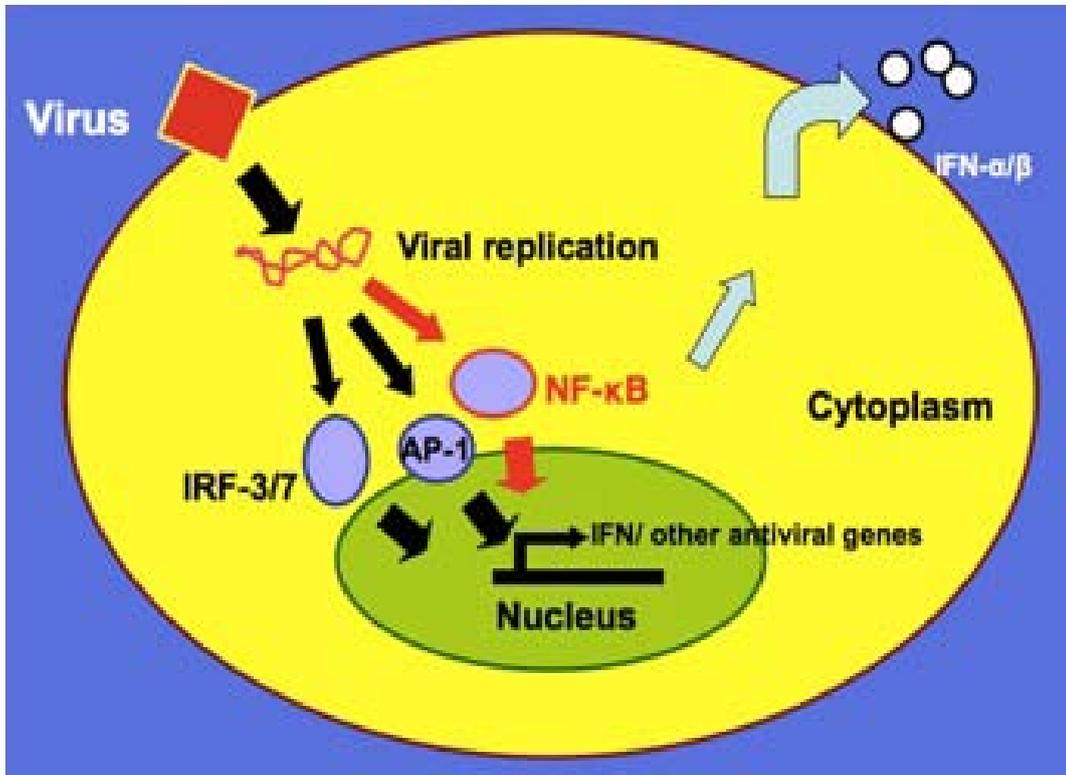


الشركة العامة لتسويق الادوية
والمستلزمات الطبية
قسم العلاقات العامة
لجنة التعليم الطبي المستمر
الشعبة العلمية / ٢٠١٦

Interferon alpha 2



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شباط / ٢٠١٦

What is interferon alfa 2a?

Interferon alfa 2a is a protein. Interferons are released in the body in response to viral infections. Interferons are important for fighting viruses in the body, regulating reproduction of cells, and regulating the immune system. Interferon alfa 2a is used to treat chronic hepatitis C, hairy cell leukemia, AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma, and some types of chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML). Interferon alfa 2a belongs to the category of therapies called biologic response modifiers (BRM), also called immunotherapy. This is a type of treatment that mobilizes the body's immune system to fight cancer. The therapy mainly consists of stimulating the immune system to help it do its job more effectively. Interferon alfa 2a is part of a family of proteins called cytokines. Cytokines act primarily by communicating between the various cells of the body's immune system. Interferon alfa 2a interacts with receptors on the surface of cells. There are several ways that interferon alfa 2a fights cancer: directly by interfering with the cancer cells' ability to divide, and indirectly by modifying the body's response to the cancer cells.

Interferon alfa 2a dosing information

Usual Adult Dose for Chronic Hepatitis C:

3 million international units s.c. or IM three times a week for 48 to 52 weeks (12 months). Alternatively, 6 million international units three times a week for the first 12 weeks (3 months), followed by 3 million international units three times a week for 36 weeks (9 months).

Usual Adult Dose for Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia:

9 million international units daily s.c. or I.M.

Usual Adult Dose for Hairy Cell Leukemia:

Induction dose: 3 million international units daily s.c. or I.M. for 16 to 24 weeks.

Maintenance dose: 3 millions international units 3 times a week for up to 24 consecutive months.

Usual Adult Dose for Renal Cell Carcinoma:

s.c injection three times weekly. 4.5 million units titrated upwards to 18 million units, as tolerated, during the first 4 weeks (weekly dose increases).The individual maintenance dose based on tolerability of side effects was continued for 3 weeks (out of a 3 week cycle),up to 2 years if the patient responds or has stable disease.

Usual Pediatric Dose for Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia:

2.5 to 5 million international units/m²/day I.M.

Precautions:

- Inform your doctor if you have had a transplant ,autoimmune disease or liver disease.
- Due to differences in dosage ,you should not change brands of interferon .
- Inform your health care professional if you are pregnant or may be pregnant prior to starting this treatment .Pregnancy category C (use in pregnancy only when benefit to the mother outweighs risk to the fetus)
- Don't breast feed while taking this medication.

Interferon alfa 2a side effects

1. Depression or are contemplating suicide become unusually irritable, anxious, or experience other mood or behavior changes.
2. Difficulty breathing, chest pain, blurred vision.
3. Drop in the number of WBC and platelets.
4. Allergic reaction (difficulty breathing, closing of the throat, swelling of the lips, tongue, or face, or hives).
5. Flu-like symptoms are likely to occur.

Drug-Drug interaction

1. Interferon alfa 2a interact with tramadol , Tramadol may cause seizure and combining it with other medications that can also cause seizures such as interferon alfa 2a may increase that risk. The interaction may be more likely if you are elderly, undergoing alcohol or drug withdrawal, have a history of seizures, or have a condition affecting the central nervous system such as a brain tumor or head trauma.
2. Don't take aspirin or products containing aspirin unless your doctor specifically permits this.
3. Don't receive any kind of immunization or vaccination without your doctor's approval while taking interferon alfa 2a.

Questions:

1. Interferon alfa 2a is a protein. Interferon are released in the body in response to
2. Interferon alfa 2a belongs to the category of therapies called Also called
3. What are the indications of interferon alfa 2a?
4. Usual adult dose for chronic hepatitis C is 3 millions international units or A week.