RYTELO®
(imetelstat) for Injection 47 mg 188 mg


Real patient with his care provider.

A GUIDE FOR PATIENT CONVERSATIONS

What to expect when starting RYTELO

Help patients prepare for and navigate treatment

What is RYTELO?

RYTELO (imetelstat) is a prescription medicine used to treat a condition called low- to intermediate-1 risk myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) in adults:

- with anemia (low red blood cell counts) who need blood transfusions of 4 or more red blood cell units over 8 weeks

and

- who have not responded to, have stopped responding to, or cannot be treated with medicines called erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (ESAs).

It is not known if RYTELO is safe and effective in children.

Important Safety Information

Before you receive RYTELO, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. RYTELO may harm your unborn baby and may cause loss of pregnancy (miscarriage). Tell your healthcare provider right away if you become pregnant or think you may be pregnant during treatment with RYTELO.

Please see Important Safety Information throughout and full Prescribing Information for RYTELO (imetelstat), including Medication Guide.

What you'll see in this guide

This guide is designed to help you set expectations with patients starting RYTELO, including what to expect before, during, and after treatment.

Use it to support your conversations, reinforce key information, and help your patients feel supported as their journey begins.

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Getting started

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Objective: Help your patients understand what needs to happen before their RYTELO treatment day and establish expectations for the treatment journey.

Ask your patients:

How are you feeling going into the journey?

What matters most when it comes to treatment?

What are your goals for treatment?

Help your patients understand:

Give your patients a simple overview of highlights in their treatment journey so they understand that RYTELO involves treatment visits, monitoring, and ongoing communication with you and the rest of their care team.

Today's discussion → **Treatment day** → **Monitoring** → **Next treatment day** →

It is important that patients keep their care team informed on how they are feeling during treatment

Important Safety Information (continued)

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  Females who are able to become pregnant:
  - Your healthcare provider will perform a pregnancy test before you are given RYTELO.
  - You should use effective birth control (contraception) during treatment with RYTELO and for 1 week after your last dose.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if RYTELO passes into your breastmilk. Do not breastfeed during treatment with RYTELO and for 1 week after your last dose.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

What is the most important information I should know about RYTELO?

RYTELO may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Low platelet counts (thrombocytopenia)**. Low platelet counts are common during treatment with RYTELO and can also be severe. Low platelet counts can increase your risk for bleeding. Your healthcare provider may give you platelet transfusions to reduce the risk of bleeding if you develop a low platelet count during treatment with RYTELO. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you develop any signs or symptoms of bleeding, including:
  - unusual bleeding or bruising
  - bleeding that lasts a long time
  - nosebleeds
  - vomiting blood
  - blood in your stool or black tarry stool

(continued on page 4)

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Treatment day

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Objective: Prepare your patients for their treatment day, including pre-treatment preparation, the infusion, and post-infusion monitoring.

I spend a lot of time in infusion centers, making sure treatments start safely."

Logan

Advanced Practice Provider since 2016



Important Safety Information (continued)

- **Low neutrophil counts (neutropenia)**. Low counts of a type of white blood cell called neutrophils are common during treatment with RYTELO and can also be severe. Low neutrophil counts can increase your risk for infections, including serious infections and sepsis. Your healthcare provider may give you medicines before you start treatment to help prevent neutropenia and infections and may treat you with medicines if you develop these problems during treatment with RYTELO. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you develop any signs or symptoms of infection during treatment with RYTELO, including:
  - fever
  - shortness of breath or trouble breathing
  - cough
  - chills
  - pain or burning when you urinate

Your healthcare provider will do blood tests to check your platelet and neutrophil counts before starting treatment with RYTELO, weekly for the first 2 cycles of treatment, before you receive each additional cycle, and as needed during your treatment.

Your healthcare provider may delay your next treatment, decrease your dose, or stop treatment with RYTELO if you develop thrombocytopenia or neutropenia during treatment.

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Help your patients understand:

What will my treatment day be like?

RYTELO is **1 infusion** every **4 weeks**.

How long will my infusion take?

The infusion will take about **2 hours**. They will be able to sit or rest during treatment.

How will my care team prepare me for treatment?

When they arrive, you and their care team will get them ready for treatment

- They will have blood tests to check their blood cell counts
- They'll receive medications about **30 minutes** before their infusion to help reduce the chance of reactions

Can I bring anyone with me?

Some people find it helpful to bring a friend or care partner along with them, especially for their first few treatments.

What happens after the infusion?

They will be monitored for at least **1 hour** after treatment so you and their care team can watch for side effects and make sure they're feeling OK before they leave.

Important Safety Information (continued)

What are the possible side effects of RYTELO?
RYTELO may cause serious side effects, including:

- See "What is the most important information I should know about RYTELO?"
- **Infusion-related reactions.** RYTELO can cause infusion-related reactions during or after your infusion that can be severe, including a severe sudden increase in blood pressure called hypertensive crisis. Your healthcare provider will give you medicines before each RYTELO infusion to help prevent or lessen infusion-related reactions and will watch you for at least 1 hour after your infusion. If you develop infusion-related reactions, your healthcare provider may infuse RYTELO more slowly, temporarily stop, or permanently stop your treatment. Tell your healthcare provider if you develop any signs or symptoms of infusion-related reactions, including:
  - stomach pain
  - joint pain
  - weakness and tiredness
  - back and bone pain
  - diarrhea
  - redness
  - headache
  - high blood pressure
  - not feeling well
  - chest pain that is not related to your heart
  - itching
  - hives

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Post-treatment

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Monitoring

Objective: Prepare your patients for what happens after treatment and reinforce the importance of staying connected with you and their care team throughout.

Help your patients understand:

You and their care team will check how they are doing.

- They will have regular blood tests, especially in the first **8 weeks** of treatment
- If needed, you and their care team may adjust their dose of RYTELO or how often they receive treatment

What kind of additional care might I need after treatment?

Depending on their blood tests, you and their care team may provide additional care to support them during treatment, including:

- Treatments to prevent or manage infections
- Blood or platelet transfusions, if needed

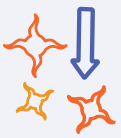
Side effects

Objective: Help your patients understand the common side effects and infusion-related reactions (IRRs) that can happen with RYTELO.

Help your patients understand:

What is thrombocytopenia?

Low platelet counts (thrombocytopenia) are common during treatment with RYTELO and can also be severe. Low platelet counts can increase your risk for bleeding. **If thrombocytopenia occurs, you will administer platelet transfusions to reduce the risk of bleeding.**



What is neutropenia?

Neutrophils are a type of white blood cell. Low neutrophil counts (neutropenia) are common during treatment with RYTELO and can also be severe. Neutropenia can increase the risk for infections, including serious infections and sepsis. **You may give the patient medicines before their treatment to prevent neutropenia, as well as supportive care, including growth factors and anti-infective therapies if neutropenia occurs.**



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Help your patients understand:

What are the most common side effects of RYTELO?

- Low platelet counts
- Low white blood cell counts
- Low neutrophil counts
- Liver enzyme changes
- Tiredness
- Slower blood clotting
- Joint/bone/muscle pain
- COVID-19 infections
- Headache

What infusion-related reaction(s) might occur?

RYTELO can cause infusion-related reactions (IRRs) during or after the infusion, including a severe sudden increase in blood pressure called hypertensive crisis.

- **Patients should contact you and their care team if they develop any signs or symptoms of IRRs**, including stomach pain, joint pain, weakness and tiredness, back and bone pain, diarrhea, redness, headache, high blood pressure, not feeling well, chest pain that is not related to their heart, itching, or hives

Management of Grades 3 or 4 adverse reactions may require temporary dose delay, dose reduction, or treatment discontinuation

"With RYTELO, we want patients to know that down-trending blood counts is an expected side effect, and may be manageable."

Logan
Advanced Practice Provider since 2016



Real patient with his care providers.

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Patient resources

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Objective: Conclude the conversation by giving the patient resources they can reference between visits and capturing questions or follow-up items.

Help your patients understand:

How can I access support for insurance and financial questions?

REACH4RYTELO®

Learn about REACH4RYTELO, which can help connect patients with insurance and financial support resources, including benefits investigation, prior authorization, and appeals support.

Encourage patients to access additional resources at RYTELO.com

- **Download resources** designed to help provide the best possible experience with RYTELO
- **Browse a list of organizations** that provide education and support for people living with MDS and for their families and care partners



Important Safety Information (continued)

What are the possible side effects of RYTELO? (continued)

The most common side effects of RYTELO include:

- decreased platelet counts
- decreased white blood cell counts
- decreased neutrophil counts
- increased liver enzymes (AST, alkaline phosphatase, and ALT)
- tiredness
- longer than usual blood clotting times
- joint, bone and muscle pain
- Covid-19 infections
- headache

These are not all of the possible side effects of RYTELO. Call your doctor for more information and medical advice about side effects. You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit **www.fda.gov/medwatch** or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

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Additional support

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Objective: Assure patients that you and their care team will be there for them throughout their RYTELO treatment journey.

"When approaching conversations with MDS patients, I think the most important part is starting off with education."

Dr. David Swoboda

Hematologist-oncologist since 2018



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- decreased platelet counts
- decreased white blood cell counts
- decreased neutrophil counts
- increased liver enzymes (AST, alkaline phosphatase, and ALT)
- tiredness
- longer than usual blood clotting times
- joint, bone and muscle pain
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Actor portrayals.



The conversation doesn't end here

Stay connected throughout the RYTELO treatment journey so every step feels supported

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