

Table 8.

Stelara (ustekinumab) [25]

Initial Visit:

History and Physical

- History of malignancy or serious infections (hepatitis, TB, HIV, other)?**
- Total body skin exam for skin cancer**
- Check for HSM, cervical/axillary/inguinal lymphadenopathy**
- Active infection? Hold dose for infection or sepsis**
- Coronary artery disease or stroke?**
- Have you lived in Southwest (risk of coccidiomycosis) or Southeast – Ohio and Mississippi River Valleys (risk of histoplasmosis or blastomycosis)?
- Travel to area endemic for TB?
- Live vaccine within past month – you or household member?
- Medications: warfarin; cyclosporine (can alter blood levels)
- Major surgery in next month?
- Latex allergy?

Labs

- CBC, CMP**
- TB test (for PPD, consider >5mm as positive)**
- Hepatitis B screen: Hepatitis B sAg, Hepatitis B sAb, Hepatitis B cAb**
- Influenza vaccine (if flu season)**
- HIV (optional) – especially with erythrodermic psoriasis
- Cardiovascular risk panel: CRP, homocysteine, HbA1C, lipid profile (if screening for psoriasis) (optional)
- Pneumovax (optional)

Counseling/Other

- Injections under supervision of health care professional**
- Can worsen existing malignancies**
- Increased risk of malignancy (non-melanoma skin cancer, breast, colon, head and neck, kidney, prostate, and thyroid cancers)**
- History of prior phototherapy - increased risk for non-melanoma skin cancer
- Risk of bacterial, mycobacterial, fungal, and viral infections**
- Risk of coronary artery thrombosis/ischemic heart disease**
- Theoretical risk for infection from: mycobacteria, salmonella, Bacillus Calmette-Guerin vaccinations
- Risk of reactivation of latent infection (i.e., TB or Hepatitis B)

- No BCG vaccine one year prior to first dose or before one year after last dose
- Reversible Posterior Leukoencephalopathy Syndrome (headache, seizure, confusion, visual disturbance)
- Avoid live vaccines – self and household members
- Pediatric Patients: Up to date on vaccines before starting?
- Needle cap of the prefilled syringe and the autoinjector contain a latex derivative
- Formation of anti-Stelara antibodies that can cause decreased efficacy over time

Follow-up Visit:

History and Physical

- Every six months: Total body skin exam for skin cancer**
- Every six months: Check for HSM, cervical/axillary/inguinal lymphadenopathy**
- Any new infection – hold dose for active infection or sepsis**
- Major surgery in next month?
- Is there sustained clinical efficacy in the treatment interval? Skin? Joints?
- Any live vaccines in past month?
- Any household members getting live vaccine?
- Other interval history

Labs

- Prior to each injection: CBC, CMP**
- Every year: TB test (consider induration of >5mm as positive)**
- Influenza vaccine annually (in flu season)**
- In HBV carriers, check liver panel for laboratory signs of hepatitis B reactivation