

Breast Oncology

# Trastuzumab

*This leaflet is given in addition to your **consent form(s)** and **booklet**, 'Chemotherapy - a guide for patients and their carers'.*

## Your treatment

**Trastuzumab** is an anti-cancer drug also known as a targeted or biological therapy. It is a monoclonal antibody that target the HER2 protein which is found on the surface of some cancer cells. The aim of the treatment is to block the growth and spread of cancer. Trastuzumab (HER2 therapy) is given as an injection under the skin (subcutaneous) injection on day 1 every 21 days.

You are not required to have bloods taken for this treatment.

You may be advised to have a line fitted or an implantable/subcutaneous port (portacath) to aid the delivery of your intravenous treatment. This will be organised by the clinic if it is required. Please ask your team for further information. Your **line or port needs to be removed** after all your intravenous treatments have finished. If you have not received an appointment for this, please contact the procedure team on **0161 446 3916**.

This treatment can have serious or possibly life-threatening side effects. It is very important that you report side effects straight away.

If you feel unwell, you have symptoms of an infection or your temperature is 37.5°C or above, or below 36°C, contact The Christie Hotline straight away on 0161 446 3658 (open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week).



## Possible side effects

See the Cancer Research UK consent form.

You should have been given a copy of this consent form before you started treatment but it can also be found by visiting [www.cancerresearchuk.org](http://www.cancerresearchuk.org) and searching 'Consent forms for SACT (Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy)'.

See 'Chemotherapy - a guide for patients and their carers'.

You should have been given a copy of this booklet. You can also see this on The Christie website, visit [www.christie.nhs.uk](http://www.christie.nhs.uk).

## Contacts

If you have any general questions or concerns about your treatment, please ring the service under which you are being treated.

Administration enquiries	<b>0161 918 7606/7610</b>
Chemotherapy nurse	<b>0161 918 7171</b>
Clinical trials unit	<b>0161 918 7663</b>

If you need the adjuvant HER2 therapy service, please contact:

Email: [the-christie.adjuvant.herceptin@nhs.net](mailto:the-christie.adjuvant.herceptin@nhs.net)

Telephone: **0161 446 8001**

If you need information in a different format, such as easy read, large print, BSL, braille, email, SMS text or other communication support, please tell your ward or clinic nurse.

The Christie is committed to producing high quality, evidence based information for patients. Our patient information adheres to the principles and quality statements of the Information Standard. If you would like to have details about the sources used please contact [\*\*the-christie.patient.information@nhs.net\*\*](mailto:the-christie.patient.information@nhs.net)

For information and advice visit the cancer information centres at Withington, Oldham, Salford or Macclesfield. Opening times can vary, please check before making a special journey.



Contact The Christie Hotline for  
urgent support and specialist advice  
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