

Bismuth + Metronidazole + Tetracycline + Pantoprazole

Active Ingredient

- Bismuth
- Metronidazole
- Tetracycline
- Pantoprazole

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet contains some information about your medication. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist. All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking this medication against the positive benefits they expect it will have for you. **If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, please contact us again or speak with your doctor or pharmacist for more information.** Keep this leaflet with the medicine as you may need to read it again in the future.

What it is used for

This treatment contains the active ingredient bismuth, metronidazole, tetracycline, and pantoprazole for the eradication of H. pylori after failure of first-line treatments. Metronidazole and tetracycline are antibiotics; bismuth forms a protective coating at the ulcer site and have antibacterial effects; and pantoprazole reduces acid secretion in the stomach. All four medicines are taken together for a duration of period to kill H. pylori.

Before you start taking

When you must NOT take it:

- If you are allergic to any of the active ingredient
- If the medication is expired or has not been stored correctly

Let us know if you are:

- Pregnant, planning on becoming pregnant, or breastfeeding
- Suffering from any other medical conditions or taking any other medications including prescription and non-prescription medications, vitamins, nutritional supplements, and herbal products
- Taking or have taken disulfiram (Antabuse) within the past two weeks

- Allergic to doxycycline, minocycline, tinidazole, or any other medications

How to take them

How much to take

Please take this medication as directed by your doctor or pharmacist. Refer to the directions on the product label if required. General guideline is as follows;

Bismuth 120mg, one capsule **four times a day** for 10-14 days, **on an empty stomach**

Metronidazole 400mg, one tablet **three times a day** for 10-14 days, **with food**

Tetracycline 500mg, one capsule **four times a day** for 10-14 days, **on an empty stomach**

Pantoprazole 40mg, one tablet **twice a day** for 10-14 days

How to take it

Bismuth, is best taken on an empty stomach as food or milk can reduce the effect of bismuth

Metronidazole, is best taken with food to reduce stomach upset. It may make you feel dizzy or confused so avoid driving if you are affected.

Avoid alcohol during treatment and for 24 hours after finishing the course to prevent nausea, vomiting, flushing, headache and palpitations.

Stop taking metronidazole and check with your doctor immediately if you have any numbness, tingling, pain or weakness in hands or feet

Tetracycline, is absorbed best if you take it 1 hour before, or 2 hours after a meal. Take with a large glass of water, and **remain upright** (do not lie down) for an hour after taking a tetracycline. This is to stop capsules sticking on the way to your stomach, and causing painful damages to the lining of your throat. Do not take **antacids, iron, calcium, or zinc supplements** within 2 hours of a tetracycline as they may interfere with its absorption

Avoid sun exposure, wear protective clothing and use **sunscreen** while taking this medicine

Pantoprazole, can be taken with or without food. Tell your doctor if you develop symptoms such as black stools or vomit that looks like coffee grounds

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Continue to take all medication even if you feel well. Do not stop taking it without talking to your doctor. If you stop taking this medication early or skip doses, your infection may not be completely treated and the bacteria may become resistant to antibiotics.

If you forget to take it

If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose as normal. **Do not take two doses to make up for a dose you missed.**

If you take too much (overdose)

Immediately contact your doctor, the Poisons Information Centre (telephone 13 11 26) or go to the Accident and Emergency at the nearest hospital.

How to report side effects

If you experience any adverse experiences from this medication, you should report it via:

- Visiting www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems
- Call Adverse Medicine Events Line on 1300 134 237

If it is an EMERGENCY call the Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26 or call 000.

Side effects

Please let us or your doctor know as soon as possible if you do not feel well while taking this medication.

Some side effects you may experience include:

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea
- Darkening of the teeth and tongue and stool
- Metallic taste in the mouth
- Constipation

For a full list of side effects, please ask our pharmacist

Storage

Please check expiry dates on the packaging and the label. Keep in the original packaging until you need to take your next dose.

Store your medication in a cool, dry place that is below 25°C and away from sunlight.

