Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand
Waitaha Canterbury

IVERMECTIN

eye-ver-mek-tin

What does it do?

Ivermectin is used to treat certain types of worm infections, and for scabies that is resistant to usual treatments.

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.
- Tell your doctor if you have ever lived, worked or travelled in Central or West Africa. People infected with certain worms that live in these areas can have more severe side effects with *ivermectin*.

How should you take it?

Take *ivermectin* as directed with a glass of water. Take it on an empty stomach - one hour before or two hours after food.

Can you take other medicines?

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
Skin rash	Common when you first start - if it continues or is severe, tell your doctor.
Itching	Common when you first start but should improve.

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

Other information:

- For infections with very large numbers of worms (not scabies), there can be more severe effects as your body reacts to the worms dying. Ask your doctor if this applies to you and what to do if it happens.