professional Brochure (Section 15 – General Recommendation) as well as the Summary of Product Characteristics (Section 4.4 – Warnings and Precautions).

4 PREPARE THE PATIENT FOR THE INFUSION

Review the Patient Brochure: *What You Should Know About Actemra* with the patient. Answer any questions he or she might have

Actemra does not require premedication

5 PREPARE THE ACTEMRA INFUSION

Actemra is a ready-mix solution and requires no reconstitution. The expiry date should always be checked before use. The Actemra concentrate for IV infusion should be diluted by a healthcare professional using aseptic technique.

- Actemra should be refrigerated for storage. However, the fully diluted Actemra solution should be allowed to reach room temperature before it is infused.
- The fully diluted Actemra solutions for infusion may be stored at 2°C–8°C or room temperature (if diluted under controlled and validated aseptic conditions) for up to 24 hours and should be protected from light.
- Actemra solutions do not contain preservatives; therefore, unused product remaining in the vials should not be used.
- **Weight-/indication-based dosing:**
- **For RA, sJIA (>30 kg), and pJIA (>30 kg):** From a 100 ml infusion bag withdraw a volume of 0.9% (9 mg/ml) sterile, non-pyrogenic sodium chloride solution for injection equal to the volume of the Actemra solution required for the patient's dose.
- **For sJIA and pJIA patients < 30 kg:** Use a 50ml infusion bag withdraw a volume of 0.9% (9 mg/ml) sterile, non-pyrogenic sodium chloride solution for injection equal to the volume of the Actemra solution required for the patient's dose.
- Actemra should not be infused concomitantly in the same IV line with other medications. No physical or biochemical compatibility studies have been conducted to evaluate the co-administration of Actemra with other medications.
- Slowly add Actemra concentrate for IV infusion from each vial into the infusion bag. To mix the solution, gently invert the bag to avoid foaming.
- Parenteral medicinal products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discolouration prior to administration. Only solutions which are clear to opalescent, colourless to pale yellow and free of visible particles should be diluted.
- Dispose of needle and syringe in sharps containers when finished.

6 BEGIN THE ACTEMRA INFUSION

The infusion should be administered over 60 minutes. It must be administered with an infusion set and should never be administered as an IV push or bolus.

- Prior to the infusion, inform the patient that serious allergic reactions including anaphylaxis have been reported in association with Actemra. Such reactions may be more severe, and potentially fatal, in patients

who have experienced allergic reactions during previous treatment with Actemra even if they have received premedication with steroids and antihistamines. Most allergic reactions occur during infusion or within 24 hours of Actemra administration, although allergic reactions can occur at any time.

- If an anaphylactic reaction or other serious hypersensitivity reaction occurs, administration of Actemra should be stopped immediately, appropriate therapy initiated and Actemra should be permanently discontinued. Fatal anaphylaxis has been reported after marketing authorisation during treatment with IV Actemra.
- Instruct the patient to **seek immediate medical attention** if they notice any of the following signs or symptoms of systemic allergic reactions after receiving Actemra:
 - Rash, itching or hives
 - Shortness of breath or trouble breathing
 - Swelling of the lips, tongue or face
 - Chest pain
 - Feeling dizzy or faint
 - Severe stomach pain or vomiting
 - Hypotension

Once the infusion is completed, remove the catheter and dispose of all supplies properly, clean and bandage the infusion site and check the patient's vital signs.

7 Record your injection

Product traceability

In order to improve the traceability of biological medicinal products, the tradename and batch number of the administered product should be clearly recorded (or stated) in the patient file.

Call for reporting


If the patient experiences any side effects, talk to the doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

You can also report side effects directly via [the national reporting system]. By reporting side effects, you or the patient can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.


Company contact point

Should you have any questions regarding to this, please contact Medical Manager, Local Safety Responsible of Hoffmann-La Roche products in Armenia /LSR Gayane Ghazaryan: mob.: +374 91 796688/ email: gayaneh.ghazaryan@gmail.com, or Nune Karapetyan, mob: +374 91 721153/ email: nune.karapetyan.roche@gmail.com. Also direct your reports to Roche Moscow DS Hub via following contacts: tel.: [+7-495-229 2999](tel:+7-495-229-2999), Fax: [+7-495- 229 7999](tel:+7-495-229-7999)/ email: russia.pvhub@roche.com or website: www.roche.ru.

Sincerely,

Gayane Ghazaryan, 
Medical Manager, Local Safety Responsible of
Hoffmann-La Roche products in Armenia

13.01.2021

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Commercial Lead of Hoffmann-La Roche products in Armenia

13.01.2021

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