

## Talking to your doctor

Even after achieving remission with chemotherapy, small amounts of cancer cells can remain in your body (called minimal residual disease or MRD).<sup>1</sup>

Your doctor may order an MRD test to check for these remaining cells.

BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> is the only treatment FDA approved for people with a certain type of acute lymphoblastic leukemia who have these remaining traces of cancer in their body after initial chemotherapy.<sup>2</sup>

Unlike chemotherapy, BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> is an immunotherapy. It helps trigger your immune system to fight your cancer.<sup>2</sup>

This guide includes some common questions about BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>.

Take them to your next doctor's visit.

The answers may help you and your doctor decide if BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> is right for you.

### INDICATION

BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> (blinatumomab) is a prescription medication used to treat a certain type of acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) in patients with remaining traces of cancer after chemotherapy. The approval of BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> in these patients is based on a study that measured response rate and duration of response. There is an ongoing study to confirm clinical benefit.

### IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

#### The most important information about BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>:

- Call your health care provider or get emergency medical help right away if you get any of the symptoms listed below:
  - BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> may cause serious side effects that can be severe, life-threatening, or lead to death, including:
    - Cytokine Release Syndrome (CRS) and infusion reactions. Symptoms of CRS and infusion reactions may include: fever, tiredness or weakness, dizziness, headache, low blood pressure, nausea, vomiting, chills, face swelling, wheezing or trouble breathing, and skin rash.
    - Neurologic problems. Symptoms of neurologic problems may include: seizures, difficulty in speaking or slurred speech, loss of consciousness, trouble sleeping, confusion and disorientation, loss of balance, headache, and difficulty with facial movements, hearing, vision, or swallowing.
  - Your health care provider will check for these problems during treatment with BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>. Your health care provider may temporarily or completely stop your treatment with BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> if you have severe side effects.

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## Understanding MRD

What is minimal residual disease or MRD?

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How do I know if I have MRD?

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Should I be tested for MRD?

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What does it mean to be MRD+?

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What does it mean to be MRD-?

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## What is BLINCYTO®?

Is BLINCYTO® an option for me?

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How does BLINCYTO® work?

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What is the difference between BLINCYTO® and chemotherapy?

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Has BLINCYTO® helped people like me?

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What can I expect when taking BLINCYTO®?

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## Taking BLINCYTO®

How do I take BLINCYTO®?

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What are the side effects? What can I do about them?

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## Other things to know

Is BLINCYTO® covered by my insurance?

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How do I get a home health care nurse?

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Are there any assistance programs?

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## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

- Do not receive BLINCYTO® if you are allergic to blinatumomab or to any of the ingredients of BLINCYTO®.
- Do not drive, operate heavy machinery, or do other dangerous activities while you are receiving BLINCYTO® because BLINCYTO® can cause neurological symptoms such as dizziness, seizures, and confusion.

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## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Before receiving BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>, tell your health care provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you or your child:

- have a history of neurological problems, such as seizures, confusion, trouble speaking or loss of balance
- have an infection
- have ever had an infusion reaction after receiving BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> or other medications
- have a history of radiation treatment to the brain, or chemotherapy treatment
- are scheduled to receive a vaccine. You should not receive a “live vaccine” within 2 weeks before you start treatment with BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>, during treatment, and until your immune system recovers after you receive your last cycle of BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>. If you are not sure about the type of vaccine, ask your health care provider.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> may harm your unborn baby. Tell your health care provider if you become pregnant during treatment with BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>.
  - If you are able to become pregnant, your health care provider should do a pregnancy test before you start treatment with BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>.
  - Females who are able to become pregnant should use an effective form of birth control during treatment with BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>, and for at least 48 hours after the last dose of BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> passes into your breast milk. You should not breastfeed during treatment with BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> and for at least 48 hours after your last treatment.

Tell your health care provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

- BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> may cause serious side effects, including:
  - **Infections.** BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> may cause life-threatening infections that may lead to death. Tell your health care provider right away in case you develop any signs or symptoms of an infection.
  - **Low white blood cell counts (neutropenia).** Neutropenia is common with BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> treatment and may sometimes be life-threatening. Low white blood cell counts can increase your risk of infection. Your health care provider will do blood tests to check your white blood cell count during treatment with BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>. Tell your health care provider right away if you get a fever.
  - **Abnormal liver blood tests.** Your health care provider will do blood tests to check your liver before you start BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> and during treatment with BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>.
  - **Inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis).** Pancreatitis may happen in patients treated with BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> and corticosteroids. It may be severe and lead to death. Tell your health care provider right away if you have severe stomach-area pain that does not go away. The pain may happen with or without nausea and vomiting.
- Your health care provider will do blood tests during treatment to check for side effects.
- The most common side effects of BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> include:
  - Infections, fever, headache, low red blood cell count (anemia), low white blood cell count (neutropenia), low white blood cell count with fever (febrile neutropenia), low platelet count (thrombocytopenia), reactions related to infusion of the medicine such as face swelling, low blood pressure, and high blood pressure (infusion-related reactions).
- These are not all the possible side effects of BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>.
- Call your health care provider for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.
- Please read the accompanying Medication Guide before you or your child receive BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> and before each BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> infusion and discuss it with your doctor.

**References: 1.** Brüggemann M, Gökbüget N, Kneba M. Acute lymphoblastic leukemia: monitoring minimal residual disease as a therapeutic principle. *Semin Oncol.* 2012;39:47-57.  
**2.** BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup> (blinatumomab) prescribing information, Amgen.

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Please [click here](#) to see full Prescribing Information, including Boxed WARNINGS and Medication Guide, for BLINCYTO<sup>®</sup>.

