You and your doctor have made a decision today about your rheumatoid arthritis medicines.

MEDICINE NAMES AND DOSES

OTHER INSTRUCTIONS:

☐ REFRIGERATE
Considerations

Most of these medicines should NOT be taken if you are considering pregnancy, have active tuberculosis (TB) or exposure to TB, drink alcohol, or have liver disease. It is very important to talk to your doctor about these issues before you choose a medicine.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Cost Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Methotrexate (Rheumatrex® or Trexall®)</td>
<td>$35-$395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydroxychloroquine (Plaquenil®)</td>
<td>$30-$195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leflunomide (Arava®)</td>
<td>$430-$675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulfasalazine (Azulfidine®)</td>
<td>$20-$155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rituximab (Rituxan®)</td>
<td>$1,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infliximab (Remicade®)</td>
<td>$790-$3,765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abatacept (Orencia®)</td>
<td>$1,185-$2,365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tocilizumab (Actemra®)</td>
<td>$1,115-$2,230</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average costs per month. What you pay will depend on your insurance.
How Soon?

These medicines do not work right away. In general, these medicines begin to work between 2 and 12 weeks.

- Methotrexate: 4-6 weeks
- Hydroxychloroquine: 8-12 weeks
- Leflunomide: 4-8 weeks
- Sulfasalazine: 4-12 weeks
- Golimumab: 2-4 weeks
- Adalimumab: 2-4 weeks
- Certolizumab: 2-4 weeks
- Etanercept: 2-4 weeks
- Rituximab: 2-12 weeks
- Infliximab: 2-4 weeks
- Abatacept: 2-4 weeks
- Tocilizumab: 2-4 weeks
How Often?

Methotrexate*  
Once a week

Hydroxychloroquine  
Once a day

Leflunomide  
Once a day

Sulfasalazine  
Twice a day

Golimumab  
Once a month

Adalimumab  
Twice a month

Certolizumab  
Twice a month

Etanercept  
Once a week

Abatacept*  
Once within two weeks

Infliximab  
Once every two months

Rituximab  
Once a month

Tocilizumab  
Once a month

*Also available as an injection.
### Side Effects

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Common:</th>
<th>Reaction to infusion, stomach upset, headache, dizziness, high blood pressure.</th>
<th>Methotrexate</th>
<th>Hydroxychloroquine</th>
<th>Leflunomide</th>
<th>Sulfasalazine</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Common: Stomach upset, diarrhea</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rare serious (less than 1 out of 100 people):</td>
<td>Hydroxychloroquine – eye problems</td>
<td>Methotrexate – lung inflammation</td>
<td>Leflunomide – severe liver injury</td>
<td>Sulfasalazine – severe skin reaction, low blood counts</td>
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<th>Common: Redness or soreness where needle enters skin, stomach upset, headache, dizziness, high blood pressure.</th>
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<th>Certolizumab</th>
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