TRIMETHOPRIM AND SULFAMETHOXAZOLE

try-meth-oh-prim and sul-fah-meth-ox-ah-zole

What does it do?

Trimethoprim and *sulfamethoxazole* is an antibiotic used to treat and prevent bacterial infections.

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have an allergy to 'sulfa' medicines, if you have kidney, liver or blood problems, or if you have G6PD deficiency.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

How should you take it?

Take *trimethoprim* and *sulfamethoxazole* regularly as directed. You can take it with or without food. Keep taking it until the course is finished, even if you start to feel better.
Tablet: Take with a glass of water.
Liquid: Measure carefully with an oral syringe or measuring spoon. Shake the bottle well before measuring each dose.

What if you forget a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as possible and continue as directed.

Can you take other medicines?

Some medicines available without a prescription may react with *trimethoprim* and *sulfamethoxazole* including:

- potassium supplements (e.g. Span K®)

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, skin peeling or blisters	Stop taking and see your doctor immediately
Severe headache, stiff neck, confusion, eyes sensitive to light Reduced number of blood cells that fight infections or help your blood to clot - symptoms include: fever, chills, sore throat or generally feeling unwell, or easy or unusual bruising or bleeding Symptoms of liver problems including: yellow skin or eyes, itching, dark urine, pale bowel motions, abdominal pain Severe stomach pain, nausea	Tell your doctor immediately
Changes in heartbeat, muscle cramps or weakness	Tell your doctor
Stomach upset	Tell your doctor if troublesome

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