








# INJECTION SITE REACTIONS

A guide to understanding common  
side effects of Kineret

COMMON INJECTION SITE REACTIONS INCLUDE<sup>1</sup>:

SWELLING	
REDNESS	
STINGING	
ITCHING	
BRUISING	

## Every patient is different

*“I’ve found letting the solution warm up, and injecting slowly in a relaxed position (for example, sitting up in bed) is the best way for me to address [my ISRs].”*

—Megan, RA patient

This represents one patient’s experience. Individual results may vary.

Visit [KineretRx.com](http://KineretRx.com) to take advantage of a wide range of resources, such as:

- » Instructional Kineret injection video
- » Downloadable injection site tracker
- » Downloadable treatment guide and instructions for use
- » Kineret patient case studies

### INDICATION

KINERET<sup>®</sup> (anakinra) is a prescription medicine called an interleukin-1 receptor antagonist (IL-1ra) used to reduce the signs and symptoms, and slow the damage of moderate to severe active rheumatoid arthritis (RA) in people age 18 years and older when 1 or more other drugs for RA have not worked.

KINERET is not for children with Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis.

### IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

#### Who should not take KINERET?

People who are allergic to:

- Proteins made from bacteria called *E. coli*. Ask your healthcare provider if you are not sure

Please see additional Important Safety Information on page 3.

[Click here for full Prescribing Information](#) for KINERET, including Patient Information.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

During treatment, you may experience itching, stinging, and raised red patches at the injection site.<sup>1</sup> These injection site reactions (ISRs) are common side effects of Kineret, especially in the first month.<sup>2</sup> Most ISRs are mild, and usually stop about 14 to 28 days after starting treatment.<sup>1</sup>

## HOW TO ADDRESS ISRs

Here are some tips:



Wait for 30 minutes to bring Kineret to room temperature<sup>1</sup>



Be sure to rotate injection sites<sup>1</sup>



Cool the injection site with an ice pack for a few minutes before and after injecting<sup>2</sup>



Don’t inject into skin that is red, bruised, tender, swollen, or hard<sup>1</sup>



Apply hydrocortisone or an antihistamine cream to the injection site<sup>2</sup>



Keep track of injection sites in the [Kineret Injection Tracker](#)

Call your doctor if an ISR bothers you or doesn’t go away.<sup>2</sup>

## What else to be aware of

Here are some other common side effects of Kineret<sup>1</sup>:

- » Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) gets worse with treatment
- » Headache
- » Nausea and vomiting
- » Diarrhea
- » Joint pain
- » Fever
- » Feeling like you have the flu
- » Sore throat or runny nose
- » Sinus infection
- » Pain in your stomach area

## INDICATION

KINERET® (anakinra) is a prescription medicine called an interleukin-1 receptor antagonist (IL-1ra) used to reduce the signs and symptoms, and slow the damage of moderate to severe active rheumatoid arthritis (RA) in people age 18 years and older when 1 or more other drugs for RA have not worked.

KINERET is not for children with Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis.

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

### Who should not take KINERET?

People who are allergic to:

- Proteins made from bacteria called *E. coli*. Ask your healthcare provider if you are not sure
- Anakinra or any of the ingredients in KINERET. See the end of the patient leaflet for a complete list of ingredients in KINERET

### What information should I know before starting KINERET?

Before you use KINERET, tell your healthcare provider if you:

- Have an infection, a history of infections that keep coming back, or other problems that can increase your risk of infections
- Are scheduled to receive any vaccines. People using KINERET should not receive live vaccines
- Have kidney problems
- Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if KINERET will harm your unborn baby
- Are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if KINERET passes into your breast milk. You and your healthcare provider should decide if you will use KINERET or breastfeed

**Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take**, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. KINERET and other medicines may affect each other and cause serious side effects. Especially tell your healthcare provider if you take certain other medicines that affect your immune system called Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF) blockers. Ask your healthcare provider for a list of these medicines if you are not sure. Know the medications you take. Keep a list of your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new prescription.

### What are the possible side effects of KINERET?

KINERET may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Serious infections.** KINERET may lower your ability to fight infections. During treatment with KINERET, call your healthcare provider right away if you get an infection, have any sign of an infection including a fever or chills, or have any open sores on your body. You may get an infection if you receive live vaccines while you use KINERET. You should not receive live vaccines while you use KINERET
- **Allergic reactions.** Stop using KINERET and call your healthcare provider or get emergency help right away if you have any of these symptoms of an allergic reaction: swelling of your face, lips, mouth, or tongue; trouble breathing; wheezing; severe itching; skin rash, redness, or swelling outside of the injection site area; dizziness or fainting; fast heartbeat or pounding in your chest (tachycardia); or sweating. People with DIRA may have an increased risk of allergic reactions, especially in the first several weeks
- **Decreased ability of your body to fight infections (immunosuppression).** It is not known if treatment with medicines that cause immunosuppression, like KINERET, affect your risk of getting cancer
- **Low white blood cell count (neutropenia).** KINERET may cause you to have a lower number of certain white cells (neutrophils). Neutrophils are important in fighting infections. You should have blood tests before starting treatment with KINERET, then monthly for 3 months. After the first 3 months you should have your blood tested every 3 months for up to 1 year

### The most common side effects of KINERET include:

- Injection site skin reactions, including redness, swelling, bruising, itching, and stinging. Most injection site reactions are mild, happen early during treatment, and last about 14 to 28 days. Injection site reactions have been observed less frequently in people with NOMID
- RA gets worse with treatment, if you already have RA
- Headache
- Nausea and vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Joint pain
- Fever
- Feeling like you have the flu
- Sore throat or runny nose
- Sinus infection
- Pain in your stomach area

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or does not go away. These are not all of the possible side effects of KINERET. For more information ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

[Click here for full Prescribing Information](#) for KINERET, including Patient Information.

**REFERENCES:** 1. Kineret [Prescribing Information]. Stockholm, Sweden: Swedish Orphan Biovitrum AB (publ). 2. Kaiser C, Knight A, Nordström D, et al. Injection-site reactions upon Kineret (anakinra) administration: experiences and explanations. *Rheumatol Int.* 2012;32(2):295-299.

 Speak to a KINERET® On TRACK™ expert.

Call 866.547.0644, 8AM to 8PM EST, Monday through Friday, or visit [KINERETonTRACK.com](http://KINERETonTRACK.com) for more information.