

TRIMETHOPRIM AND SULFAMETHOXAZOLE

try-meth-oh-prim and sul-fah-meth-ox-ah-zole

What does it do?

Trimethoprim and sulfamethoxazole is used to treat and prevent bacterial infections.

How should you take it?

Take *trimethoprim and sulfamethoxazole* regularly as directed. Keep taking it until the course is finished, even if you start to feel better.

Take the tablets with a glass of water.

Measure the liquid carefully with an oral syringe or measuring spoon. Shake the bottle well before measuring each dose.

What if you forget a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as possible and continue as directed.

Can you take other medicines?

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects | Recommended action |
|--|---|
| Skin rash, skin peeling or blisters | Stop taking and see your doctor immediately |
| Severe headache, stiff neck, confusion, eyes sensitive to light Reduced number of blood cells that fight infections or help your blood to clot - symptoms include: fever, chills, sore throat or generally feeling unwell, or easy or unusual bruising or bleeding Symptoms of liver problems including: yellow skin or eyes, itching, dark urine, pale bowel motions, abdominal pain Severe stomach pain | Tell your doctor immediately |
| Diarrhoea, vomiting, nausea, loss of appetite Headache More sensitive to sunlight (sunburn or rash) | Tell your doctor if troublesome |
| Stomach upset | Take with food |

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

Other information:

- Tell your doctor if you have an allergy to 'sulfa' medicines, if you have kidney, liver or blood problems, or if you have G6PD deficiency.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.
- Protect yourself from too much sunlight while being treated with *trimethoprim and sulfamethoxazole*. Always cover up and apply a thick layer of broad spectrum sunscreen (at least SPF 30) when outside. Do not use sunbeds.