

Guidance on Timing of Immunomodulatory Medications and COVID-19 Vaccination Among Patients with Autoimmune and Inflammatory Rheumatic Diseases

The physicians at Arthritis and Rheumatism Associates, P.C. continue to advise the COVID-19 vaccination and booster doses per latest [CDC considerations](#).

For our patients with autoimmune and inflammatory rheumatic diseases, we advise management of specific immunomodulatory medications around the timing of the COVID-19 vaccination per the latest American College of Rheumatology guidance ([version 5 revised](#), August 12, 2022).

Medication	Timing Consideration for Medication and COVID-19 Vaccine
Abatacept IV	Vaccinate 1 week prior to next dose
Abatacept SQ	Withhold for 1-2 weeks after vaccination, if disease activity permits
Acetaminophen, NSAIDs	Withhold 24 hours prior to vaccination, if disease activity permits
Belimumab SQ	Withhold for 1-2 weeks after vaccination, if disease activity permits
Etanercept, infliximab, adalimumab, golimumab, certolizumab	No modification necessary
Tocilizumab, sarilumab	No modification necessary
Anakinra, canakinumab	No modification necessary
Secukinumab, ixekizumab, bimekizumab	No modification necessary
Ustekinumab	No modification necessary
Guselkumab, tildrakizumab, risankizumab	No modification necessary
Cyclophosphamide IV	Vaccinate 1 week prior to next dose, if feasible
Hydroxychloroquine	No modification necessary
IVIG	No modification necessary
Rituximab	Vaccinate 2-4 weeks prior to next dose for patients on every 6-month dosing schedule
Tofacitinib, baricitinib, upadacitinib	Withhold for 1-2 weeks after vaccination, if disease activity permits
Methotrexate, sulfasalazine, leflunomide, azathioprine, mycophenolate, apremilast, tacrolimus, cyclosporine, voclosporin, cyclophosphamide (oral)	Withhold for 1-2 weeks after vaccination, if disease activity permits
Denosumab	No modification necessary
Prednisone, methylprednisolone, hydrocortisone	No modification necessary