



NEBRASKA CANCER SPECIALISTS

the Physicians of Oncology Hematology West

IVIG

Other name: immune globulin

Drug type: IVIG is a human antibody that provides immunity; they are collected from the pooled blood of many individuals, then tested and treated to prevent the transmission of viruses.

How IVIG is given:

- IVIG is given by vein (intravenous, IV).

Side effects of IVIG:

Important things to remember about the side effects of IVIG:

- Most people do not experience all of the side effects listed.
- Side effects are almost always reversible and will usually go away after treatment is complete.
- There are many options to help minimize or prevent side effects.

The following side effects are common for patients receiving IVIG:

- Backache
- Fever/chills
- Dizziness
- Flushing
- Headache
- Increased sweating
- Leg/muscle cramps/aches/pains
- Tiredness

These are less common side effects for patients receiving IVIG:

- Chest pain or tightness
- Difficulty urinating
- Shortness of breath
- Hives, rash, itching
- Neck pain

When to contact your doctor or health care provider:

Contact your health care provider ***immediately***, day or night, if you should experience any of the following symptoms:

- Fever of 101° F or higher, chills (possible signs of infection)
- Difficulty breathing, chest pain or tightness
- Hives

The following symptoms require medical attention, but are not emergency situations. Contact your health care provider ***within 24 hours*** of noticing any of the following:

- Signs of infection such as redness or swelling, pain on swallowing, coughing up mucous, or painful urination

Always inform your health care provider if you experience any unusual symptoms.