

What is most important to remember?

- Take this medicine as directed at the same times each day, at evenly spaced intervals
- Take until you finish the medicine, even if you are feeling better
- Do not start any new medicines, over-the-counter drugs or herbal remedies without talking to your doctor
- Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists that you are using trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole
- If your symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your doctor
- This medicine will not treat a viral infection such as the common cold or flu

If you have questions:

Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist for more information about trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole.

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MEDICINE of THE HIGHEST ORDER

**Trimethoprim/Sulfamethoxazole
(Bactrim™, Bactrim DS™,
Septra DS®):**

Important Patient Information



MEDICINE of THE HIGHEST ORDER

What does trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole do?

- This medicine is a combination of two antibiotics used to treat certain bacterial infections

How should trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole be used?

- Use this medicine as directed by your doctor
- Take at the same time each day, at evenly spaced intervals. To gain the most benefit, do not miss doses of this medicine
- Take until you finish the medicine, even if you are feeling better
- Take with or without food. Take with food if it causes an upset stomach
- Take with a full glass of water (8 oz). Drink extra water while taking this medicine unless otherwise directed by your doctor

Who should know I am taking trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole?

- Keep a list of all your medicines (prescription, natural products, supplements, vitamins, over-the-counter) and give it to your healthcare provider (doctor, nurse, nurse practitioner, pharmacist, or physician assistant)

Are there any interactions with other drugs that I need to worry about?

- There are many drug interactions that may increase your risk of side effects
- Do not start new prescriptions, over-the-counter medicines, or herbal and dietary supplements without telling your doctor

What side effects could occur with trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole?

- Upset stomach, throwing up
- Diarrhea
- Not hungry

What should I do if I miss a dose of trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole?

- Take a missed dose as soon as you think about it
- If it is almost time for your next dose skip the missed dose and go back to your normal dose time
- Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses

What are some things that I need to be aware of when taking trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole?

- Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have a sulfa (sulfonamide) allergy, are allergic to trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole, or if you are allergic to any other medicines, foods, or substances
- Make sure to tell your doctor if you are taking: dofetilide (Tikosyn®), or methenamine (Hipre®, Urex®)
- Tell your doctor if you have kidney or liver disease, anemia caused by lack of folic acid, asthma, severe allergies, or G6PD deficiency
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant during treatment, or are currently breastfeeding. If you become pregnant while taking this medicine, call your doctor
- If you are taking a blood thinner, you may need to have your blood work checked more frequently while taking this medicine. Talk with your doctor
- You may get sunburned more easily so it is best to avoid sun, sunlamps, and tanning beds. Use sunscreen and wear clothing and eyewear that protect you from the sun
- It is best to avoid alcohol (beer, wine, mixed drinks) while on this medicine
- Store in a cool, dry place. Protect from light and do not store in the bathroom
- Keep out of reach of children and pets

If you have any of the following side effects, call your doctor or visit the emergency room immediately:

- Very bad stomach pain, very bad back pain
- Black, tarry or bloody stool
- If you are unable to pass urine
- Dark urine or yellow skin or eyes
- Persistent or severe diarrhea
- Persistent or severe upset stomach or throwing up
- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in chest or throat; trouble breathing or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat
- Seizures
- Hallucinations