

Patient Information Leaflet Mercaptopurine – PURINETHOL®

What is PURINETHOL®

Medicine Name	Description
Mercaptopurine	50 mg pill: light yellow

How should you take your medicine?

Your doctor has determined your medicine dosage.

In your case, the dosage is as follows: mg/day, i.e. 50 mg pill, once a day, every day.

Swallow whole with a glass of water; do not crush, cut, chew, or dilute the pills.

If you have difficulty swallowing the pill, find out about the existing oral suspension.

At a set time. With a time interval between taking the medicine and eating or drinking milk (1 hour before a meal or 3 hours after a meal, preferably in the evening).

If you forgot to take a dose or in case of vomiting, do not take an additional dose but wait for the time to take the next dose.

Dosage – therapy regimen



How to get the medicine supply?

This medicine is available in local pharmacies.

Getting this medicine might take time. Be careful and order the medicine in advance. Store this product in its original packaging, away from sources of heat and moisture.

What else do you need to know?

Precautions and monitoring

Laboratory tests are necessary while taking your medication (blood test to monitor blood counts, liver and pancreas function), as well as clinical condition monitoring.

Using contraceptives

This drug may harm an unborn baby. During the entire treatment, you and your partner need to use effective contraception methods (condoms combined with another method).

Interactions with other medications and/or food

The occurrence of interactions between PURINETHOL® and your other treatments may have harmful consequences (reduced drug efficacy and tolerance). It is important to tell your pharmacist and doctor about all medications and/or other substances (foods, plants, probiotics, essential oils, nutritional supplements, etc.) that you are taking.

Example: While taking PURINETHOL®, it is necessary to avoid using olive leaf supplements and alcohol.

Some (live) vaccines are contraindicated while taking PURINETHOL®.

What are possible side effects?

Only the most common side effects are listed below. There might be some other side effects. For additional information, refer to your medicine leaflet or seek advice from your doctor or pharmacist.

SIDE EFFECTS



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Most cor	nmon ones	Abnormal lab results: low leukocyte count (leukopenia) and low platelet count (thrombocytopenia), low hemoglobin level (anemia), abnormal liver function test Digestive problems: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, inflammations inside the mouth (ulcers), weight loss
Some pa attention	tients require special	Lactose intolerant patients Patients – carriers of hepatitis B virus and herpesvirus

WHEN TO ALERT THE MEDICAL TEAM?		
Tell medical personnel if the following conditions are present and in the absence of specific medical advice	Symptoms suggestive of infection > Temperature > 38.5 °C > Cough, throat pain, pain on urination, diarrhea with fever Digestive problems > Significant and/or rapid weight loss > Very frequent diarrhea, bowel movement over 4 times a day > Mouth pain or ulcers that prevent normal eating > Severe abdominal pain > Inability to drink for 24 hours and/or eat for about 48 hours	
HOW TO PREVENT SIDE EFFECTS?		
Infection	Avoid visiting high risk areas (crowds, contact with sick people,). A flu and pneumococcal infection vaccine might be recommended for you: it will protect you.	
Weight	Regularly check your weight in case of digestive problems.	
Oral hygiene	Use a soft toothbrush; use oral rinses containing baking soda. Avoid oral rinses that contain menthol or alcohol.	
Skin care	Avoid using any skin irritating products. For sun protection use broad spectrum sunscreen and avoid sun exposure.	
HOW TO ADAPT YOUR DIET?		
Nausea	Opt for split nutrition consisting of several light meals, liquid and cold dishes. Limit consumption of fatty, fried, and spicy foods.	
Diarrhea	Opt for a low fiber diet. It is preferable to consume starchy products, carrots, and bananas. Avoid using raw fruit and vegetables, dairy products, coffee, or alcohol. Drink more water.	
Inflammation inside mouth (ulcers)	Avoid sour, sticky, or very salty foods.	
Weight loss	Opt for a higher calorie diet and "pleasure diet".	



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