



## CO-TRIMOXAZOLE (BACTRIM®)

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### Patient information leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Co-trimoxazole. It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to the doctor or pharmacist.

### What is Co-trimoxazole used for?

Co-trimoxazole is combination of two antibiotics, trimethoprim and sulfamethoxazole. This combination is a “sulfa” type medication used to eradicate bacteria that may cause some infections, especially of the urinary tract. This combination also is used to treat certain forms of pneumonia, and ear and blood stream infection.

### When should I take the medication?

Doses of the drug should be taken at intervals as far apart as possible throughout the day. For example, if the doctor tells you to take this drug twice a day, it is best to take a dose every 12 hours.

### How should it be taken?

Co-trimoxazole may be presented in tablet, syrup and injectable forms. Your doctor has chosen the form that is best for you. It may be taken with or without food. Syrups should be shaken well before use to ensure even distribution.

### What should I do if I miss a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember it. If you remember the missed dose at the time you are due to take the next dose, omit the missed dose and take only the regularly scheduled dose.

### What side effects can this medicine cause? What can I do about them?

- **Upset stomach.** Take the drug after a meal or with a snack.
- **Nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea.** If severe or if it persists for longer than two days, contact your doctor.
- **Skin rash, sore throat, fever, headaches, and dizziness.** Consult your doctors.

### Other precautions?

- If you are allergic to sulfa drugs or if you have ever developed any rash, hives, swelling or shortness of breath after taking a sulfa drug, please inform your doctor before taking this medication.

- Inform your doctor or pharmacist about any other drugs you may be taking, including non-prescription drugs.
- Sunburn may occur if you are exposed to sunlight for too long. Reduce the amount of time spend in the sun or under a sun lamp.
- Consult your doctor if you still have symptoms of the infection after completing the course.

**Special instructions**

- Drink at least 8 full 8-ounce glasses of water or other liquid everyday.
- Failure to take all of the medication prescribed for you could allow the infection to return. Stop taking this medication only when your doctor tells you to do so.

**Storage condition**

- Store this medication at room temperature. Do not put it in the refrigerator.
- Keep this medication out of reach of children