

Avsola is a biologic therapy that is indicated to treat:

- moderately to severely active [ulcerative colitis](#)
- moderately to severely active [Crohn's disease](#)
- moderately to severely active [rheumatoid arthritis](#)
- [psoriatic arthritis](#)
- [ankylosing spondylitis](#)
- [plaque psoriasis](#)

What Is Avsola?

Avsola (infliximab-axxq) is a prescription medication administered for patients via IV infusion. Infliximab-axxq is used to treat a variety of complex chronic conditions. Avsola is also a biosimilar of [Remicade](#). A biosimilar is a biologic therapy that has been approved and licensed by the FDA and has shown to have no clinically meaningful difference from an existing therapy, known as the “reference product.”

How Avsola Works

Inflammatory immune diseases cause the body to make too much of a protein called tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF- α). This can cause the immune system to attach healthy parts of the body, leading to inflammation and pain.

Avsola works by targeting and blocking extra TNF- α to help relieve symptoms like inflammation and prevent further joint damage.

What Is Avsola Used For?

Doctors order infliximab-axxq to treat several medical conditions.

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Avsola Infusion Dosage and Administration

Patients receive infliximab-axxq intravenously. Treatment time for an Avsola infusion usually lasts for around 2 hours.

Dosage and Frequency

Avsola dosage depends on the condition it is being used to treat. Avsola is administered via infusion in three starting doses within the first six weeks of your treatment. After the initial six weeks, patients will receive infusions once every six to eight weeks or every four weeks for some RA patients.

Administering Avsola via IV Infusion

1. The nurse prepares the patient's arm by using rubbing alcohol to sterilize the location that is being used to insert the IV needle.
2. Following needle insertion, the IV line is held in place with tape.
3. The nurse attaches the patient's IV line to the line coming down from the bag of medication.

Every half-an-hour, the patient's nurse takes his or her vitals.

Avsola Infusion Side Effects

As with all medications, [side effects are possible](#).

Common side effects include:

- Respiratory infections (sinus infections and sore throat)
- Headache
- Rash
- Coughing
- Stomach pain

Other rarer side effects include:

- Severe infections
- Cancer
- Injury to the liver
- Blood disorders
- Neurologic disease
- An allergic reaction to the protein in infliximab-axxq

Following treatment, patients need to inform their referring doctor if they develop skin growths, as well as open or painful sores. In addition, the physician needs to know if the patient is experiencing flu-like symptoms or has a poor appetite.

How To Prepare for an Avsola Infusion

It is essential that patients inform their physician if they currently have, or have had, any of the conditions listed below:

- Heart failure
- Tuberculosis
- Cancer
- Serious infections
- Blood problems
- A liver injury
- Hepatitis B
- A nervous system disorder (e.g., multiple sclerosis or seizures)
- Are allergic to any of Avsola's ingredients

Before treatment, patients should get a good night's sleep. In addition, they need to drink an adequate amount of fluid and eat a meal before their Avsola IV infusion treatment.

During treatment with Avsola, patients need to avoid receiving live vaccines.