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[Home](#) > Treatment of SLE

Generic Name:

Belimumab

Trade Name:

Benlysta

Company:

Human Genome Sciences

Notes:

[Belimumab](#) is a monoclonal antibody that blocks human B lymphocyte stimulator protein, a B-cell survival factor, resulting in reduced circulating naive and activated B cells, plasmacytoid cells, and the SLE B-cell subset. It is administered as a 10 mg/kg I.V. infusion at 2-week intervals for the first three doses and then once every 4 weeks thereafter. [FDA](#) approved the agent based on two clinical trials in which belimumab resulted in a greater number of patients achieving a response compared with placebo. Adverse events associated with therapy include serious infections, risk of malignancy, hypersensitivity reactions, and infusion-related reactions.

Medication Monitor Categories:

[New Drug Approvals](#)

Use:

Treatment of adult patients with active, autoantibody-positive, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) who are receiving standard therapy

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