

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use RAXIBACUMAB safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for RAXIBACUMAB.

RAXIBACUMAB injection, for intravenous use

Initial U.S. Approval: 2012

RECENT MAJOR CHANGES

Dosage and Administration (2.2, 2.3)

01/2018

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Raxibacumab is indicated for the treatment of adult and pediatric patients with inhalational anthrax due to *Bacillus anthracis* in combination with appropriate antibacterial drugs, and for prophylaxis of inhalational anthrax when alternative therapies are not available or are not appropriate. (1)

Limitations of Use:

- The effectiveness of raxibacumab is based solely on efficacy studies in animal models of inhalational anthrax. (1.2, 14.1)
- There have been no studies of raxibacumab in the pediatric population. Dosing in pediatric patients was derived using an extrapolation approach. (1.2, 8.4)
- Raxibacumab does not cross the blood-brain barrier and does not prevent or treat meningitis. Raxibacumab should be used in combination with appropriate antibacterial drugs. (1.2)

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- Premedicate with diphenhydramine. (2.1, 2.2, 5.1)
- Dilute and administer as an intravenous infusion over 2 hours and 15 minutes. (2.3)

- Adults: 40 mg/kg raxibacumab. (2.1)
- Pediatrics greater than 40 kg: 40 mg/kg raxibacumab. (2.2)
- Pediatrics greater than 10 kg to 40 kg: 60 mg/kg raxibacumab. (2.2)
- Pediatrics 10 kg or less: 80 mg/kg raxibacumab. (2.2)

DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Injection: 1,700 mg/34 mL (50 mg/mL) solution in a single-use vial. (3)

CONTRAINDICATIONS

None. (4)

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Infusion reactions may occur. Premedicate with diphenhydramine. Slow or interrupt infusion and administer treatment based on severity of the reaction. (5.1)

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Common adverse reactions in healthy adult subjects ($\geq 1.5\%$) were: rash, pain in extremity, pruritus, and somnolence. (6.1)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact GlaxoSmithKline at 1-888-825-5249 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness have not been studied in the pediatric population. (8.4)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and FDA-approved patient labeling.

Revised: 01/2018

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FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

1.1 Inhalational Anthrax

Raxibacumab is indicated for the treatment of adult and pediatric patients with inhalational anthrax due to *Bacillus anthracis* in combination with appropriate antibacterial drugs.

Raxibacumab is also indicated for prophylaxis of inhalational anthrax when alternative therapies are not available or are not appropriate.

1.2 Limitations of Use

The effectiveness of raxibacumab is based solely on efficacy studies in animal models of inhalational anthrax. It is not ethical or feasible to conduct controlled clinical trials with intentional exposure of humans to anthrax. [See *Clinical Studies* (14.1).]

Safety and pharmacokinetics (PK) of raxibacumab have been studied in adult healthy volunteers. There have been no trials of safety or PK of raxibacumab in the pediatric population. An extrapolation approach was used to derive dosing regimens that are predicted to provide pediatric patients with exposure comparable to the observed exposure in adults. [See *Use in Specific Populations* (8.4).]

Raxibacumab binds to the protective antigen (PA) of *B. anthracis*; it does not have direct antibacterial activity. Raxibacumab does not cross the blood-brain barrier and does not prevent or treat meningitis. Raxibacumab should be used in combination with appropriate antibacterial drugs.

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Dose and Schedule for Adults

Administer raxibacumab as a single dose of 40 mg/kg intravenously over 2 hours and 15 minutes after dilution in 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP (normal saline) to a final volume of 250 mL. Administer 25 to 50 mg diphenhydramine within 1 hour prior to raxibacumab infusion to reduce the risk of occurrence and/or the severity of an infusion reaction. Diphenhydramine route of administration (oral or intravenous) should be based on the temporal proximity to the start of raxibacumab infusion. [See *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1), *Adverse Reactions* (6.1).]

2.2 Dose and Schedule for Pediatric Patients

The recommended dose for pediatric patients is based on weight as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Recommended Pediatric Dose

Pediatric Body Weight	Pediatric Dose
Greater than 40 kg	40 mg/kg
Greater than 10 kg to 40 kg	60 mg/kg
10 kg or less	80 mg/kg

Premedicate with diphenhydramine within 1 hour prior to raxibacumab infusion to reduce the risk of occurrence and/or the severity of an infusion reaction. Diphenhydramine route of administration (oral or intravenous) should be based on the temporal proximity to the start of raxibacumab infusion. Infuse raxibacumab over 2 hours and 15 minutes. No pediatric patients were studied during the development of raxibacumab. The dosing recommendations in Table 1 are derived from simulations designed to match the observed adult exposure to raxibacumab at a 40-mg/kg dose. [See *Use in Specific Populations* (8.4).]

2.3 Preparation for Administration

The recommended dose of raxibacumab is weight-based, given as an intravenous infusion after dilution in a compatible solution to a final volume of 250 mL in adults or to a volume indicated based on the child's weight (Table 2). Dilute raxibacumab using one of the following compatible solutions:

- 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP
- 0.45% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP

Keep vials in their cartons prior to preparation of an infusion solution to protect raxibacumab from light. Raxibacumab vials contain no preservative.

Table 2. Raxibacumab Dose, Diluents, Infusion Volumes, and Rates by Body Weight

Table 2: Raxibacumab Dose, Diluents, Infusion Volumes, and Rates by Body Weight					
	Preparation			Administration	
Body Weight	Dose	Total Infusion Volume ^a	Type of Diluent	Infusion Rate	Infusion Rate
				First 20 Minutes	Remaining Infusion
Adults					
	40 mg/kg	250 mL	0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection	15 mL/hour	125 mL/hour
Pediatric Patients (Younger than 18 Years)					
Less than 1 kg	80 mg/kg	7 mL	0.45% Sodium Chloride Injection or 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection	0.5 mL/hour	3.5 mL/hour
1 kg to less than 2 kg		15 mL		1 mL/hour	7 mL/hour
2 kg to less than 3 kg		20 mL		1.2 mL/hour	10 mL/hour
3 kg to less than 5 kg		25 mL		1.5 mL/hour	12 mL/hour
5 kg to 10 kg		40 mL		3 mL/hour	20 mL/hour
Greater than 10 kg to less than 15 kg	60 mg/kg	50 mL	0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection	6 mL/hour	25 mL/hour
15 kg to less than 30 kg		100 mL		6 mL/hour	50 mL/hour
30 kg to 40 kg		125 mL		15 mL/hour	62.5 mL/hour
Greater than 40 kg	40 mg/kg	150 mL		15 mL/hour	75 mL/hour

^a For patients requiring maximal fluid restriction, dilution factors can be adjusted at the discretion of the physician to a maximal concentration of 32 mg/mL.

Preparation

Follow the steps below to prepare the raxibacumab intravenous infusion solution.

1. Calculate the milligrams of raxibacumab injection by multiplying the recommended mg/kg dose in Table 2 by patient weight in kilograms.
2. Calculate the required volume in milliliters of raxibacumab injection needed for the dose by dividing the calculated dose in milligrams (Step 1) by the concentration, 50 mg/mL. Each single-use vial allows delivery of 34 mL raxibacumab.

Based on the total infusion volume selected in Table 2, prepare either a syringe or infusion bag as appropriate following the steps below.

Syringe Preparation

3. Select an appropriate size syringe for the total volume of infusion to be administered, as described in Table 2.
4. Using the selected syringe, withdraw the volume of raxibacumab as calculated in Step 2.
5. Withdraw an appropriate amount of compatible solution to prepare a total volume infusion syringe as specified in Table 2.
6. Gently mix the solution. Do not shake.
7. Discard any unused portion remaining in the raxibacumab vial(s).
8. The prepared solution is stable for 8 hours stored at room temperature.

Infusion Bag Preparation

3. Select appropriate size bag of compatible solution (see compatible solutions listed in Table 2); withdraw a volume of solution from the bag equal to the calculated volume in milliliters of raxibacumab in Step 2 above. Discard the solution that was withdrawn from the bag.
4. Withdraw the required volume of raxibacumab injection from the raxibacumab vial(s).
5. Transfer the required volume of raxibacumab injection to the selected infusion bag (Step 3). Gently invert the bag to mix the solution. Do not shake.
6. Discard any unused portion remaining in the raxibacumab vial(s).
7. The prepared solution is stable for 8 hours stored at room temperature.

Parenteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration, whenever solution and container permit. Discard the solution if particulate matter is present or color is abnormal. *[See Description (11).]*

Administration

Administer the infusion solution as described in Table 2. The rate of infusion may be slowed or interrupted if the patient develops any signs of adverse reactions, including infusion-associated symptoms.

3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Injection: 1,700 mg/34 mL (50 mg/mL) solution in a single-use vial.

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

None.

5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Infusion Reactions

Infusion-related reactions were reported during administration of raxibacumab in clinical trials including reports of rash, urticaria, and pruritus. If these reactions occur, slow or interrupt raxibacumab infusion and administer appropriate treatment based on severity of the reaction.

Premedicate with diphenhydramine within 1 hour prior to administering raxibacumab to reduce the risk of occurrence and/or the severity of an infusion reaction [*see Dosage and Administration (2.1), Adverse Reactions (6.1)*].

6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

6.1 Clinical Trials Experience

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared with rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice. The safety of raxibacumab has been studied only in healthy volunteers. It has not been studied in patients with inhalational anthrax.

The safety of raxibacumab has been evaluated in 326 healthy subjects treated with a dose of 40 mg/kg in 3 clinical trials: a drug interaction trial with ciprofloxacin (Study 1), a repeat-dose trial of 20 subjects with the second raxibacumab dose administered ≥ 4 months after the first dose (Study 2), and a placebo-controlled trial evaluating single doses with a subset of subjects receiving 2 raxibacumab doses 14 days apart (Study 3). Raxibacumab was administered to 86 healthy subjects in Study 1. In Study 3, 240 healthy subjects received raxibacumab (217 received 1 dose and 23 received 2 doses) and 80 subjects received placebo.

The overall safety of raxibacumab was evaluated as an integrated summary of these 3 clinical trials. Of 326 raxibacumab subjects, 283 received single doses, 23 received 2 doses 14 days apart, and 20 received 2 doses more than 4 months apart. The subjects were aged 18 to 88 years, 53% female, 74% white, 17% black/African-American, 6% Asian, and 15% Hispanic.

Adverse Reactions Leading to Discontinuation of Raxibacumab Infusion

Four subjects (1.2%) had their infusion of raxibacumab discontinued for adverse reactions: 2 subjects (neither of whom received diphenhydramine premedication) due to urticaria (mild), and 1 subject each discontinued for clonus (mild) and dyspnea (moderate).

Most Frequently Reported Adverse Reactions

The most frequently reported adverse reactions were rash, pain in extremity, pruritus, and somnolence.

Table 3. Adverse Reactions Reported in $\geq 1.5\%$ of Healthy Adult Subjects Exposed to Raxibacumab 40 mg/kg Intravenously

Preferred Term	Placebo n = 80 (%)	Single-Dose Raxibacumab n = 283 (%)	Double-Dose Raxibacumab ≥ 4 Months Apart n = 20 (%)	Double-Dose Raxibacumab 2 Weeks Apart n = 23 (%)	Total Raxibacumab Subjects N = 326 (%)
Rash/Rash erythematous/ Rash papular	1 (1.3)	9 (3.2)	0	0	9 (2.8)
Pain in extremity	1 (1.3)	7 (2.5)	0	0	7 (2.1)
Pruritus	0	7 (2.5)	0	0	7 (2.1)
Somnolence	0	4 (1.4)	0	1 (4.3)	5 (1.5)

Rashes

For all subjects exposed to raxibacumab in clinical trials, the rate of rash was 2.8% (9/326) compared with 1.3% (1/80) of placebo subjects. Mild to moderate infusion-related rashes were reported in 22.2% (6/27) of subjects who did not receive diphenhydramine premedication compared with 3.3% (2/61) of subjects who were premedicated with diphenhydramine in the ciprofloxacin/raxibacumab combination trial (Study 1). In the placebo-controlled raxibacumab study where all subjects received diphenhydramine (Study 3), the rate of rash was 2.5% in both placebo- and raxibacumab-treated subjects.

Less Common Adverse Reactions

Clinically significant adverse reactions that were reported in $< 1.5\%$ of subjects exposed to raxibacumab and at rates higher than in placebo subjects are listed below:

- *Blood and Lymphatic System:* Anemia, leukopenia, lymphadenopathy.
- *Cardiac Disorders:* Palpitations.
- *Ear and Labyrinth:* Vertigo.
- *General Disorders and Administration Site:* Fatigue, infusion site pain, peripheral edema.
- *Investigations:* Blood amylase increased, blood creatine phosphokinase increased, prothrombin time prolonged.
- *Musculoskeletal and Connective Tissue:* Back pain, muscle spasms.
- *Nervous System:* Syncope vasovagal.
- *Psychiatric:* Insomnia.
- *Vascular:* Flushing, hypertension.

Immunogenicity

The development of anti-raxibacumab antibodies was evaluated in all subjects receiving single and double doses of raxibacumab in Studies 1, 2, and 3. Immunogenic responses against

raxibacumab were not detected in any raxibacumab-treated human subjects following single or repeat doses of raxibacumab.

The incidence of antibody formation is highly dependent on the sensitivity and specificity of the immunogenicity assay. Additionally, the observed incidence of any antibody positivity in an assay is highly dependent on several factors, including assay sensitivity and specificity, assay methodology, sample handling, timing of sample collection, concomitant medications, and underlying disease. For these reasons, comparison of the incidence of antibodies to raxibacumab with the incidence of antibodies to other products may be misleading.

7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

7.1 Ciprofloxacin

Co-administration of 40 mg/kg raxibacumab intravenously with intravenous or oral ciprofloxacin in human subjects did not alter the PK of either ciprofloxacin or raxibacumab [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.3)].

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Risk Summary

There are no data on the use of raxibacumab in pregnant women to inform on drug-associated risk. In pregnant rabbits, intravenous administration of raxibacumab was not associated with teratogenicity or other adverse developmental outcomes at 3 times the human maximum plasma concentrations at the maximum recommended adult dose (see *Data*).

All pregnancies have a background risk of birth defect, loss, or other adverse outcomes. In the U.S. general population, the estimated background rate of major birth defects is 2% to 4% and of miscarriage is 15% to 20% of clinically recognized pregnancies.

Clinical Considerations

Disease-Associated Maternal and/or Embryo/Fetal Risk: Limited data in the form of case reports of anthrax infection in pregnant women indicate that maternal infection is associated with a high risk of maternal, fetal, and neonatal deaths, particularly in the absence of treatment.

Data

Animal Data: A study was conducted in pregnant, healthy New Zealand White rabbits administered intravenous raxibacumab at dose levels of 40 or 120 mg/kg on Gestation Days 7 and 14. No teratogenicity or other adverse developmental outcomes were observed in pregnant rabbits at 3 times the human maximum plasma concentrations at the maximum recommended adult dose of 40 mg/kg. Maternal toxicity was observed at both doses (reduced body weight gain late in gestation, but no difference in mean total weight gain).

8.2 Lactation

Risk Summary

There is no information available on the presence of raxibacumab in human milk, the effects on the breastfed child, or the effects on milk production. Maternal IgG is known to be present in human milk. Therefore, the developmental and health benefits of breastfeeding should be considered along with the mother's clinical need for raxibacumab and any potential adverse effects on the breastfed child from raxibacumab or from the underlying maternal condition.

8.4 Pediatric Use

As in adults, the effectiveness of raxibacumab in pediatric patients is based solely on efficacy studies in animal models of inhalational anthrax. As exposure of healthy children to raxibacumab is not ethical, an extrapolation approach was used to derive dosing regimens that are predicted to provide pediatric patients with exposure comparable to the observed exposure in adults receiving 40 mg/kg. The dose for pediatric patients is based on weight. [See *Dosage and Administration* (2.2).]

Safety or PK of raxibacumab have not been studied in the pediatric population.

8.5 Geriatric Use

Clinical trials of raxibacumab did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 years and older to determine whether they respond differently from younger subjects. Of the total number of subjects in clinical trials of raxibacumab, 6.4% (21/326) were 65 years and older, while 1.5% (5/326) were 75 years and older. However, no alteration of dosing is needed for patients aged 65 years and older [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.3)].

10 OVERDOSAGE

There is no clinical experience with overdosage of raxibacumab. In case of overdosage, monitor patients for any signs or symptoms of adverse effects.

11 DESCRIPTION

Raxibacumab is a human IgG1 λ monoclonal antibody that binds the PA component of *B. anthracis* toxin. Raxibacumab has a molecular weight of approximately 146 kilodaltons. Raxibacumab is produced by recombinant DNA technology in a murine cell expression system.

Raxibacumab is supplied as a sterile, preservative-free, clear to opalescent, colorless to pale yellow liquid formulation in single-use vials for intravenous infusion. Each vial contains 1,700 mg/34 mL (50 mg/mL) raxibacumab in citric acid (0.13 mg/mL), glycine (18 mg/mL), polysorbate 80 [0.2 mg/mL (w/v)], sodium citrate (2.8 mg/mL), sucrose (10 mg/mL), and Water for Injection, with a pH of 6.5.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Raxibacumab is a monoclonal antibody that binds the PA of *B. anthracis* [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.4)].

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

The PK of raxibacumab is linear over the dose range of 1 to 40 mg/kg following single intravenous dosing in humans; raxibacumab was not tested at doses higher than 40 mg/kg in humans. Following single intravenous administration of raxibacumab 40 mg/kg in healthy male and female human subjects, the mean C_{max} and AUC_{inf} were $1,020.3 \pm 140.6$ mcg/mL and $15,845.8 \pm 4,333.5$ mcg•day/mL, respectively. Mean raxibacumab steady-state volume of distribution was greater than plasma volume, suggesting some tissue distribution. Clearance values were much smaller than the glomerular filtration rate indicating that there is virtually no renal clearance of raxibacumab.

Because the effectiveness of raxibacumab cannot be tested in humans, a comparison of raxibacumab exposures achieved in healthy human subjects to those observed in animal models of inhalational anthrax in therapeutic efficacy studies is necessary to support the dosage regimen of 40 mg/kg intravenously as a single dose for the treatment of inhalational anthrax in humans. Humans achieve similar or greater systemic exposure (C_{max} and AUC_{inf}) to raxibacumab following a single 40-mg/kg intravenous dose compared with New Zealand White rabbits and cynomolgus macaques receiving the same dosage regimen.

Effects of Gender, Age, and Race

Raxibacumab PK was evaluated via a population PK analysis using serum samples from 322 healthy subjects who received a single 40-mg/kg intravenous dose across 3 clinical trials. Based on this analysis, gender (female versus male), race (non-white versus white), or age (elderly versus young) had no meaningful effects on the PK parameters for raxibacumab.

Raxibacumab PK has not been evaluated in children [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.2), *Use in Specific Populations* (8.4)].

Repeat Dosing

Although raxibacumab is intended for single-dose administration, the PK of raxibacumab following a second administration of 40 mg/kg given intravenously 14 days after the first 40-mg/kg intravenous dose was assessed in 23 healthy subjects (Study 3). The mean raxibacumab concentration at 28 days after the second dose was approximately twice the mean raxibacumab concentration at 14 days following the first dose. In the human trial assessing the immunogenicity of raxibacumab (Study 2), 20 healthy subjects who had initially received a single dose of raxibacumab 40 mg/kg intravenously received a second 40-mg/kg intravenous dose at ≥ 4 months following their first dose. No statistically significant differences in mean

estimates of AUC_{inf}, CL, or half-life of raxibacumab between the 2 doses administered ≥ 4 months apart were observed. The mean C_{max} following the second dose was 15% lower than the C_{max} following the first dose.

Ciprofloxacin Interaction Trial

In an open-label trial evaluating the effect of raxibacumab on ciprofloxacin PK in healthy adult male and female subjects (Study 1), the administration of 40 mg/kg raxibacumab intravenously following ciprofloxacin intravenous infusion or ciprofloxacin oral tablet ingestion did not alter the PK of ciprofloxacin administered orally and/or intravenously. Likewise, ciprofloxacin did not alter the PK of raxibacumab. [See *Drug Interactions* (7.1).]

12.4 Microbiology

Mechanism of Action

Raxibacumab is a monoclonal antibody that binds free PA with an affinity equilibrium dissociation constant (K_d) of 2.78 ± 0.9 nM. Raxibacumab inhibits the binding of PA to its cellular receptors, preventing the intracellular entry of the anthrax lethal factor and edema factor, the enzymatic toxin components responsible for the pathogenic effects of anthrax toxin.

Activity In Vitro and In Vivo

Raxibacumab binds in vitro to PA from the Ames, Vollum, and Sterne strains of *B. anthracis*. Raxibacumab binds to an epitope on PA that is conserved across reported strains of *B. anthracis*.

In vivo studies in rats suggest that raxibacumab neutralizes the toxicity due to lethal toxin, as animals slowly infused with lethal toxin (a combination of PA + lethal factor) survived 7 days following administration. The median time to death in control rats was 16 hours. Similar observations were noted in animal efficacy studies in rabbits and monkeys challenged with *B. anthracis* spores by the inhalational route. PA was detected in animals following exposure to *B. anthracis* spores. PA levels rose and then fell to undetectable levels in animals that responded to treatment and survived, whereas levels continued to rise in animals that failed treatment and died or were euthanized because of poor clinical condition. [See *Clinical Studies* (14.1).]

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Carcinogenicity, genotoxicity, and fertility studies have not been conducted with raxibacumab.

13.2 Animal Toxicology

Healthy cynomolgus macaques administered 3 intravenous doses or 3 subcutaneous doses of 40 mg/kg raxibacumab once every 12 days, or a single intramuscular dose (40 mg/kg) of raxibacumab, showed no adverse effects, including no effects up to 120 days post-dosing.

Studies with raxibacumab in rabbit, cynomolgus macaque, and human donor tissues showed no cross reactivity with brain.

Anthrax-infected rabbits and monkeys administered an intravenous injection of raxibacumab (40 mg/kg) at time of PA toxemia reproducibly showed greater severity of central nervous system (CNS) lesions (bacteria, inflammation, hemorrhage, and necrosis) in non-surviving animals compared with dead placebo-control animals, with no difference in mean time to death from spore challenge. The raxibacumab monoclonal antibody appears unable to penetrate the CNS until compromise of the blood-brain barrier (BBB) during the later stages of anthrax infection. The most severe brain lesions in rabbits were associated with bacteria and raxibacumab tissue binding in a similar pattern as endogenous IgG antibody that leaked across the compromised BBB. No dose/exposure-response relationship for brain histopathology was identified. Surviving rabbits and monkeys at the end of the 28-day studies showed no microscopic evidence of CNS lesions. CNS toxicity was not observed in healthy monkeys administered raxibacumab (40 mg/kg) or in GLP combination treatment studies with antibacterials in rabbits (levofloxacin) or in monkeys (ciprofloxacin) at any time.

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

Because it is not feasible or ethical to conduct controlled clinical trials in humans with inhalational anthrax, the effectiveness of raxibacumab for therapeutic treatment of inhalational anthrax is based on efficacy studies in rabbits and monkeys. Raxibacumab effectiveness has not been studied in humans. Because the animal efficacy studies are conducted under widely varying conditions, the survival rates observed in the animal studies cannot be directly compared between studies and may not reflect the rates observed in clinical practice.

The efficacy of raxibacumab for treatment of inhalational anthrax was studied in a monkey model (Study 2) and a rabbit model (Studies 3 and 4) of inhalational anthrax disease. These 3 studies tested raxibacumab efficacy compared with placebo. Another study in a rabbit model (Study 1) evaluated the efficacy of raxibacumab in combination with an antibacterial drug relative to the antibacterial drug alone. Studies were randomized and blinded.

The animals were challenged with aerosolized *B. anthracis* spores (Ames strain) at 200 x LD₅₀ to achieve 100% mortality if untreated. In rabbit Study 1, treatment was delayed until 84 hours after spore challenge. In monkey Study 2, study treatment commenced at the time of a positive serum electrochemiluminescence (ECL) assay for *B. anthracis* PA. The mean time between spore challenge and initiation of study treatment was 42 hours. In rabbit Studies 3 and 4, sustained elevation of body temperature above baseline for 2 hours or a positive result on serum ECL assay for PA served as the trigger for initiation of study treatment. The mean time between spore challenge and initiation of study treatment was 28 hours post-exposure. Efficacy in all therapeutic studies in animals was determined based on survival at the end of the study. Most study animals (88% to 100%) were bacteremic and had a positive ECL assay for PA prior to treatment in all 4 studies.

14.1 Treatment of Inhalational Anthrax in Combination with Antibacterial Drug

The efficacy of raxibacumab administered with levofloxacin as treatment of animals with systemic anthrax disease (84 hours after spore challenge) was evaluated in New Zealand White rabbits (Study 1). The dose of levofloxacin was chosen to yield a comparable exposure to that achieved by the recommended doses in humans. Levofloxacin and raxibacumab PK in this study were unaffected by product co-administration. Forty-two percent of challenged animals survived to treatment. Treatment with antibacterial drug plus raxibacumab resulted in 82% survival compared with 65% survival in rabbits treated with antibacterial drug alone, $P = 0.0874$ (Table 4).

Table 4. Survival Rates in NZW Rabbits in Combination Therapy Study, All-Treated Animals

	NZW Rabbits (35 days) ^a Study 1		
	Number (%) Survivors	<i>P</i> Value ^b	95% CI ^c Levofloxacin versus Levofloxacin + Raxibacumab
Levofloxacin alone	24/37 (65%)	-	-
Levofloxacin + Raxibacumab 40 mg/kg intravenous single dose	32/39 (82%)	0.0874	(-2.4, 36.7)

^a Survival assessed 28 days after last dose of levofloxacin.

^b *P* value based on a two-sided likelihood ratio chi-square test.

^c 95% confidence interval based on normal approximation.

14.2 Post-Exposure Prophylaxis/Early Treatment of Inhalational Anthrax

Monkey Study 2 and rabbit Studies 3 and 4 evaluated treatment with raxibacumab alone at an earlier time point after exposure than rabbit Study 1. Treatment with raxibacumab alone resulted in a statistically significant dose-dependent improvement in survival relative to placebo when administered at the time of initial manifestations of anthrax disease in the rabbit and monkey infection models (Table 5). Raxibacumab at 40-mg/kg intravenous single dose was superior to placebo in the rabbit and monkey studies in the all-treated and the bacteremic animal analysis populations. All surviving animals developed toxin-neutralizing antibodies.

Table 5. Survival Rates in Animals Treated with Raxibacumab, All-Treated Animals

	Cynomolgus Macaques at 28 Days ^a Study 2			NZW Rabbits at 14 Days ^b Study 3			NZW Rabbits at 28 Days ^a Study 4		
Study Drug	Number (%) Survivors	P Value ^c	95% CI ^d	Number (%) Survivors	P Value ^c	95% CI ^d	Number (%) Survivors	P Value ^c	95% CI ^d
Placebo	0/12			0/17			0/24		
20 mg/kg raxibacumab	7/14 (50%)	0.0064	(19.3, 73.7)	5/18 (28%)	0.0455	(6.6, 52.5)	-	-	-
40 mg/kg raxibacumab	9/14 (64%)	0.0007	(31.6, 84.7)	8/18 (44%)	0.0029	(21.3, 66.7)	11/24 (46%)	0.0002	(27.0, 66.1)

^a Survival measured at 28 days after spore challenge.

^b Survival measured at 14 days after spore challenge.

^c P value based on two-sided Fisher's exact test for comparisons between raxibacumab and placebo.

^d 95% CIs are exact confidence intervals for the difference between raxibacumab and placebo.

In other animal studies evaluating antibacterial drug alone and raxibacumab-antibacterial drug combination, the efficacy of an antibacterial drug alone (levofloxacin in rabbits and ciprofloxacin in monkeys) was very high (95% to 100%) when given at the initial manifestations of inhalational anthrax disease. The timing of treatment was similar to that reported for Studies 2, 3, and 4 above.

In another study, rabbits were exposed to 100 times LD₅₀ *B. anthracis* spores and administered raxibacumab at a single dose of 40 mg/kg at the time of exposure, 12 hours, 24 hours, or 36 hours after exposure. Survival was 12/12 (100%) in animals treated at time of exposure or 12 hours, but decreased to 6/12 (50%) and 5/12 (42%) at 24 hours and 36 hours, respectively.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

Raxibacumab is a sterile, preservative-free, clear to opalescent, colorless to pale yellow solution supplied in single-use vials containing 1,700 mg/34 mL (50 mg/mL) raxibacumab and is available in the following packaging configuration:

Single Unit Carton: Contains one single-use vial of raxibacumab 1,700 mg/34 mL (NDC 49401-103-01).

Raxibacumab must be refrigerated at 2°C to 8°C (36°F to 46°F). DO NOT FREEZE. Protect the vial from exposure to light, prior to use. Brief exposure to light, as with normal use, is acceptable. Store vial in original carton until time of use.

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

Advise the patient to read the FDA-approved patient labeling (Patient Information).

Efficacy Based on Animal Models

Inform patients that the efficacy of raxibacumab is based solely on efficacy studies demonstrating a survival benefit in animals and that the effectiveness of raxibacumab has not been tested in humans with anthrax. The safety of raxibacumab has been tested in healthy adults, but no safety data are available in children or pregnant women. Limited data are available in geriatric patients. *[See Use in Specific Populations (8.5).]*

Infusion Reactions

Infusion-related reactions were reported during administration of raxibacumab in clinical trials, including reports of rash, urticaria, and pruritus.

Prophylactic administration of diphenhydramine is recommended within 1 hour prior to administering raxibacumab. Diphenhydramine route of administration (oral or intravenous) should be based on the temporal proximity to the start of raxibacumab infusion.

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PATIENT INFORMATION

RAXIBACUMAB (rack-see-BACK-u-mab)

Injection, for intravenous use

What is RAXIBACUMAB?

- RAXIBACUMAB is a prescription medicine used along with antibiotic medicines to treat people with inhalational anthrax. RAXIBACUMAB can also be used to prevent anthrax disease when there are no other treatment options.
- The effectiveness of RAXIBACUMAB has been studied only in animals with inhalational anthrax. There have been no studies in people who have inhalational anthrax.
- The safety of RAXIBACUMAB was studied in healthy adults. There have been no studies of RAXIBACUMAB in pediatric patients.
- RAXIBACUMAB is not used for prevention or treatment of anthrax meningitis.

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

- allergic to any of the ingredients in RAXIBACUMAB. See the end of this leaflet for a list of the ingredients in RAXIBACUMAB.
- allergic to diphenhydramine (BENADRYL).
- pregnant or planning to become pregnant. It is not known if RAXIBACUMAB will harm your unborn baby.
- breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if RAXIBACUMAB passes into your breast milk. You and your healthcare provider should decide if you will receive RAXIBACUMAB or breastfeed.

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

How will I receive RAXIBACUMAB?

- You will be given 1 dose of RAXIBACUMAB by a healthcare provider through a vein (intravenous infusion). It takes about 2 hours and 15 minutes to give you the full dose of medicine.
- Your healthcare provider should give you a medicine called diphenhydramine (BENADRYL) before you receive RAXIBACUMAB to help reduce your chances of developing a skin reaction from RAXIBACUMAB. BENADRYL may be given to you to take by mouth or through a vein.
- BENADRYL may make you sleepy, and you should use caution if you will be driving or operating equipment.

What are the possible side effects of RAXIBACUMAB?

RAXIBACUMAB may cause serious side effects, including:

- **infusion reactions.** Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have rash, hives, or itching while receiving RAXIBACUMAB.

The most common side effects of RAXIBACUMAB include rash, pain in your arms or legs, itchiness, and sleepiness.

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

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at

1-800-FDA-1088. **For more information go to dailymed.nlm.nih.gov.**

General information about the safe and effective use of RAXIBACUMAB.

- This patient information leaflet summarizes the most important information about RAXIBACUMAB. If you would like more information, talk to your healthcare provider. You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about RAXIBACUMAB that is written for health professionals.

What are the ingredients in RAXIBACUMAB?

Active ingredient: RAXIBACUMAB

Inactive ingredients: citric acid, glycine, polysorbate 80, sodium citrate, sucrose, Water for Injection

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This Patient Information has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

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