

ERYTHEMA, SKIN RASH, CHEMICAL PHLEBITIS

LOCAL EFFECTS:

- **Skin Testing** Before the first infusion of ATGAM, Pharmacia & Upjohn Company strongly recommends that patients be tested ^[1]
- Chills, dizziness, **skin rashes**, fevers, and weakness are common symptoms that can be transient and **may disappear rapidly after the drug is discontinued** ^[2]

SYSTEMIC EFFECTS:

- Minor systemic re-actions include **rash**, arthralgia, oedema, 'hives' and pruritus. systemic reactions such as hives, rash and pruritus are generally treated with **antihistamines**. In addition, **slowing the rate of ALG infusion** in patients with these symptoms can make subsequent infusions tolerable without incident ^[3]
- **Itching and erythema** probably result from the effect of ATGAM on blood elements. **Antihistamines** generally control the symptoms. ^[1]
- **Chemical phlebitis** can be caused by infusion of ATGAM through peripheral veins. This can often be **avoided by administering the infusion solution into a high-flow vein.** ^[1]

→ **Pain in chest, flank, or back:** May indicate anaphylaxis or haemolysis.

Treatment is that indicated for those conditions. ^[1]

[1]- Atgam ® (lymphocyte immune globulin, anti-thymocyte globulin [equine] sterile solution). (n.d.).

<https://www.fda.gov/media/78206/download>

[2]- Tu, G. W., Ju, M. J., Xu, M., Rong, R. M., Zhu, T. Y., & Luo, Z. (2012). Antithymocyte globulin-induced acute respiratory distress syndrome after renal transplantation: A case report. *Chinese Medical Journal*, 125(9), 1664–1666. <https://doi.org/10.3760/cma.j.issn.0366-6999.2012.09.027>

(https://journals.lww.com/cmj/Fulltext/2012/05010/Antithymocyte_globulin_induced_acute_respiratory.27.aspx)

[3]- Rossi, S. J., Schroeder, T. J., Hariharan, S., & First, M. R. (1993). Prevention and Management of the Adverse Effects Associated with Immunosuppressive Therapy. In *DRUG EXPERIENCE Drug Safety* (Vol. 9, Issue 2)

(<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/8397889/>)

