

**VANCOUVER HOSPITAL & HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE
CSU PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES
DRUG DATA SHEET**

DRUG NAME

Bevacizumab

ALTERNATE NAMES

Avastin™

MANUFACTURER

Genentech, Millenium Pharmaceuticals

STRENGTH

25mg/mL

DOSAGE FORM

Injection

INDICATIONS

- Bevacizumab neutralizes the activity of vascular endothelial growth factor thereby reducing microvascularization and inhibiting tumour growth.
 - Investigational use for the treatment of macular degeneration.
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DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- *Colorectal cancer:* 5 mg/kg IV x 1 dose on day 1 of a 14-day cycle or 7.5 mg/kg IV x 1 dose on day 1 of a 21-day cycle. Dose reduction for adverse events is not recommended. Dose preparation: further dilute in 100 mL normal saline only (do not use D5W). Do not shake. Diluted solutions are stable for 48 hours under refrigeration or at room temperature.
 - *Macular degeneration:* 1.25 mg intravitreally at visit 1 and once monthly if needed for 6 months. Dose preparation: prepare dose in syringe. Stable for 24 hours under refrigeration.
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POTENTIAL ADVERSE EFFECTS*

- Most common: hypertension and proteinuria.
 - Less common: bleeding, thrombosis/embolism, elevated liver function tests, bowel perforation, wound dehiscence, hypertensive crisis.
 - Other: headache, infection, asthenia, hypotension, nausea, vomiting pharyngitis, colitis, intestinal obstruction, pulmonary infiltration, arthralgia, chest pain.
 - Infusion / allergic -associated reactions (fever, chills, rigor, rash, urticaria, dsypnea.)
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SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS

- Cytotoxic precautions apply during handling, administration, and disposal.
 - Nonvesicant.
 - Anaphylaxis precautions should be observed during bevacizumab administration.
 - Do not give by SC, IM or direct IV routes. Do not give by rapid IV injection.
 - Infusion related reactions might be minimized by pre-medications and extension of the infusion period. Administer the first dose over 90 minutes, the second dose over 60 minutes, and subsequent doses over 60 or 30 minutes depending upon previous response.
 - Monitor vital signs prior to, during, and after the infusion.
 - Do not use within 28 days following major surgery or in uncontrolled hypertension. Use with caution in patients > 65 years or with history of arterial thromboembolic events.
 - Drug interactions: anthracyclines (may increase cardiotoxicity), increased irinotecan toxicity.
 - Stable in normal saline only. Do not mix with D5W or any other solutions or medications.
 - Store vials under refrigeration and protected from light.
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REPORT ANY ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS TO THE PHARMACY