MyelomaUK

Talquetamab (Talvey®)

Treatment Guide

What is talquetamab?

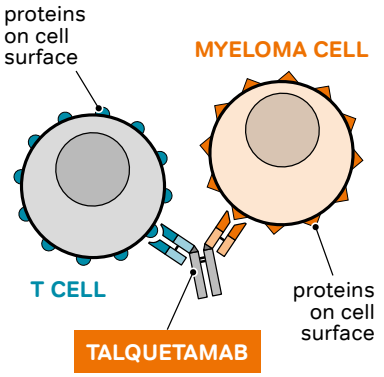
Talquetamab, also known as Talvey®, is an immunotherapy used in the treatment of myeloma. It is a type of immunotherapy called a bispecific antibody.

How does it work?

Talquetamab works by using cells from the body's own immune system, called T cells. These T cells can kill abnormal cells in the body, including myeloma cells.

Talquetamab binds to proteins on the surface of the T cells and proteins on myeloma cells at the same time.

Once bound together, the T cells and myeloma cells are brought into close contact. The T cells then become active and kill the myeloma cells.



Talquetamab binding to a myeloma cell and a T cell. The T cell becomes active and kills the myeloma cell

How is talquetamab given?



Talquetamab is given as an injection under the skin (subcutaneous).



Talquetamab is usually given on its own (monotherapy).



Talquetamab is usually given in increasing amounts for the first 2 weeks. You will then have the full amount once a week or once every 2 weeks, depending on the prescribed dose.



Talquetamab is normally given until your myeloma starts to become more active. Individual treatment plans vary, your healthcare team will discuss your specific plan with you.

Possible side effects

Talquetamab has different side effects that vary from person to person, but it is not likely you will experience all of them. Report any side effects to your healthcare team as soon as possible.

The most common side effects are listed below. A complete list can be found in the patient information leaflet provided with your treatment. You can ask your healthcare team for it.



More information can be found on our website. Relevant booklets are signposted beneath each side effect. You can also find out more information from your healthcare team or by contacting Myeloma UK.



0800 980 3332



AskTheNurse@myeloma.org.uk



myeloma.org.uk

Gut problems

Talquetamab can cause diarrhoea or constipation. You may be prescribed medicine to reduce the diarrhoea, or laxatives to help you go to the toilet. Try to drink at least 2 litres of fluid a day to help with any bowel problems.

Talquetamab may also cause nausea and vomiting. You may be given anti-sickness (anti-emetic) medicine to prevent or reduce this. You must take them as prescribed rather than waiting until you feel sick. There are several types of anti-sickness medicine and if the one you have is not effective, ask to try another.

You may also have a lower appetite. If you are losing weight, or concerned about your appetite, ask to be referred to a dietician. They may offer high calorie food and drink supplements.

For more information see the **Nausea and vomiting Infosheet** and the **Diarrhoea and constipation Infosheet** from Myeloma UK

Risk of infection

Talquetamab may affect your immune system, increasing your risk of infection. Common signs include: high or low temperature (37.5°C or above, or below 36°C), feeling shivery or cold, peeing (passing urine) more often or pain when peeing, and cough or cold symptoms.

Infections can become serious if not treated quickly. Contact your healthcare team or out of hours service immediately if you think you have an infection.

For more information see the **Infection and myeloma Infosheet** from Myeloma UK



Infusion reaction (cytokine release syndrome)

This is a common side effect of talquetamab and usually occurs within a few hours of having treatment. Symptoms include: chills, fever, fast heartbeat, feeling short of breath, and feeling dizzy. You will be given medicines alongside your talquetamab to reduce the risk of an infusion reaction. If you notice any of these side effects, report them to your healthcare team immediately.



Nervous system problems

Talquetamab can cause changes to your nervous system known as Immune Effector Cell-Associated Neurotoxicity Syndrome (ICANS). It can also cause changes to how your brain functions, known as encephalopathy. ICANS and encephalopathy can cause symptoms including: feeling confused, feeling less alert, difficulty writing or speaking, and personality changes.



If you think you have ICANS or encephalopathy symptoms, contact your healthcare team or out of hours service immediately.



Anaemia and bleeding

Talquetamab can decrease the number of red blood cells, causing anaemia. Symptoms include: looking paler than usual, shortness of breath, and fatigue. Talquetamab can also decrease the number of platelets, increasing your risk of bleeding or bruising. Treatment for these side effects can ease symptoms and boost your blood cell counts.



For more information see the **Fatigue and myeloma Infoguide** and **Bleeding and bruising Infosheet** from Myeloma UK

Mouth problems

Talquetamab can cause pain and inflammation of the mouth and throat, called mucositis. You may also have a dry mouth and taste changes. These can make swallowing difficult, so food and drink supplements may be offered. Regular alcohol-free mouthwashes, painkillers, and artificial saliva can also help to ease any discomfort.

For more information see the **Mouth care Infosheet** from Myeloma UK

Nail and skin changes

Talquetamab may cause changes to your nails including becoming more fragile, splitting, or separating from the nail bed. The skin on your hands and feet may also become very dry, start to peel, become red or darker in colour, and feel tight or tingly. This is called hand foot syndrome.

Regularly applying thick moisturiser, keeping nails trimmed to prevent them catching on clothing, having well fitting footwear, and taking lukewarm showers or baths can help with skin and nail problems. You may also be prescribed steroid creams or pain relief.

Fatigue

Fatigue is a feeling of extreme tiredness that is not relieved by sleep. It usually resolves after treatment has finished. Your treatment, any side effects, and your mental health can all impact fatigue. Treating any medical causes such as anaemia, can help to manage fatigue. Allowing time for rest, gentle exercise, and complementary therapies such as massage may also help.

For more information see the **Fatigue and myeloma Infoguide** from Myeloma UK

Important information about talquetamab



You must not take talquetamab during pregnancy as it is not expected to be safe for the baby. If you or your partner could become pregnant, you must use effective contraception during treatment, and for 3 months after treatment has finished.



You should not breastfeed when taking talquetamab and for 3 months after treatment has finished, as it not known if it could pass to the milk.



Talquetamab may make you feel dizzy or drowsy. You should not drive or operate heavy machinery for at least 48 hours after your first 4 doses, or until advised by your healthcare team.



Supplements or herbal medicines that have not been prescribed by your haematologist may cause harm when taken alongside your prescribed treatment.

You must speak to your healthcare team before taking any kind of supplement or alternative treatment, including herbal, traditional or natural medicines and remedies, and vitamins or wellbeing supplements, to ensure it is safe to do so.



If you have any questions about your treatment, speak to your healthcare team. They are the best people to ask if you have questions about your individual situation. The information in this publication is not meant to replace their advice.

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MyelomaUK

We're here for everything a diagnosis of myeloma brings

Get in touch to find out more about how we can support you

Call the Myeloma Infoline on
0800 980 3332

Email Ask the Nurse at
AskTheNurse@myeloma.org.uk

Visit our website at
myeloma.org.uk

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Myeloma UK
22 Logie Mill, Beaverbank Business Park,
Edinburgh EH7 4HG
0131 557 3332
myelomauk@myeloma.org.uk
Registered Charity No: SC026116

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