

In light of the global pandemic, nearly all adults would benefit from the receiving the COVID vaccine. According to recent guidelines from the American College of Rheumatology (ACR), this includes patients with rheumatic diseases. For patients taking certain immunosuppressive medications, the ACR recommendations for how to adjust your medications before or after receiving the COVID vaccine are listed below. There are no data right now showing you are at an increased risk of vaccine complications because of your medication. **However, the ACR recommends holding the following medications so that your immune system can recognize the COVID vaccine and build the best protection possible.**

If you are on THIS DRUG...	Please DO THIS ...
cyclophosphamide infusion <i>Intravenous (IV)</i>	CALL US to adjust the timing of your infusions ... Dose #1: Hold your infusion for one (1) week after your vaccine. Dose #2: Hold your infusion for one (1) week after your vaccine.
methotrexate	Dose #1: Hold Methotrexate for one (1) week after your vaccine. Dose #2: Hold your Methotrexate for one (1) week after your vaccine. <i>Example: If you receive your vaccine on a Wednesday and normally take your Methotrexate on Friday DO NOT take your Methotrexate the week you receive your vaccine. Wait a week and take your medicine the following Friday OR take your Methotrexate the Wednesday after your vaccine and continue taking your Methotrexate every Wednesday.</i>
Olumiant (<i>baricitinib</i>) Rinvoq (<i>upadacitinib</i>) Xeljanz (<i>tofacitinib</i>)	Dose #1: Hold medication for one (1) week after your vaccine. Dose #2: Hold medication for one (1) week after your vaccine. <i>Example: HOLD your medication on the day of your vaccine and do not resume until one (1) week after your vaccine dose. If you get your vaccine on a Wednesday, resume the following Wednesday.</i>
Orencia (<i>abatacept</i>) injection <i>Subcutaneous (SC)</i>	Dose #1: Hold medicine one (1) week <u>BEFORE</u> your vaccine and one (1) week <u>AFTER</u> your vaccine. Dose #2: Take medication normally. <i>Example: If you are taking your medication every 4 weeks and your medication falls in the two weeks around your FIRST vaccine, hold your medicine until one week after your 1st vaccine.</i>
Orencia (<i>abatacept</i>) infusion <i>Intravenous (IV)</i>	Dose #1: Try to time your vaccine for four (4) weeks after your last Orencia infusion. Then CALL US once your vaccine is scheduled so we can delay your next infusion by one (1) week. (That will be five weeks without medication.) Dose #2: No change in medication.
Rituxan, Truxima (<i>rituximab</i>)	Dose #1: Schedule your vaccine so it is four (4) weeks <u>BEFORE</u> your next scheduled Rituximab dose THEN CALL US... We will want to delay your next infusion until 2-4 weeks after your 2 nd vaccine
Prednisone , greater than 20mg/day	CALL US for more specific recommendations

If you are on one of the following medications, **NO CHANGE to your therapy is recommended with the COVID vaccine.**

azathioprine (<i>Imuran</i>) cyclophosphamide (ORAL) cyclosporine (<i>Gengraf, Neoral, Sandimmune</i>) hydroxychloroquine (<i>Plaquenil</i>) leflunomide (<i>Arava</i>) mycophenolate (<i>Cellcept</i>) prednisone (less than 20mg daily) sulfasalazine (<i>Azulfidine</i>) tacrolimus (<i>Prograf, Stagraf, Envarus</i>)	BIOLOGICS	Actemra (<i>tocilizumab</i>) Benlysta (<i>belimumab</i>) Cimzia (<i>certolizumab</i>) Cosentyx (<i>secukinumab</i>) Enbrel (<i>etanercept</i>) Humira (<i>adalimumab</i>) Ilaris (<i>canakinumab</i>) Ilumya (<i>tildrakizumab</i>) Kevzara (<i>sarilumab</i>)	Kineret (<i>arakinra</i>) Remicade, Renflexis, Inflectra, Avsola (<i>infliximab</i>) Simponi Aria (<i>golimumab</i>) Stelara (<i>ustekinumab</i>) Tremfya (<i>guselkumab</i>) Skyrizi (<i>risankizumab</i>) Siliq (<i>brodaliumab</i>) Taltz (<i>ixekizumab</i>)
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If the drug you were prescribe for your condition is not listed, please CALL US.

****These recommendations are produced by the American College of Rheumatology but are based on a *limited amount of data*. This will be **UPDATED** as information is collected.**

For questions about other medications or serious health conditions, please consult the physician who manages those for directions.