What are biosimilar medicines?

Biosimilars replicate what 'biomolecules' are and are identical except for small differences in manufacturing (see the section Differences between biosimilars and the originator).

Biological medicines are:

- Hormones
- Vaccines
- Substances in your body, including cancer cells
- Antibodies
- Enzymes

Ability of a substance (e.g. protein) to cause an immune reaction

Ability of a medicine to produce an effect (e.g. reduce tumor size)

Extrapolation:

Extending safety and efficacy data for treatment indications from an existing biological medicine to a biosimilar (or vice versa), following your doctor’s decision.

You should know about...

- Inverse reactions and side-effects
- Indications
- Automatic substitution
- Switching
- Frequently used terms you may want to know

What are the opportunities?

Biosimilars improve access to a much needed treatment options for cancer patients.10

For Cancer Patients

2. European Commission et. al. (2016) What I need to know about biosimilar medicines. Information for patients, p. 2-3
3. European Society for Medical Oncology (2017) Biosimilars: a position paper of the European Society for Medical Oncology, with particular reference to oncology prescribers, p. 1

Reference:


What are safe?

Monoclonal antibodies and various cell signaling pathways in cancer cells. They are being used to treat some types of cancer.12

Type of proteins made in the laboratory that can bind to substances in your body, including cancer cells. They are being used to treat some types of cancer.12

Ability of a substance (e.g. protein) to cause an immune reaction

Extrapolation:

Extending safety and efficacy data for treatment indications from an existing biological medicine to a biosimilar (or vice versa), following your doctor’s decision.

Even more biosimilars on the cancer market as of 2020.

Increase new opportunities related to biosimilars of certain products.

Increasing competition among biosimilar medicines...