



Trimethoprim/Sulfamethoxazole Liquid

guide for caregivers

Trimethoprim with sulfamethoxazole is an antibiotic used for treatment and prevention of urinary tract infections in infants.

Name of Drug:

Trimethoprim/Sulfamethoxazole

Common Brands: Bactrim® 40/200mg in 5mL

Septrin® 40/200mg in 5mL

When should I give Trimethoprim with sulfamethoxazole?

Trimethoprim with sulfamethoxazole is usually given to babies on discharge for prevention of kidney infection. The dose is given once daily, usually at night. The continued need for this medication will be assessed by your doctor.

How much should I give?

Your doctor will work out the amount of trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole (the dose) that is right for your baby. The dose will be shown on the medicine label.

It is important that you follow your doctor's instructions about how much to give.

How should I give it?

Give with, or just after, a feed to prevent stomach upset.

Shake the medicine well. Measure out the right amount using an oral medicines syringe. You can get these from your pharmacist. Do not use a kitchen teaspoon as it will not give the right amount.

It is important that you give your baby the whole dose each time.

What if my baby is sick (vomits)?

If your baby vomits less than 30 minutes after having a dose of trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole, give them the same dose again.

If your baby vomits more than 30 minutes after having a dose of trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole, you do not need to give them another dose. Wait until the next normal dose.

If your baby is sick again, seek advice from your GP, pharmacist or hospital.

What if I forget to give it?

If you remember up to four hours after you should have given a dose, give your baby the missed dose. For example, if you usually give a dose at about 7 am, you can give the missed dose at any time up to 11 am. If you remember after that time, do not give the missed dose. Wait until the next normal dose. Do not give any extra to make up for the missed dose. Never give a double dose of trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole.

Are there any possible side-effects?

We use medicines to make our children better, but sometimes they have other effects that we don't want (side-effects). Side-effects are rare with trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole and do not usually last for long. They will get better after a day or two as your baby's body gets used to the medicine, and should go away when the treatment course is finished. Contact your doctor if your baby has diarrhoea that goes on for more than 4 days or if it is severe and watery, or contains blood. This medicine can make your baby's skin more sensitive to sunlight. Avoid bright sunlight and protect your baby's skin with clothes and shade.

Where should I keep this medicine?

Keep this medicine in the fridge but make sure it does not freeze. Make sure that children cannot see or reach the medicine. Keep the medicine in the container it came in. Any remaining medicine must be discarded 40 days after opening.

Please speak to your pharmacist if you have any concerns or questions.



This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with a disability.

Women and Newborn Health Service

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