



Seasonal checklist: tips and to-dos

Make the school year more manageable with these tips to keep CGD top of mind



Fall

Go back to school with confidence, and set the foundation for a great year ahead.

Tips

- Avoid communal water jugs. Use personal water bottles when playing on sports teams
- Attend to cuts and scrapes right away on the playground, on the playing field, and in the classroom
- When leaves fall, raise your awareness. Your child should not jump in leaf piles. In fact, they should stay away from them!
- Remember—avoid field trips where dust and dirt may be present, including farms and hayrides

To-dos

- Talk to coaches about not practicing or playing games when the grass has been recently mowed
- Let coaches know your child needs to avoid locker rooms where mold may be present and identify a solution if needed
- Get the flu shot early if your doctor says your child needs one
- Schedule a progress meeting with your child's teacher(s) to see how the IEP/504 plan is working and if adjustments are needed



Winter

As the seasons change, stay vigilant in your efforts to make this a productive year for your child.

Tips

- Make sure your child's teacher knows to inform you of winter illnesses going around the school
- Rare Disease Day is the last day of February. It's a great time to call attention to CGD and how you and your child are raising awareness at school!

To-dos

- Mold can grow on some holiday decorations (including wreaths and trees), so ask your school principal to consider artificial alternatives instead
- Any opening or cut from chapped or cracked winter skin can be an entry point for infection, so make sure your child has moisturizer in their desk or locker
- With the heat on full blast, now is also a good time to ask school personnel to check the air vents to ensure they are free of dust and mold



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Spring

As temperatures rise, so does the chance of bacteria growing. Keep CGD top of mind as the school year winds down.

Tips

- Make sure teachers and coaches understand the dangers posed by puddles of stagnant rainwater
- Be aware of projects that may present hazards for your child, like planting gardens or science experiments with dirt
- May is National Teacher Appreciation Month. Honor those teachers and school staff members who have helped your child have an above-average school year

To-dos

- Remind the groundskeeping crew not to mow the lawn during school hours or when the windows are likely to be open
- Remind teachers that your child can't dig in the dirt or be around mulch
- Evaluate how your IEP/504 plan worked for the year and how you can change or update it for the year to come



Summer

Take advantage of the long days and the outdoors while keeping safety first.

Tips

- Avoid swimming trips to standing bodies of water, such as lakes, ponds, rivers, and brackish water. Choose well-chlorinated pools instead
- When traveling, bring portable air filters and bottled water
- Be aware that dry weather can lead to more spores and dirt in the air

To-dos

- If your child is going to a new camp or school, check the playgrounds for wood chips
- If there is construction or renovations at school during the summer, find out when they will be completed. Your child needs to have a dust-free school
- Update your child's IEP or 504 plan for the upcoming year
- Before school starts, schedule a healthcare meeting with the appropriate school staff

Important Safety Information

What is ACTIMMUNE® (Interferon gamma-1b) used for?

ACTIMMUNE® is part of a drug regimen used to treat Chronic Granulomatous Disease, or CGD. CGD is a genetic disorder, usually diagnosed in childhood, that affects some cells of the immune system and the body's ability to fight infections effectively. CGD is often treated (though not cured) with antibiotics, antifungals, and ACTIMMUNE.

ACTIMMUNE is also used to slow the worsening of severe, malignant osteopetrosis (SMO). SMO is a genetic disorder that affects normal bone formation and is usually diagnosed in the first few months after birth.

When should I not take ACTIMMUNE?

Don't use ACTIMMUNE if you are allergic to interferon-gamma, *E coli*-derived products, or any ingredients contained in the product.

What warnings should I know about ACTIMMUNE?

At high doses, ACTIMMUNE can cause (flu-like) symptoms, which may worsen some pre-existing heart conditions.

ACTIMMUNE may cause decreased mental status, walking disturbances, and dizziness, particularly at very high doses. These symptoms are usually reversible within a few days upon dose reduction or discontinuation of therapy.

Bone marrow function may be suppressed with ACTIMMUNE, and decreased production of cells important to the body may occur. This effect, which can be severe, is usually reversible when the drug is discontinued or the dose is reduced.

Taking ACTIMMUNE may cause reversible changes to your liver function, particularly in patients less than 1 year old. Your doctor should monitor your liver function every 3 months, and monthly in children under 1 year.

In rare cases, ACTIMMUNE can cause severe allergic reactions and/or rash. If you experience a serious reaction to ACTIMMUNE, discontinue it immediately and contact your doctor or seek medical help.

What should I tell my healthcare provider?

Be sure to tell your doctor about all the medications you are taking.

Tell your doctor if you:

- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or plan to nurse
- have a cardiac condition such as irregular heartbeat, heart failure, or decreased blood flow to your heart
- have a history of seizures or other neurologic disorders
- have, or have had, reduced bone marrow function. Your doctor will monitor these cells with blood tests at the beginning of therapy and at 3-month intervals on ACTIMMUNE therapy

What are the side effects of ACTIMMUNE?

The most common side effects with ACTIMMUNE are "flu-like" symptoms such as fever, headache, chills, muscle pain, or fatigue, which may decrease in severity as treatment continues. Bedtime administration of ACTIMMUNE may help reduce some of these symptoms. Acetaminophen may be helpful in preventing fever and headache.

What other medications might interact with ACTIMMUNE?

Some drugs may interact with ACTIMMUNE to potentially increase the risk of damage to your heart or nervous system, such as certain chemotherapy drugs. Tell your doctor about all other medications you are taking.

Avoid taking ACTIMMUNE at the same time as a vaccination.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

The risk information provided here is not comprehensive. To learn more, talk about ACTIMMUNE with your healthcare provider or pharmacist. The FDA-approved product labeling can be found at <http://www.ACTIMMUNE.com> or 1-866-479-6742.

Please see the [Full Prescribing Information](#) and [Information for the Patient/Caregiver](#) at CGDConnections.com.

