**ATGAM**

**equine thymocyte immune globulin**

**Date Developed:** 10/14/14

**Effective Date:** 10/20/14

**Last Approval Date:** 1/26/16, 1/24/17, 1/23/18, 1/22/19

**Description:** ATGAM reduces the number of circulating thymus-dependent lymphocytes thereby altering the function of T lymphocytes in the spleen and lymph nodes without causing severe lymphopenia. When administered with other immunosuppressives (e.g. steroids, antimetabolites), the patient’s immune response to horse gamma globulin is minimal.

**Authorization Criteria:** moderate-to-severe aplastic anemia in patients not considered suitable candidates for bone marrow transplantation; management of allograft rejection in renal transplantation, either in combination with conventional treatments or as an adjunct in the prevention of rejection

**Off-Label:** acute graft-versus-host disease; lower-risk, refractory myelodysplastic syndromes; prevention and treatment of rejection in heart and lung transplantation

**Unlabeled uses:** Prevention and treatment of rejection in heart and lung transplantation; treatment of acute graft-versus-host disease following allogeneic stem cell transplantation; treatment of myelodysplastic syndromes.

Note: Per VCHCP policy, unlabeled uses are not covered unless specific documentation is received. See Policy on Coverage of Prescription Medication for Off-Label Use.

**Dosing:**

1) Allograft Recipients: 10-30 mg/kg daily for 14 days

2) Aplastic anemia: 10-20 mg/kg daily for 8-14 days

**How Supplied:** 50 mg per 5 mL ampoule
**Contraindications/Warnings:** Only physicians experienced in immunosuppressive therapy in the treatment of renal transplant or aplastic anemia patients should use ATGAM. Patients receiving ATGAM should be treated in facilities equipped and staffed with adequate laboratory and supportive medical resources. Skin testing before treatment is highly recommended. Thorough review of the product literature is recommended.

**High alert medication:** This medication is in a class the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) includes among its list of drug classes that have a heightened risk of causing significant patient harm when used in error.

**Major Adverse Reactions:** Severe allergic reaction/anaphylaxis; chills/fever, inflammation at infusion site, serum sickness-like symptoms; leukopenia, thrombocytopenia

**Major Drug Interactions:** may diminish the results of skin tests; may enhance the effects of other immunosuppressives leading to adverse or toxic reactions; may enhance the adverse effects of live vaccines and diminish the effects of both live and inactivated vaccines

**REFERENCES**


**Revision History:**

Date Approved by P&T Committee: 10/28/14; QA Committee 11/25/14
Date Reviewed/No Updates: 1/13/15 by C. Sanders, MD
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Date Reviewed/No Updates: 1/22/19 by C. Sanders, MD; R. Sterling, MD
Date Approved by P&T Committee: 1/22/19

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