

treatment for IBD

medications

class/type	brand name	what it's used for	things to consider
Biologics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infliximab (brand name: Remicade) Humira Entyvio Stelara 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targets a chemical known to cause inflammation Given by IV or injection Used for more moderate or severe disease. 	<p>Biologics may have the following possible side effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tiredness Headache Risk of infection Development of antibodies
Biosimilars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renflexis Inflectra 		
Immunomodulators/ Immunosuppressants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 MP/azathioprine (Imuran) Methotrexate 	Adjust the activity of the immune system	<p>Blood work may be needed before starting to help determine dosage. Immunomodulators may have the following side effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pancreatitis (6MP/azathioprine) Vomiting (methotrexate) Decreased white blood cell count Elevated liver enzymes
Corticosteroids	<p>Oral:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deltasone (prednisone) Entocort (budesonide) Uceris (budesonide-MMX) <p>Rectal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hydrocortisone Methylprednisolone Cortenema Proctofoam-HC Uceris <p>IV forms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solumedrol, Solu-Cortef 	Help decrease inflammation	<p>Steroids may have the following side effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stomach irritation (take with food) High blood pressure Rounding of the face Weight gain Acne Mood swings Increased risk for infection Insomnia (can't sleep) <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 5px; display: flex; align-items: center;">  <p>Do not stop taking steroids without talking to your doctor.</p> </div>

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class/type	name	what it's used for	things to consider
5ASA (aminosalicylates)	<p>Oral:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azulfidine (sulfasalazine) • Pentasa • Lialda • Delzicol/Asacol <p>Rectal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canasa suppositories • Topical Rowasa enemas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mild to moderate disease • Can be used with another drug • Primarily indicated for management of ulcerative colitis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sulfasalazine may lower sperm count during use.

biosimilar medicines

Some complex diseases are treated with medicines called biologic medicines or 'biologics.' Biologics are made from living cells. Examples of biologics are proteins that bind to specific areas or targets in the body. Usually, biologics are given as an injection (shot) under the skin or an infusion in the vein (IV).

Biosimilar medicines are highly similar to their original biologic and are made from similar living cells. Biosimilars have been used in Europe since the early 2000s, and they have proven comparable with no increased side effects. A few important notes about biosimilar medicines:

- 1 Many people may be concerned that the brand name biologic medicines works better than the biosimilar medicines. Biosimilars can only be approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) if many tests have been done to show that they work the same and are as safe as the brand name biologic medicines.
- 2 Biosimilars are given exactly the same way with the same dose and checking the medicine level in the body.
- 3 Your insurance provider may prefer the biosimilar medicine. This could save you money. There are assistance programs available for patients who have commercial insurance to help keep out-of-pocket costs low.

avoiding NSAIDS

Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, or NSAIDS, are used for treating conditions that cause inflammation, pain and fevers. Common examples of these include aspirin, ibuprofen (Motrin[®], Advil) and naproxen (Aleve, Naprosyn[®]). People with IBD should not use NSAIDS because they can trigger a flare-up.