



IMPORTANT and PRIVATE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR HEALTH PLEASE READ THIS VERY CAREFULLY

DIRECTIONS FOR TAKING METRONIDAZOLE

Your sex partner has recently been treated for trichomoniasis (also called trichomonas or “trick”). Trichomoniasis is a curable sexually transmitted disease (STD) that you can get from having sex with a person who already has it. Some people with trichomoniasis do not know they have it because they have no symptoms and feel fine.

-Women often notice a frothy, smelly, yellow or green vaginal discharge. They may also have some itching or burning in their genital area.

-Most men have no symptoms. Some may notice a discharge (drip) from their penis or have discomfort when they urinate (pee).

Whether or not you are having any of these symptoms at this time; you could have trichomoniasis. It is important that you take this medicine to get rid of trichomoniasis. Also, you can re-infect your partner if you have unprotected sex before you are cured of the infection.

After you take the medicine it is best for you to see your own doctor or medical care provider for an STD exam, counseling, and, possibly, to get tested for other sexually transmitted diseases. If you do not have a medical provider, or if you are uninsured, you can receive free care at the Department of Health (call the closest office to find out when you can be seen).

Before you take the medicine, please read the following:

Metronidazole is a safe antibiotic. However, **IF YOU DRINK ANY ALCOHOL WHILE YOU ARE TAKING THIS MEDICINE YOU CAN HAVE A SEVERE REACTION THAT MAY INCLUDE STOMACH UPSET, NAUSEA, VOMITING, HEADACHE, AND FLUSHING.** Do not take the pills if you have had any alcoholic beverage in the previous 12 hours and do not drink alcohol until 24 hours after you take this medication.

DO NOT TAKE if any of the following are true:

- You ever had an allergic reaction (**rash, itching, swelling, dizziness, or trouble breathing**) to metronidazole or “Flagyl.”
- You are female and having lower belly pain, pain during sex, vomiting, or fever.
- You are pregnant or breast feeding.
- You are male and having pain or swelling in the testicles (balls) or fever.
- You are currently taking another prescription medication.
- You have liver disease or a neurological disorder.

If any of these circumstances exist, you should talk to your healthcare provider as soon as possible.

Side effects: Dizziness, headache, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, rash, a change in taste sensation, or a dry mouth. **If these effects persist or worsen, contact your medical provider.**

Less common side effects include: seizures, loss of consciousness, or tingling of the hands or feet, unsteadiness, mood or mental changes, itching, fever, or severe belly pain. **Contact your medical provider immediately if you experience any of these.** This medicine may also cause urine to be darker in color; this is not harmful.

Take all of the tablets of metronidazole that you are given (depending on the pill strength, you may be given four or eight pills) with a glass of water or with food. It is important that you take this medicine as soon as possible to get cured.

Do not share or give this medicine to anyone else.

Avoid sex until you and your partner have taken your medication and neither of you has any more symptoms.

If you have any questions about metronidazole or trichomoniasis, please call:

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| • Albuquerque: Stanford STD Clinic | Phone 505: 841-4180 |
| • Roswell: Public Health DPS | Phone 575: 347-2409 Ext. 6216 |
| • Las Cruces: Dona Ana Public Health | Phone 575: 528-5001 |
| • Farmington: San Juan Public Health | Phone 505: 327-4461 |
| • Santa Fe: Santa Fe Public Health | Phone 505: 476-2657 |

All calls are confidential. **No one will ask for your name.**