

# BENZYL PENICILLIN

*ben-zil-pen-ih-sil-in*

## What does it do?

*Benzylpenicillin* is an antibiotic used to treat and prevent bacterial infections.

## Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have kidney problems, or if you are allergic to penicillin antibiotics.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

## How is it given?

*Benzylpenicillin* is given as an infusion or injection into a vein, or as an injection into a muscle. It is usually given to you by a health professional.

## What if you forget a dose?

Contact your health professional as soon as possible. Usually, the missed dose is given as soon as possible, and treatment continued 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                           |
|--|--|
| Symptoms of allergy including: skin rash, itching, swelling, trouble breathing   | Tell your health professional immediately    |
| Severe or persistent diarrhoea, abdominal pain<br>Small white sores in mouth, furry tongue (oral thrush)<br>Vaginal itch or discharge (vaginal thrush) | Tell your health professional                |
| Stomach upset<br>Irritation or pain at injection site  | Tell your health professional if troublesome |

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