

About your medicine

Your doctor has prescribed gentamicin for you.

What is this medicine used for?

Gentamicin belongs to a class of antibiotics called aminoglycosides. It is used to treat certain bacterial infections.

How is this medicine given?

This medicine is given by injection into a muscle or vein.

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
- Headache

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

- Allergic reaction (difficulty breathing, severe dizziness, rash, itching, swelling)
- Signs of kidney problems like unable to pass urine, change in how much urine is passed, blood in the urine, or a big weight gain
- Hearing problems
- Skin rash or development of raised coloured blotches which may be itchy
- Purple discolouration under the skin
- Fever
- Sore throat and mouth
- Muscle weakness
- Severe dizziness
- Seizures, confusion, tiredness, low mood

What precautions should I take?

- Inform your doctor if you have nerve, kidney, or hearing problems; if you are allergic to gentamicin, sulfites (this medicine contains sodium bisulfite), or any other medicines; or if you have any other allergies.
- *For women: Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant, or are breast-feeding.*
- Inform your doctor if you are taking other medicines (prescription or over-the-counter medicines), vitamins, minerals, or herbal products.

When in doubt, consult your doctor or pharmacist.

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