

# Home care instructions for a patient receiving immunological medication

You have been prescribed immunological medication \_\_\_\_\_.

Immunological medication enhances your body's own immunity, or immune system, and seeks to induce your immune defense system to attack cancer cells.

A disadvantage of treatments based on immune defense mechanisms is that your body may attack other tissues than cancer cells. Autoimmune diseases and severe infections of different organs are therefore possible. However, the side effects of immunological treatments are clearly lower than those of chemotherapy.

Side effects may occur at any stage of the treatment, even after the end of the treatment. Side effects can be treated e.g., with cortisone, if needed.

**It is important that you monitor your symptoms between treatment visits and, if necessary, contact your healthcare provider. In urgent cases, go directly to the emergency department.**

## Symptoms to be monitored:

- New symptoms or ailments
- Itching or rash
- Diarrhea or abdominal pain
- Unusual tiredness
- Headache or nausea
- Shortness of breath or cough
- Chest pain or arrhythmias
- Pain in muscles or joints, numbness
- Yellowing of the skin or eyes
- Changes in urine volume
- Weight loss
- Fever

## Treatment Centre

tel. 014 269 1034 (Mon-Fri 8 am to 2 pm)

## Hospital beds for oncology and hematological diseases

tel. 014 269 3716 (24/7)

## Oncology Outpatient Unit

tel. 014 269 1060 (Mon-Fri 9 am to 2 pm)