Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand
Waitaha Canterbury

PROBENECID

pro-ben-eh-sid

What does it do?

Probenecid is used to enhance the effect of some antibiotics. It is also used to prevent gout.

Before you start

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

How should you take it?

Take *probenecid* regularly as directed with a glass of water. You can take it with or without food.

Gout can sometimes flare up when you start taking *probenecid*. Your doctor may prescribe another medicine to prevent this. Keep taking *probenecid* during a gout attack. Stopping the tablets suddenly is likely to make your gout worse.

What if you forget a dose?

If it is nearly time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and take your next dose at the usual time. Otherwise, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Do not take two doses at the same time.

Can you take other medicines?

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

- aspirin (e.g. Disprin®, in doses used for pain relief)

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
Symptoms of allergy including: skin rash, itching, swelling, trouble breathing	Tell your doctor immediately
Foamy pee, swollen feet or legs (may be a kidney problem)	Tell your doctor
Stomach upset	Tell your doctor if troublesome

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

Other information:

- *Probenecid* can cause kidney stones if you do not drink enough fluid. Discuss with your health professional.
- You may need regular blood tests while taking *probenecid* to make sure you are on the right dose, and to check if it is causing problems with your kidneys.