Peterborough Public Health

RIFAMPIN
MEDICATION INFORMATION SHEET

WHAT IS RIFAMPIN USED FOR?

Rifampin is a type of antibiotic medicine used to treat tuberculosis (TB). It can treat both latent tuberculosis (LTBI) and active tuberculosis (TB).

It is often a red capsule (pill).

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

✓ This medicine works best on an empty stomach (1 hour before a meal OR 2 hours after). If it upsets your stomach, you may take it with food.

✓ Take at the same time each day until your health care provider tells you to stop.

✓ Do not drink alcohol. This can increase the chance of liver problems (hepatoxicity).

✓ Avoid wearing soft contact lenses. They may stain orange.

✓ Consult with your health care provider if you are thinking about becoming pregnant or are breastfeeding.

✓ Birth control pills may not work while taking Rifampin. Use a back up method of protection such as condoms.

✓ Avoid using acetaminophen (TYLENOL®).

Notify your health care provider if you experience any side effects. If side effects develop and you cannot reach your health care provider or public health nurse, stop taking the medication until you are able to speak with them.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

- Flu-like symptoms (fever, chills, dizziness, shortness of breath)
- Rash, Itching
- Stomach Pain, Nausea, Vomiting
- Fever, Tiredness/Fatigue
- Dark coloured urine or light-coloured stool
- Jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes)
- Lack of appetite
- Tingling sensation in hands and feet
- Tingling or numbness around the mouth

If you are taking Rifampin, you may notice an orange discolouration of urine and other body fluids. This is normal.

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as possible. If it is almost time to take your next dose, <u>do not</u> take the missed dose.

<u>Do not take 2 doses at the same time.</u>

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Peterborough Public Health
Jackson Square, 185 King St., Peterborough
705-743-1000, ext. 131
www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca

EMERGENCY: **911**

NOTES:

Dose: _____

Pharmacy: _____

Prescriber: _____

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