

NITROFURANTOIN

nye-troh-few-ran-toe-in

What does it do?

Nitrofurantoin is used to treat and prevent urine infections.

How should you take it?

Take *nitrofurantoin* regularly as directed. Take it with food and with a glass of water. Keep taking it until the course is finished, even if you start to feel better.

Slow-release capsule: Swallow it whole. Do not crush or chew it.

What if you forget a dose?

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

Can you take other medicines?

Some medicines available without a prescription may react with *nitrofurantoin* including:

- magnesium trisilicate (e.g. Quick-Eze®)

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
Short of breath, persistent dry cough Symptoms of liver problems including: yellow skin or eyes, itching, dark urine, pale bowel motions, abdominal pain Reduced number of blood cells that fight infections in your body - symptoms include: fever, chills, sore throat or generally feeling unwell Numbness or tingling of the fingers or toes Skin rash Swollen lips, tongue, throat or face Headache, changes in vision, pounding in one or both ears (may be intracranial hypertension) Severe stomach pain	Tell your doctor immediately
Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, loss of appetite	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 kidney or liver problems, or if you have G6PD deficiency.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.
- *Nitrofurantoin* may turn your urine to a dark yellow or brown colour.
- Side effects such as lung problems are more likely if you take *nitrofurantoin* long-term to prevent infections. Check with your doctor how long you need it for. Tell your doctor if you develop a dry cough or shortness of breath.