



Information for patients on biologic therapy undergoing orthopaedic surgery

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About this leaflet

The information within this leaflet is important if you are on any of the following medicines:

- Abatacept
- Adalimumab
- Anakinra
- Baricitinib,
- Belimumab
- Brodalumab
- Certolizumab
- Etanercept
- Golimumab
- Guselkumab
- Infliximab
- Ixekizumab
- Risankizumab
- Rituximab
- Sarilumab
- Secukinumab
- Tildrakizumab
- Tocilizumab
- Tofacitinib
- Upadacitinib
- Ustekinumab
- Vedolizumab

Before your operation

Biologic medicines target specific parts of your immune system - because of this, they can affect your body's ability to fight infection. By temporarily stopping your biologic medicine, our aim is to balance risk of infection following your surgery with the risk of a flare in your disease.

The pharmacist at your pre-assessment appointment will give you advice on when to stop your biologic medicine before your operation. It is important that you follow this advice, or your operation may be cancelled.

Our Patient Coordination Centre office will give you enough notice of your operation so you have time to stop your biologic medicine for the right amount of time before your operation.

It is important that you follow any other advice you have been given by your clinician to reduce your risk of infection, for example stopping smoking or losing weight.

➤ After your operation

After your operation, you may be given specific advice from the team looking after you about when to restart your biologic medicine. If so, please follow the advice below.

If you have not been given specific advice about when to restart your biologic medicine, you can restart it 2 weeks after your operation if:

- Your wound has healed, i.e. it is dry and all scab has lifted.
- Any sutures or staples have been removed.
- There are no concerns over wound infection. Signs of infection include:
 - Marked increase swelling, redness at wound site
 - Any persisting wound leakage.
 - Marked increase in pain in the joint, not controlled by regular pain medication
 - Fever greater than 38°C
- You are not on any antibiotics
- You feel generally well

➤ Contact

If you require advice, contact the Golden Jubilee University National Hospital directly via Arthroplasty Helpline on 0141 951 5521 (unless the issue is an emergency or life threatening please dial 999).

If you require an urgent reply out of hours contact the hospital switchboard on 0141 951 5000 and ask to be put through to Ward 4 East or 2 West.

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Tha gach sgrìobhainn againn rim faotainn ann an diofar chànanan, clò nas motha, Braille (Beurla a-mhàin), teip clàistinn no riochd eile a tha sibh airson a thaghadh.

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: **0141 951 5513**