

About your medicine

Your doctor has prescribed benzathine penicillin for you.

What is this medicine used for?

Penicillins are antibiotics that are used to treat certain bacterial infections.

How is the medicine given?

This medicine is given by injection into a muscle.

What possible side effects may it cause?

Certain side effects of this medicine are not unusual and may even disappear during treatment. If any of the following effects persist or are severe, consult your doctor.

- Mild pain, swelling, or redness at the injection site
- Nausea, vomiting
- Diarrhoea

Consult your doctor as soon as possible if any of these effects occur, as they may indicate more serious side effects:

- Allergic reaction (difficulty breathing, severe dizziness, rash, hives, itching, swelling of face/lips/tongue/throat)
- Severe skin reaction (red, swollen, blistering, or peeling skin; sores in mouth/throat/nose/eyes; irritated or red eyes)
- Unable to urinate, change in volume of urine, blood in urine, large increase in weight
- Fever, chills, sore throat; or any unexplained bruising or bleeding
- Severe, persistent or bloody diarrhoea
- Severe dizziness or passing out
- Joint pain
- Blurred eyesight

What precautions should you take?

Inform your doctor if:

- You have kidney problems or seizure disorders.
- You have an allergy to penicillins, cephalosporins, (e.g., cephalexin, cefuroxime), benzathine, or any other medicines.
- You have had an allergy to lidocaine or other anaesthetic drugs. These substances may be added to the penicillin injection before administration.
- You are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or are breast-feeding.
- You are taking other medicines (prescription or over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, minerals, herbal products).

When in doubt, consult your doctor or pharmacist.

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