



INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

YOUR GUIDE

to treatment with **Phesgo**[®]
(pertuzumab/trastuzumab)



This resource, developed by Roche Products (New Zealand) Ltd, is intended as an educational support item for patients prescribed Phesgo for the treatment HER2-positive breast cancer.

WHAT IS PHESGO?



Phesgo ('f-ehz-go') is a treatment which has been created to treat HER2-positive breast cancer. Phesgo is made up of two drugs, called pertuzumab ('pert-ooz-oo-mab') and trastuzumab ('tras-too-zoo-mab').

Phesgo improves the way your body fights cancer by attaching to switches on cancer cells, called HER2 receptors. HER2 is a protein found at high levels on the surface of cancer cells, and causes cells to grow and divide quickly. By blocking HER2 receptors, Phesgo stops the effect of HER2, which slows or stops the cancer cells from growing and multiplying. Phesgo also helps the body's immune system destroy breast cancer cells. This is an important part of your treatment because, if left unblocked, HER2 will make the cancer grow rapidly.

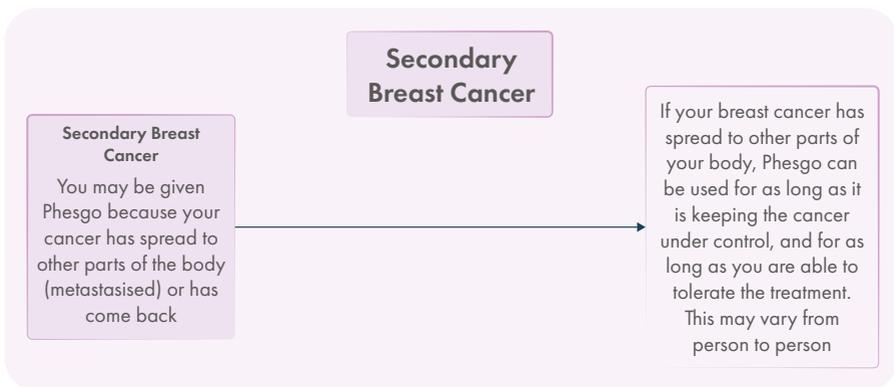
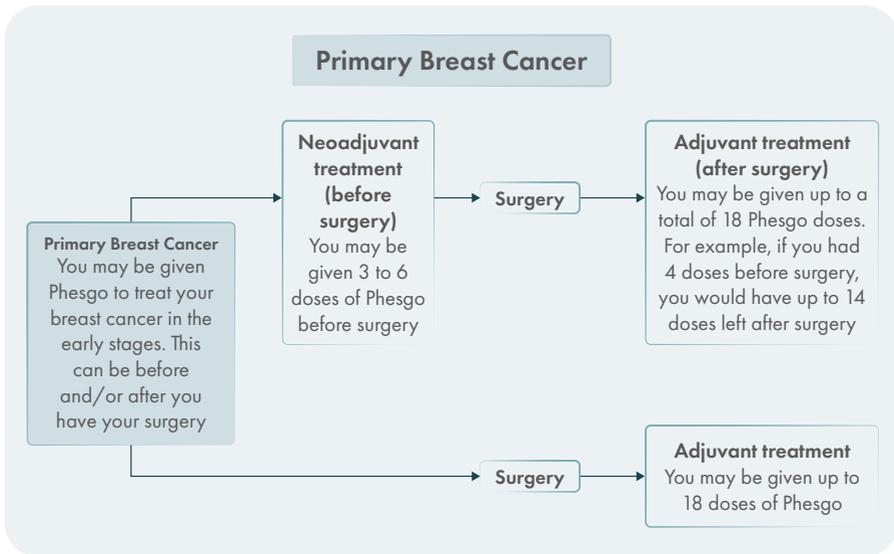
You have been prescribed Phesgo because your breast cancer is 'HER2-positive', which means that you have more HER2 receptors on the surface of your cancer cells compared to healthy cells.



PHESGO ADMINISTRATION



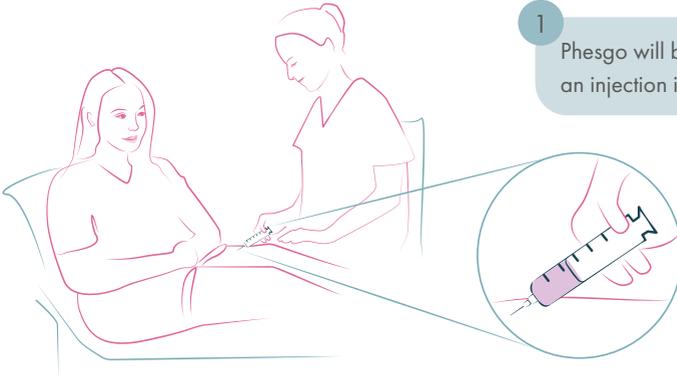
| HOW WILL I BE TREATED WITH PHESGO?



Please note, this only shows the potential treatment options with Plesgo. Your doctor will seek the best treatment option for you, which may mean adding in or moving to different treatments. If you have any questions, please speak to your doctor.

HOW WILL I BE GIVEN PHESGO?

Phesgo will be given to you by a nurse or doctor as an injection under the skin (known as a subcutaneous (SC) injection) in your thigh every 3 weeks. You will get the injection first in one thigh and then in the other and it will swap with each injection.



1

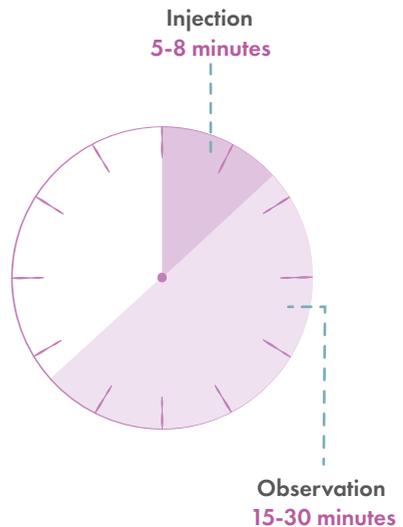
Phesgo will be given to you as an injection in your thigh.

You may feel discomfort when your treatment is administered. **If this happens, tell your nurse and they will slow down, pause or stop the administration.**

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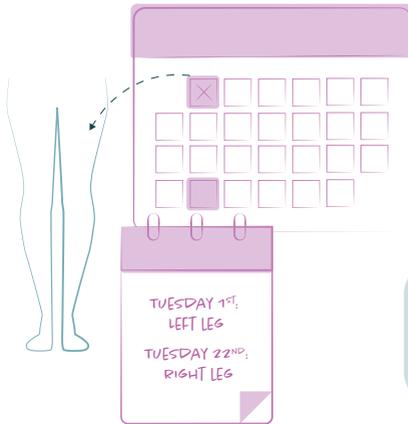
The first time you receive Phesgo, your injection will last around 8 minutes. Your nurse will then check for any signs of an injection-related reaction for about 30 minutes afterwards.

If there are no problems with your first injection, **each future injection should last 5 minutes, followed by an observation time of 15 minutes.**



3

The observation time allows your nurse to check for any signs of an injection-related reaction (such as rash, itching, or swelling). You may then be given chemotherapy, if this is also prescribed. **Always tell your nurse if the injection is painful or if you start to feel unwell during or after the injection.**



Phesgo will be given once every three weeks.

Please note where you last had your injection (left or right thigh), so that your injection site can be alternated regularly.

DO I NEED TO TAKE ANY OTHER MEDICATIONS?

When you are given Phesgo, you may also be prescribed chemotherapy, depending on the stage of your breast cancer. There are different types of chemotherapy, and your doctor will choose the best one for you.

For further information about any other anti-cancer medicines being given, please ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist for the Consumer Medicine Information for these or visit www.medsafe.govt.nz

It is important to tell your nurse or doctor if you are taking, have recently taken, or might take any other medicines. This includes:

- Medicines you have been prescribed
- Medicines you buy in a shop or at a chemist
- Vitamins, herbal medicines and complementary therapies

Tell other doctors, pharmacists or dentists who prescribe or give you medicines that you are receiving Phesgo for breast cancer treatment.

WARNINGS & PRECAUTIONS



YOU MUST NOT BE GIVEN PHESGO IF:

You are allergic to trastuzumab or pertuzumab, or to any of the other ingredients in the medicine, which can be found in the Phesgo Consumer Medicine Information at www.medsafe.govt.nz. **If you are unsure, talk to your nurse or doctor before you are given Phesgo.**

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS:

Before starting Phesgo, you should speak to your nurse or doctor if any of the following apply to you:



You have a history of heart problems such as heart failure, abnormal beating of the heart, poorly controlled blood pressure or have had a recent heart attack.



You have previously been treated with chemotherapy medicines known as anthracyclines (e.g. doxorubicin) or radiation therapy; these medicines or treatment can damage heart muscle and increase the risk of heart problems with Phesgo. Or you take any medicines for any other condition.



Allergic to any other medicines or any other substances such as foods, preservatives or dyes. Allergic or anaphylactic (more severe allergic) reactions can occur with Phesgo treatment (known as injection related reactions).

WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF PHESGO?

Like all medicines, Phesgo can cause side effects, but not everybody gets them. **It is important that you tell your nurse or doctor if you notice any side effects during your treatment.** This includes any possible side effects not listed in this booklet or the Consumer Medicine Information.

Some of the side effects you get may be due to your breast cancer or chemotherapy, if you are receiving it. Your nurse or doctor will be able to provide advice or support to help you manage any side effects.

The next section describes some of the side effects that other people have noticed when receiving Phesgo.

SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS:

Your nurse or doctor will inform you about the specific serious side effects you may experience. If you experience any of these side effects, you should immediately report them to your nurse or doctor. Receiving medical treatment for these conditions may help keep the side effects under control.



Heart problems: slower or faster heartbeat than usual, fluttering of the heart, abnormal or irregular heartbeat, cough, shortness of breath, swelling (fluid retention) in your legs or arms



Injection-related reactions: may include feeling sick or vomiting, fever, chills, feeling tired, headache, loss of appetite, joint and muscle pains, and hot flushes



Diarrhoea: these may be mild or moderate but can be very severe or long-lasting diarrhoea, passing 7 or more watery stools in a day



Allergic or anaphylactic reactions: swelling of your face, lips, tongue or throat with difficulty breathing or swelling of other parts of your body. Shortness of breath, wheezing or trouble breathing, rash, itching or hives, feeling sick (nausea), fever or chills, headache, feeling tired



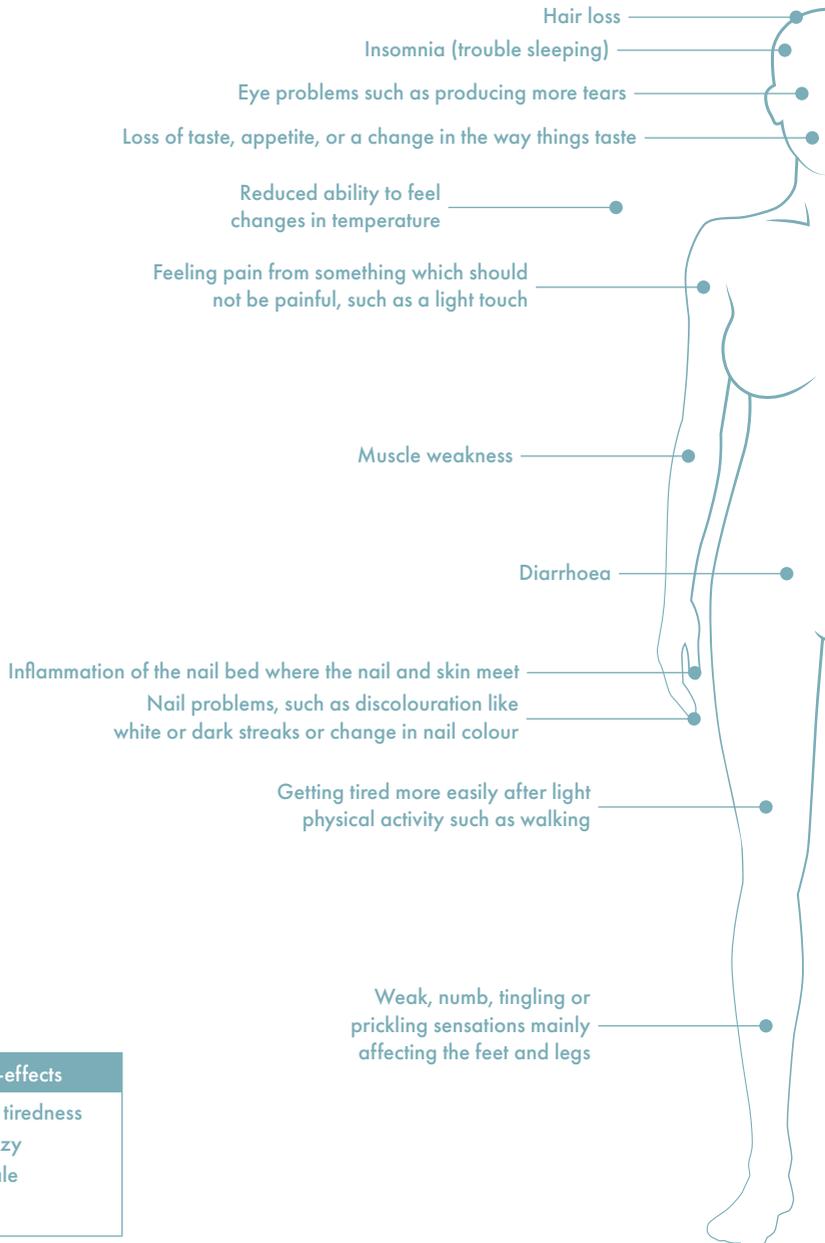
Tumour lysis syndrome (where cancer cells die quickly): kidney problems - signs include weakness, shortness of breath, fatigue and confusion, heart problems - signs include fluttering of the heart or a faster or slower heart beat, seizures (fits), vomiting or diarrhoea and tingling in the mouth, hands or feet



Phesgo may impact the number of healthy white blood cells in your body and can be associated with or without a fever

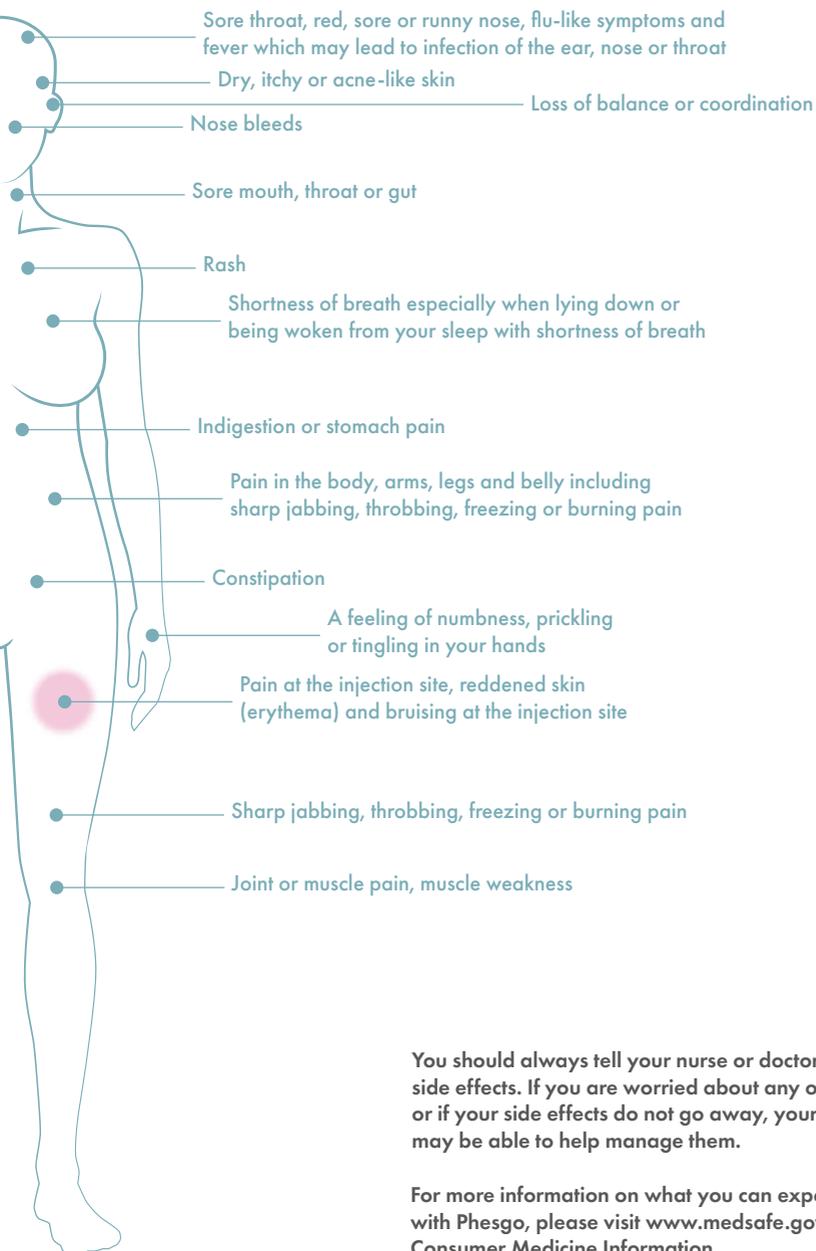
Phesgo can cause a decrease in the number of red blood cells. Both of these blood cells are measured in by a blood test

LESS SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS



General side-effects

- Fatigue, or tiredness
- Feeling dizzy
- Looking pale
- Hot flushes



You should always tell your nurse or doctor if you have any side effects. If you are worried about any of these side effects or if your side effects do not go away, your nurse or doctor may be able to help manage them.

For more information on what you can expect during treatment with Phesgo, please visit www.medsafe.govt.nz and review the Consumer Medicine Information.

PREGNANCY AND BREASTFEEDING



If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, Phesgo may be harmful to an unborn baby. If there is a need for Phesgo treatment when you are pregnant, your doctor will discuss the risks and benefits to you and the unborn baby. You should use effective contraception to avoid becoming pregnant while you are being treated with Phesgo and for 7 months after stopping treatment.

If you become pregnant while receiving Phesgo, or within 7 months following the last dose of Phesgo, please contact your oncologist for medical advice. Report the pregnancy to Roche Patient Safety at nz.drugsafety@roche.com or 0800 276 243.

Additional information will be requested during a Phesgo-exposed pregnancy and the first year of the infant's life. This will enable Roche to better understand the safety of Phesgo and to provide appropriate information to health authorities, healthcare providers, and patients.

For additional information, please refer to the Phesgo Consumer Medicine Information at www.medsafe.govt.nz

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PHESGO



For more information on Phesgo, please go to www.medsafe.govt.nz to review the Phesgo Consumer Medicine Information.

SUPPORT

There are several organisations that can provide practical help and emotional support for you and your family throughout your breast cancer journey.

Speak to your nurse or doctor for advice about the different support networks available and how you can get in contact with them.

Breast Cancer Foundation New Zealand (BCFNZ)

www.nzbcf.org.nz

0800 902 732

BCFNZ provides education about breast health, screening-mammograms and breast cancer risk. They have support services for people with breast cancer including a free breast care nurse helpline.

Sweet Louise

www.sweetlouise.co.nz

0800 112 277

Sweet Louise helps to improve the quality of life for women and men living with advanced breast cancer. They offer information, advice, support and a range of practical and therapeutic services.

Breast Cancer Aotearoa Coalition (BCAC)

www.breastcancer.org.nz

BCAC provides information, support and representation, empowering people with a breast cancer diagnosis, to make informed choices about their treatment and care.

YOUR QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, please seek help with your treatment team. They are there to help you and will be able to give you more information if you need it.

Phesgo® (pertuzumab and trastuzumab) 600 mg/600 mg and 1200 mg/600 mg solution for subcutaneous injection is a **Prescription Medicine** used for early breast cancer, either before or after surgery and for breast cancer that has spread to other parts of the body.

Ask your doctor if Phesgo is right for you.

Phesgo is a funded medicine for metastatic breast cancer for patients who meet defined criteria from 1 December 2025. A prescription charge and doctor's fees apply.

Phesgo is an unfunded medicine for neoadjuvant or adjuvant treatment of early breast cancer. Ask your health professional about the cost of the medicine and other fees that may apply.

Use only as directed. If symptoms continue or you have side effects, see your healthcare professional. For more information about Phesgo:

- talk to your health professional; or
- visit [medsafe.govt.nz](https://www.medsafe.govt.nz) for Phesgo Consumer Medicine Information; or
- visit [cancer treatments.co.nz](https://www.cancer treatments.co.nz) or call Roche on 0800 276 243.

Phesgo has risks and benefits.

Possible common side effects include: constipation, indigestion or stomach pain, sore mouth, throat or gut, fatigue or tiredness, getting tired more easily after light physical activity such as walking, shortness of breath especially when lying down or being woken from your sleep with shortness of breath, nail problems especially inflammation where the nail meets the skin, hair loss, feeling dizzy, tired, looking pale, hot flushes, frequent infections such as fever, severe chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers, nose bleeds, heartburn, eye problems such as producing more tears, insomnia (trouble sleeping), weak, numb, tingling, prickling or painful sensations mainly affecting the feet and legs, dry, itchy or acne like skin, loss of appetite, loss of or altered taste, joint or muscle pain, muscle weakness, sore throat, red, sore or runny nose, flu-like symptoms, and fever which may lead to infection of the ear, nose, or throat, pain at the injection site, reddened skin (erythema) and bruising at the injection site, general pain in the body, arms, legs and/or belly including sharp jabbing, throbbing, freezing or burning pain, feeling pain from something which should not be painful, such as a light touch, reduced ability to feel changes in temperature, loss of balance or coordination.

Do not use Phesgo if: you are pregnant or if you are allergic to pertuzumab, trastuzumab, or any of the ingredients in Phesgo.

Tell your doctor if: you have a history of heart problems such as heart failure, abnormal beating of the heart, poorly controlled blood pressure or have had a recent heart attack, you have previously been treated with chemotherapy medicines known as anthracyclines (e.g. doxorubicin) or radiation therapy (these medicines or treatment can damage heart muscle and increase the risk of heart problems with Phesgo), you take any medicines for any other condition, you are allergic to any other medicines or any other substances such as foods, preservatives or dyes.

Tell your doctor immediately or go to your nearest Accident and Emergency Centre if you notice any of the following signs and symptoms: **allergic or anaphylactic reactions:** including swelling of your face, lips, tongue or throat with difficulty breathing, or swelling of other parts of your body, shortness of breath, wheezing or trouble breathing, rash, itching or hives on the skin, feeling sick (nausea), fever or chills, headache or feeling tired; **injection related reactions:** these may be mild or more severe and may include feeling sick or vomiting, fever, chills, feeling tired, headache, loss of appetite, joint and muscle pains and hot flushes; **heart problems:** slower or faster heartbeat than usual, fluttering of the heart, abnormal or irregular heartbeat, cough, shortness of breath, swelling (fluid retention) in your legs or arms; **tumour lysis syndrome** (where cancer cells die quickly): kidney problems - signs include weakness, shortness of breath, fatigue and confusion, heart problems - signs include fluttering of the heart or a faster or slower heartbeat, seizures (fits), vomiting or diarrhoea and tingling in the mouth, hands or feet; **severe chest pain:** spreading out to the arms, neck, shoulder or back and **diarrhoea:** may be mild or moderate.

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