

INFUSION REACTIONS

CYTOKINE RELEASE SYNDROME

- Cytokine release syndrome associated with ATG administration frequently causes high grade fevers (over 39° C), chills and possibly rigors during or shortly after infusion. In severe cases, cardiorespiratory depression and death may rarely occur.
- To prevent or minimize febrile reactions patients should **be pre-treated with:**
 - Antipyretics (acetaminophen 650mg to 1000mg) and/or**
 - Antihistamines (diphenhydramine 25mg to 50mg), and / or**
 - Corticosteroids (methylprednisolone)**
 - Slowing the infusion rate may also be of benefit.**
- For **pediatric** patients, **acetaminophen 15 mg/kg/dose, diphenhydramine 1 mg/kg/dose.**^[1]

ANAPHYLAXIS

- Is uncommon but serious and may occur at any time during therapy with ATGAM
 - Stop infusion of ATGAM immediately**
 - Administer **0.3 mL aqueous epinephrine** (1:1,000 solution) intramuscularly
 - Administer **steroids**
 - Assist respiration** and provide other resuscitative measures.
 - DO NOT** resume therapy with ATGAM^[2]

[1] - BC Transplant. (2021, May 13). MEDICATION GUIDELINES FOR SOLID ORGAN TRANSPLANTS. BC Transplant.

(<http://www.transplant.bc.ca/Documents/Health%20Professionals/Clinical%20guidelines/Clinical%20Guidelines%20for%20Transplant%20Medications.pdf>)

[2] -Atgam ® (lymphocyte immune globulin, anti-thymocyte globulin [equine] sterile solution). (n.d.). <https://www.fda.gov/media/78206/download>

