

Common questions about Donanemab

Division of
Cognitive Neurology



Insurance Questions

Is this medication part of a research study?

No. This medication is FDA approved as a clinical treatment. Patients do sign a consent for a **clinical database**. This is required for all Medicare patients and all patients receiving the medication at BIDMC. We will understand more about this treatment from this database.

How will I know if my insurance will cover these treatments?

Working with insurance companies is part of the scheduling process. This is done close to your first treatment date. For some insurances it is also repeated during your treatments. You may be responsible for payments depending on your insurance coverage. **Note:** There are other appointments such as MRIs and follow up appointments that may also require insurance approval.

What if I have other insurance questions?

Calling your insurance company can be helpful to know if they have the medication on their list of medicines they approve. You could also ask what percentage is expected to be covered. **Note:** There are also MRIs and clinical visits as part of this treatment.



Treatment Schedules

How do I know when my treatments start?

Once you and your doctor decide on this medication, we work with our infusion sites to find a start date. You will hear directly from Cognitive Neurology or your infusion site about your start date and time. There may be a delay before you can start infusions.

What is my treatment schedule?

Your treatments will be scheduled **every four weeks**. You will schedule directly with your infusion team. See the blank treatment schedule attached.

Can I request a treatment date that works best for me?

Unfortunately, we are limited with infusion slots. You may work with your infusion site and choose the best fit for you based on availability. Keep in mind:

- Treatments cannot be on weekends without prior approval.
- If you change/cancel your appointment, you must call both your infusion center the Cognitive Neurology department (617-667-4074)

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Treatment Schedules

How long are my treatments?

The first two treatments have extra observation times after each treatment. You should expect to be at your infusion site for about 3-3 ½ hours for treatments one and two. All the rest of your treatments should take 2-2 ½ hours.

What if I want to go on vacation?

We understand that this treatment schedule is very busy and is a big commitment. It is important to remember that some patients will have side effects called ARIA (bleeding and/or swelling in your brain). This happens most commonly in the first 6 months of treatment. During that time you will have MRI scans to look for any ARIA.

Our goal is to take care of you should you have ARIA. We recommend that you do not travel during the first 6 months of your treatment or if you have ARIA at any time. Please let us know as soon as possible if you have any trips planned so we can discuss.

In addition to the treatments what other appointments will I have?

You will have other follow up appointments with your Donanemab team. We try to make as many of these as possible via telehealth. You will also have MRIs before your 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 7th treatments. Some patients will need additional MRIs including one before the 11th treatment.

Will I still see my regular neurologist?

Yes, you will still see your regular Cognitive Neurologist as scheduled, who may or may not be the same as your Donanemab neurologist.

What if I miss an infusion appointment?

Our hope is that your treatments can stay on schedule however we do understand that things sometimes come up. Generally, we ask that patient's do not miss more than two infusions electively (such as vacation or social event).

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Helpful Information

Where do I park?

For treatments at BIDMC you will enter the East Main Campus at 330 Brookline Ave, Boston. The parking lot is to your right. If your treatment is elsewhere you will be told where to park.

Can I take all my usual medications?

Yes. Take any medications you would normally take before your treatments. Let us know if you have any changes in your **medication list**.

Will I have any eating restrictions?

No. Feel free to bring snacks with you to your treatments.

What should I wear?

Wear comfortable clothing. You will have an IV placed in your arm so the staff will need to be able to access your forearms.

What kind of support do I need from family and friends?

You will need support from family and/or friend during this treatment:

- You will need someone to come with you to all your infusions.
- Your telehealth visits will be through your MyChart. These are done by video. You may need someone to be with you to help you access these visits. If you are unable or uninterested in video appointments you may come in person to your visits.
- While it is rare, some patients do develop the side effect called ARIA. If you do, you may need someone to stay with you if you need extra help at home.

What if I have more questions or need to get in touch with someone?

Weekdays, 8am to 4pm call 617-667-4074. After hours you may leave a message to be returned within 48 hours. If you are running late for your treatment, please call **your infusion center**.

You can also send a message to your Donanemab Team via **My Chart**.

Donanemab Infusion and Routine Visit Schedule

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Infusions every 4 weeks*

Infusion #	Date/Time		Date/Time		Date/Time
1		RN call after treatment			Telehealth Visit
		then	MRI	then	Telehealth Visit
2		then	MRI	then	Telehealth Visit
3		then	MRI	then	Telehealth Visit
4					
5					
6		then	MRI	then	Telehealth Visit
7					
8					
9					Telehealth Visit
10					
11		then	MRI**	then	Telehealth Visit
12					
Evaluation— Treatments may continue or be discontinued.					

*Subject to change based on safety monitoring or as determined by neurology team.

**For some patients

(617) 667-4074