

Metronidazole Treatment

Metronidazole is an antibiotic taken by mouth for the treatment of bacterial vaginosis or sexually transmitted infections.

Allergies

- Tell your health care provider if you have an allergy to Metronidazole (Flagyl®)

Pregnancy/Breastfeeding

- Metronidazole should not be used during the first trimester (first three months) of pregnancy but may be used during the second and third trimesters of pregnancy.
- Metronidazole may be used with caution during breastfeeding. Please consult your physician.
- Stop breastfeeding for 12-24 hours after taking a single 2 gram dose for all the medication to leave your body.

CAUTION

- Do not take alcohol or alcohol-containing medications (e.g. Nyquil®) during treatment and for 48-72 hours after taking the medication to prevent adverse effects (flushing, headache, vomiting, cramps and sweating).
- **Please note, intravenous medications are not listed in this document. If you are on any intravenously administered medications, please notify your health practitioner.**
- **You cannot take the following medications with Metronidazole:**
 - **Disulfiram** (Antabuse®),
 - **HIV medication:** Amprenavir (Agenerase®) oral solution, Lopinavir/Ritonavir (Kaletra®) oral solution; Ritonavir (Norvir®) oral solution; Tipranavir (Aptivus®) capsules
 - **Mebendazole** (Vermox®)
 - **Migraine:** Dihydroergotamine (Migranol®), Ergotamine (Cafergot®)
 - **Oral Typhoid vaccine** (Vivotif®)

Tell your doctor if you are taking the following medications

- **Anticoagulants:** Warfarin (Coumadin®)
- **Anticonvulsants:** Carbamazepine (Tegretol®), Phenytoin (Dilantin®)
- **Barbituates:** Phenobarbital (Donnatal®) Secobarbital (Seconal®)
- **Birth Control Pills (Estrogens/Progestogens)**
- **Cancer Chemotherapy:** Busulfan (Myleran®) Fluoruracil
- **Heart Medication:** Amiodarone (Cordarone®)
- **Immunosuppressants:** Cyclosporine (Neoral®), Mycophenolate Mofetil (CellCept®), Tacrolimus (Prograf®, Protopic®)
- **Psychiatric:** Lithium (Lithobid®)

Metronidazole Treatment (cont'd)

Tell your doctor if you are taking the following medications

- **Stomach Acid reducers:** Cimetidine (Tagamet[®])
- **Other:** Cholestyramine resin (Questran[®])

Side Effects

- You may experience diarrhea, nausea, abdominal pain, vomiting, indigestion, unpleasant metallic taste in the mouth or dizziness.

Instructions for Taking

- Metronidazole may be taken with food to lessen stomach upset.

Storage Instructions

- Store in the refrigerator or at room temperature between 15-30°C.
- Protect from light, heat, and moisture.
- Do not use medications beyond the printed expiry date.
- Keep away from the reach of children.

Special Instructions for Treatment of Trichomoniasis

- Do not have sex until:
 - one week after your 1-day treatment; or
 - your 7-day treatment is complete, and
 - your sex partner(s) have also been treated, even if their test results are negative.
- Tell your health care provider if:
 - you have sex with an untreated partner, or
 - you have sex before either you or your partner(s) treatment is complete.
- If you are using a hormonal form of birth control (birth control tablet, ring or patch), use an additional method of non-hormonal contraception (i.e. condom/diaphragm) until your present cycle is completed.

Test of Cure

- If used for trichomoniasis, get another test seven days after you have finished your treatment.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact your doctor, local health unit, or see contact information below.