# AMIKACIN

*am-ee-kay-sin*

## What does it do?

*Amikacin* is an antibiotic used to treat bacterial infections.

## Before you start

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

## How is it given?

*Amikacin* is given as an infusion or a slow 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?

Some medicines available without a prescription may react with *amikacin* including:

- anti-inflammatories, such as diclofenac (e.g. Voltaren®), ibuprofen (e.g. Nurofen®), or aspirin (e.g. Disprin®, in doses used for pain relief). These can also be found in some cold and flu medicines (e.g. Nurofen Cold and Flu®).

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 |
|---|---|
| Unsteadiness, ringing in the ears, hearing loss<br>Peeing less or not at all | Tell your health professional immediately |

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

## Other information:

- You will need regular blood tests to check how well your kidneys are working, and to measure the amount of *amikacin* in your blood to make sure you are on the right dose. You may also have your hearing tested.