

## Biosimilars

Biosimilars are drugs that are “highly similar” to another biologic drug already approved by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and are just as safe and effective. Biosimilars are currently used to treat many conditions and diseases. They are used as supportive care to manage side effects from cancer treatment.

Biosimilars to trastuzumab (Herceptin®) have been FDA-approved for breast cancer treatment. Trastuzumab is used to treat HER2-positive breast cancer.

You may feel overwhelmed or unsure of what to ask your doctor. Here are some questions to help start the conversation about biosimilars.

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Q: What is a biosimilar?

A:

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Q: How are biosimilars tested for safety and effectiveness?

A:

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Q: How will I know if I’m getting a biosimilar?

A:

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Q: Will I be getting a biosimilar as part of my treatment?

A:

Q: Do biosimilars work in the same way as the original biologic?

A:

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Q: Is there a cost difference for the biosimilar compared to the original biologic?

A:

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Q: Who will make the decision about whether I get a biosimilar or the original drug?

A:

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Q: How will the biosimilar be given? How many treatments will I have?

A:

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Q: What side effects should I report to you?

A:



For more information on breast health or breast cancer, please call our breast care helpline (1-877-465-6636) or visit our website. Susan G. Komen does not provide medical advice.

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