



London Health Sciences Centre

Multi-Organ Transplant Program

**University Hospital
Patient Medication Information
Pharmacy Services 519-663-3172**

Brand Name: Thymoglobulin®
Common Name: antilymphocyte globulin

What is it?

Thymoglobulin® is a very powerful anti-rejection drug. It is often used during and after surgery to help the body accept the organ transplant. It can also be used to treat an acute rejection episode.

How should it be taken?

This medication is given only intravenously, once a day. The physician will prescribe a dose based on several factors: your weight, kidney function, and white blood cell count. If you are taking other transplant medications, your physician may discontinue or reduce the dosage of some drugs while you are taking Thymoglobulin®. To reduce some of the side effects, your physician may order Tylenol® and Benadryl® to be given to you before your dose of Thymoglobulin®. This is usually only necessary for the first few doses.

What side effects might occur?

You may experience some of the following side effects:

- difficulty breathing
- fever
- chills
- nausea
- rash
- vomiting
- diarrhea
- muscle aches
- infection or pain during infusion

If you do, report them to your nurse as soon as possible. Your platelet and blood cell levels may also decrease. These levels will be monitored every day while you are taking this drug.