

# Considerations for Choosing a Route of Administration for Ig Replacement Therapy

Table 28:1

	Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIg)	Facilitated Subcutaneous Immunoglobulin (fSCIg)	Subcutaneous Immunoglobulin (SCIg) (Conventional)
<b>Frequency of Dosing</b>	Every three to four weeks.	Every two, three, to four weeks.	From daily to every 14 days.
<b>IgG Level</b>	Achieves an initial high concentration of IgG that decreases gradually over approximately 21 days.	There is an initial peak (day 4), although not as extreme as with IVIg, and decreases gradually over 21 days.	No variation in IgG level once steady state is achieved; level stays constant.
<b>Access</b>	Requires intravenous (IV) access (NOT a port).	Does not require IV access. Individual can do their therapy independently once appropriately trained.	Does not require IV access. Individual can do their therapy independently once appropriately trained.
<b>Needle Sticks</b>	Usually one (to establish IV access).	One to two.	One to four or more, depending on dose and preference.
<b>Time of Infusion</b>	Usually three to four hours.	Usually three to four hours.	Variable. Data supporting safe, rapid (less than 30 minute) infusions and individuals who manually push their dose as rapidly as tolerated.
<b>Ancillary People</b>	Requires healthcare professional to establish IV access and monitor infusion.	Individuals can establish their own subcutaneous access once trained, but therapy requires a committed individual with PI or caregiver.	Individuals can do their own SCIg once trained.
<b>Intra-infusion Systemic Side Effects</b>	Possible, including chills, rigors, blood pressure changes, nausea/vomiting, aches.	Possible, but to a lesser degree than with IVIg.	Usually no systemic effects but localized burning or itching is possible.
<b>Pre-medication</b>	Sometimes necessary.	Sometimes necessary.	No, as drug is not biologically available for 24-36 hours.
<b>Intra-infusion Local Side Effects</b>	Not usually, unless IV infiltrates.	Sometimes some itching and burning.	Sometimes some itching or burning.
<b>Post-infusion Side Effects</b>	Systemic side effects possible.	Both local and systemic post-infusion side effects are possible.	Redness and swelling at the site of the infusion which decrease with subsequent infusions.
<b>Cost</b>	Cost for drug and nursing/infusion center.	Cost for drug and supplies.	Cost for drug and supplies.