<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University Hospital</th>
<th>Secretary contact no.</th>
<th>Nurse helpline no.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hairmyres</td>
<td>01355 585322/584821</td>
<td>01355 525691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monklands</td>
<td>01236 712611</td>
<td>01698 366044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wishaw</td>
<td>01698 361100</td>
<td>01698 366044</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Myocrisin (Gold Injections) - GP Information**

**Administration:** Deep IM injection

**Dose:** Give 10mg test dose followed by 50mg weekly until there is a significant response or a total dose of 1000mg has been given. Once a response has been achieved give fortnightly for 3 months. Thereafter the maintenance dose is 50mg every 4 weeks.

**Time to response:** 3 to 6 months

**Contraindications**

1. Pregnancy and breastfeeding
2. Impaired liver function & moderate/severe renal impairment
3. Systemic lupus erythematosus, porphyria, pulmonary fibrosis, necrotising enterocolitis, exfoliative dermatitis
4. Unexplained anaemia and cytopenia
5. Live vaccines are not recommended

**Caution:** Nitritoid reactions are more common in those on ACE inhibitors

**Monitoring (please enter results on monitoring card)**

- FBC
- U&E
- LFT
- Urinalysis

At the time of each injection

**In the event of**

1. Rash or mouth ulcers – stop myocrisin
2. Abnormal bruising/ severe sore throat – stop and check urgent FBC

**Stop myocrisin if**

- WBC < 3.5 x10⁹/L
- Neutrophils < 2.0 x 10⁹/L
- Platelets < 150 x 10⁹/L
- Proteinuria is 2+ or more – check MSSU; if infection present treat this; if sterile stop myocrisin and quantify proteinuria

**If you decide to stop myocrisin please contact us to discuss further management.**
Myocrisin (Gold Injections) - Patient Information

You have been prescribed myocrisin to help control your rheumatic disease. This is given by an injection into the muscle (intramuscular). The effects of gold will not be immediate - it may take 3 to 6 months before you start to feel better. If you are taking other medication for your arthritis, you should continue this unless advised otherwise by your doctor.

Usually you will be given a small test dose of the myocrisin to make sure that you do not have any immediate reaction to the myocrisin. You will then have weekly myocrisin at your GP surgery or the hospital. Each dose is usually 50mg. If you benefit from the myocrisin the frequency of the injections is usually reduced to fortnightly injections and then monthly injections.

Your care will include regular blood and urine checks before each injection and it is essential that you have these done. They can be carried out at the hospital or by your GP. The blood tests give information to the doctor and can prevent the development of serious side effects.

Problems or side effects you may have while taking myocrisin include problems with the blood, kidneys or skin. If you develop a rash, mouth ulcers, altered taste, sore throat, fever, bruising or breathlessness, tell your GP, or the rheumatology specialist nurse, as soon as possible.

You should not become pregnant or breastfeed whilst on myocrisin. You should use adequate contraception whilst taking this medication.

If doctors prescribe other medicines for you remind them that you are on myocrisin. If you are on, or start, an ACE inhibitor, (e.g lisinopril, ramipril, captopril) you have an increased risk of having an allergic reaction to the myocrisin.