

Trimethoprim and Sulfamethoxazole

(trye METH oh prim) (sul fa meth OKS a zole)

Other names: Bactrim™, Septra™

Used for: Trimethoprim and Sulfamethoxazole are antibiotics that treat many different types of infections caused by bacteria. It is used to prevent lung infections/pneumonia in immune compromised patients. It may be given orally or by injection.

Your child may experience the following common side effects:

- Skin sensitivity to light
- Platelets and white blood counts: prolonged suppression/longer recovery time following discontinuation
- Skin rash, hives, itching

Your child may experience the following less common side effects:

- Kidney toxicity
- Abdominal pain
- Diarrhea
- Nausea/vomiting

Special Instructions

- Drink increased amounts of fluids while taking this medication and take with small amounts of food
- If any signs of allergic reaction are present: rash, itching and/or hives, stop the medication immediately and notify your health care provider
- If giving the liquid form, shake well before administering
- Use sunscreen with SPF higher than 15 with any exposure to the sun and wear protective clothing, including a hat, when outdoors to avoid sunburn

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General Statements

- If your child has a life-threatening allergy, he/she should wear allergy identification at all times.
- Keep all medicine out of the reach of children and pets.
- Many medications interact with other medications. Keep a list of all your child's medicines (prescription, herbal medicines, natural products, supplements, vitamins, over-the-counter) with you. Give this list to your child's healthcare provider (doctor, nurse, nurse practitioner, pharmacist, physician assistant).
- Talk with your child's healthcare provider before giving him/her any new medicine, including over-the-counter, herbal medicines, natural products, or vitamins.
- An oral dose of medication should be repeated only if a patient vomits within 30 minutes of taking the drug. If your child vomits more than once during the 30 minutes after taking the medication, call your child's healthcare provider.

Contact Us

For patient care assistance, please call the following phone numbers:

- Jimmy Fund Clinic (617) 632-3270
Business Hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Page Operator (617) 632-3352
Off hours: weekdays after 5 p.m., holidays, and weekends
Page pediatric hematology/oncology fellow on call
- Life Threatening Emergencies dial 911