

A Gout Patient's Guide to Biologics

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More than 9 million Americans live with gout, a common form of inflammatory arthritis. This painful condition can affect every part of patients' lives.

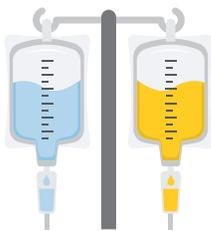
In addition to oral medication options, a biological medical product, or biologic, may offer relief. Biologics are complex drugs used to treat a wide range of conditions, including gout.

Patients with uncontrolled gout can currently benefit from an FDA-approved biologic medication called pegloticase. With this option and additional biologics in development, it's important that gout patients understand these innovative medications and their role in gout management.



How are biologics different from traditional medications?

Biologics are drugs made from living sources, including animal and plant cells, while traditional medications are made by combining chemical ingredients. Like traditional medications, biologics go through a rigorous testing process and are approved as safe and effective by the FDA.



How and where are biologics for gout administered?

Biologics for gout are administered by infusion. Patients who have been prescribed a biologic infusion can receive this drug every two weeks at an infusion clinic or hospital. These infusions are done in an outpatient setting, and do not require a hospital stay.



What can I expect when getting a biologic infusion for my gout?

A medical professional will administer the infusion. After pre-medications are given, the main infusion takes about two hours. Once the infusion ends, patients may need to remain for another hour for observation and to receive IV fluids. After the infusion, patients may experience a gout flare, fatigue, fever or chills.



How do I know if a biologic is the right treatment for me?

With additional biologics in development, treatment options for gout will only increase. That's why it's important to talk to your doctor about all of the options available to you, including biologics. Traditional drugs may still be part of your daily regimen, even while taking a biologic.

Biologics may be an important part of your gout treatment plan. Don't be afraid to ask your health care provider any other questions that you have about biologic treatments for gout management.



ALLIANCE FOR Gout Awareness

The Alliance for Gout Awareness works to reduce stigma and empower patients by improving public understanding of gout.



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