

## About your medicine

Your doctor has prescribed metronidazole tablets for you.

## What is this medicine used for?

Metronidazole is used to treat a variety of infections. It belongs to a class of antibiotics known as nitroimidazoles. It works by stopping the growth of bacteria and protozoa.

## How should I take this medicine?

Take this medicine with food to prevent stomach upset. The dosage is based on your medical condition and the type of infection being treated.

Antibiotics work best when the amount of medicine in your body is kept at a constant level. Therefore, take this drug at evenly spaced intervals.

Continue to take this medication until the full prescribed amount is finished, even if symptoms disappear after a few days. Stopping the medication too early may allow bacteria to continue to grow, which may result in a relapse of the infection.

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

If you are directed by your doctor to take this medicine regularly, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose.

Do not double the next dose to make up for the missed dose.

## What possible side effects may it cause?

Certain side effects of this medicine are not unusual and may even disappear during treatment. If any of the following effects persist or are severe, consult your doctor.

- Changes in taste
- Diarrhoea or constipation
- Dizziness
- Dry mouth
- Headache
- Loss of appetite
- Nausea
- Stomach pain

This drug may cause urine to darken in color. This is harmless.

Use of this medication for prolonged or repeated periods may result in oral thrush or a new vaginal yeast infection (oral or vaginal fungal infection). Contact your doctor if you notice white patches in your mouth, a change in vaginal discharge, or other new symptoms.

Consult your doctor as soon as possible if any of these additional effects occur, as they may indicate more serious side effects:

- Allergic reaction (difficulty breathing, severe dizziness, rash, itching, swelling)
- Mental or mood changes
- Numbness or tingling of hands or feet
- Painful urination
- Seizures
- Unsteadiness

## What precautions should I take?

- Inform your doctor if you have liver problems, nervous system disorders (e.g., seizures), blood disorders, Crohn's disease; any allergies.

- *For women: Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant, or are breast-feeding.* Metronidazole should not be used during the first 3 months of pregnancy and used only with caution during the last 6 months, unless your infection has not improved on other antibiotics. This medication passes into breast milk. Therefore, breast-feeding is not recommended while using this drug. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding.
- Inform your doctor if you are taking other medication, especially, *warfarin, busulfan, cimetidine, fluorouracil, lithium, live bacterial vaccines, drugs for seizures* (e.g., phenobarbitone, phenytoin).
- Avoid alcoholic beverages while taking metronidazole and for at least 1 day after finishing this medicine because drinking alcohol may result in severe stomach upset or cramps, nausea, vomiting, headache and flushing.
- This drug may make you dizzy; use caution engaging in activities requiring alertness such as driving or using machinery.
- Treatment of certain infections (trichomoniasis) may require that sexual partners be treated as well to avoid re-infection. During therapy, refrain from sexual intercourse or always use a condom.
- This medication may interfere with certain laboratory tests (including liver function tests, blood triglyceride levels), possibly causing false test results. Make sure laboratory personnel and your doctors know you use this drug.
- Do not allow anyone else to take this medication.

## METRONIDAZOLE

### How do I store this medicine?

- Keep this medicine away from heat and direct sunlight in a cool, dry place, out of reach of children
- Do not keep this medicine with other medications in the same container. Keep each medicine separately in labeled containers.

*When in doubt, consult your doctor or pharmacist:*  
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Tel: 63508454

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