

WHO-PQ recommended clinical and preclinical information for the patient

This information reflects the recommendations of current WHO guidelines and the scope of WHO's prequalification programme.

Information for the patient

[TB345 trade name]*
Protionamide

Carers or parents looking after the person who takes this medicine should use this information to give the medicine correctly and take note of the warnings and side effects

1. What [TB345 trade name] is and what it is used for

[TB345 trade name] is a medicine used to treat tuberculosis (TB), an infection caused by bacteria called *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. It is always given together with other medicines to treat tuberculosis. Your healthcare provider has chosen the combination that is right for your condition.

[TB345 trade name] contains the active substance protionamide. It stops the bacteria multiplying and can kill them by preventing the bacteria from building their cell wall.

2. What you need to know before you take [TB345 trade name]

Do not take [TB345 trade name]:

- if you are hypersensitive (allergic) to protionamide, ethionamide, isoniazid, or any of the ingredients of [TB345 trade name] (see section 6).
- if you have severe liver disease.

Warnings and precautions

Always take [TB345 trade name] together with other tuberculosis medicines that your health care provider has asked you to take.

Speak with your health care provider if you:

- lose your appetite
- get nausea (feel sick) or vomit
- have yellowing of your skin or the white parts of your eyes
- pass dark urine
- pass stools that are clay-coloured (or are red or black)
- have belly pain, usually on the right side and near the chest

These are signs of a problem with your liver, which can become serious.

Speak with your health care provider straightaway if you get problems with your eyes (such as eye pain, blurred vision, colour blindness or trouble seeing), numbness, tingling or pain in your hands or feet, unusual bruising or bleeding, mental changes such as depression, confusion or aggression, or swollen breasts (in men).

If you develop a rash or fever (possible signs of an allergic reaction), tell your health care provider immediately.

Your health care provider will regularly check your blood sugar, your thyroid function and your vision during treatment with [TB345 trade name].

Your health care provider may ask you to take a vitamin, called pyridoxine (vitamin B6), during treatment with [TB345 trade name]. This medicine may reduce the risk of developing nerve damage, which is a side effect of [TB345 trade name].

* Trade names are not prequalified by WHO. This is the national medicines regulatory agency's responsibility.

Tell your health care provider about any unwanted effects even if you think they are not related to tuberculosis infection or your treatment.

Other medicines and [TB345 trade name]

Tell your health care provider if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without prescription and natural health products. These may affect the action of [TB345 trade name], or [TB345 trade name] may affect their action.

[TB345 trade name] may make the side effects of isoniazid and rifampicin worse.

You should not drink alcohol during treatment with [TB345 trade name].

[TB345 trade name] with food and drink

You can take [TB345 trade name] with food or between meals. However, taking the tablets with food may reduce side effects on your gut.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

You should not become pregnant while on treatment with [TB345 trade name]. If you become pregnant, or are planning to become pregnant, you must contact your health care provider to discuss any changes to your tuberculosis medicines.

Breast-feeding

Protionamide, the active substance in [TB345 trade name], may pass into human breast milk.

If you are interested in breast-feeding your baby, you should discuss the risks and benefits with your health care provider. While breast-feeding, you and your baby should take pyridoxine (vitamin B6). Ask your health care provider for more information.

Driving and using machines

[TB345 trade name] may cause side effects such as dizziness or headache that can reduce your ability to drive and to use machines.

3. How to take [TB345 trade name]

Always take [TB345 trade name] exactly as your health care provider has told you. Check with your health care provider if you are not sure.

Your health care provider has worked out the right dose of [TB345 trade name] for you. The following information includes the usual doses of this medicine. If your dose is different, do not change it unless your health care provider tells you to do so.

You can take [TB345 trade name] with food or between meals. Taking it with food may reduce stomach side effects.

Adults and patients weighing at least 46 kg

For adults, the usual daily dose is 3 to 4 tablets (750 to 1000 mg daily), depending on your weight and any side effects you get.

You can take the dose once a day. However, if you get certain side effects, check with your health care provider if you can split the dose into two doses over the day or if you can take [TB345 trade name] at a different time to your other medicines.

Your health care provider may start your treatment with 1 tablet on the first day and then gradually increase the dose over a few days, until you reach the dose that is right for you.

Children

The health care provider will work out the right dose for your child. The daily dose depends on the child's weight. The following doses are recommended for children who weigh 5 kg or more:

Child's weight	Dose of 250-mg tablets
5 kg to less than 7 kg	See Instructions for mixing the tablets for children weighing less than 10 kg
7 kg to less than 10 kg	½ tablet daily (See Instructions for mixing the tablets for children weighing less than 10 kg)
10 kg to less than 16 kg	1 tablet daily*
16 kg to less than 46 kg	2 tablets daily*
Over 46 kg	As for adults
* If you get certain side effects, check with your health care provider about splitting the dose into two doses over the day or taking the dose at a different time to the other medicines.	

Instruction for mixing the tablets for children weighing less than 10 kg

You will need:

- a clean cup or glass
- drinking water
- an oral syringe to measure out the mixture you give to your child.

1. Place 1 tablet into the cup or glass and thoroughly crush the tablet.
2. Add 10 mL of drinking water to the cup or glass.
3. Stir the mixture thoroughly.
4. The amount of mixture to give to your child depends on the child's weight:

Child's weight	Amount of mixture to give
5 kg to less than 7 kg	3 mL daily
7 kg to less than 10 kg	5 mL daily

5. Use an oral syringe to measure out the right amount of mixture for your child and have the child drink all of it straightaway.

Liver disease

If you have severe liver disease you must not take [TB345 trade name] (see Section 2).

Kidney disease

Talk to your health care provider if you have severe kidney problems. The health care provider will decide if your dose of [TB345 trade name] should be reduced.'

If you take more [TB345 trade name] than you should

If you have taken too many tablets or if someone accidentally swallows some, there is no immediate danger. However, you should contact your health care provider or the nearest hospital emergency department for advice.

If you forget to take [TB345 trade name]

If you accidentally miss a dose and notice within 6 hours, take the missed dose as soon as possible. Take the next regular dose as scheduled. If more than 6 hours have passed since you should have taken the dose, then simply take your next dose when it is due. Do not take a double dose to make up for forgotten doses.

If you stop taking [TB345 trade name]

Keep taking the medicine for as long as your health care provider has told you, even if you are feeling better. If you stop the medicine too soon, your infection may not be completely cured and may make future treatment difficult.

You should not stop treatment unless your health care provider tells you to.

If you have any questions about this medicine, ask your health care provider.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, [TB345 trade name] can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. When treating tuberculosis, it is not always possible to say which side effects are caused by [TB345 trade name], and which are caused by any other medicines you may be taking at the same time. For this reason, it is important that you tell your health care provider of any change in your health.

Very common side effects (which may affect more than 1 in 10 people) are:

- metallic taste
- dry mouth or a lot of saliva in the mouth
- loss of appetite
- nausea (feeling sick).

Common side effects (which may affect more than 1 in 100 people) are:

- headache
- dizziness
- blood tests showing raised liver enzymes, a sign of liver problems.

Uncommon side effects (which may affect up to 1 in 100 people) are:

- vomiting
- heartburn
- belly pain
- feeling of fullness and flatulence (gas)
- diarrhoea or constipation
- mental problems such as confusion, poor concentration, depression, excitation and psychosis (seeing or hearing things that are not there or believing things that are not true).

Rare side effects (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people) are:

- fits
- sleeping problems
- breast growth in men (gynaecomastia)
- menstrual problems in women
- thyroid gland not working well enough
- low blood sugar levels
- jaundice (yellowing of the skin or the whites of the eyes).

Other side effects that may occur in patients treated with protionamide. However, it is not known how often they occur:

- low red blood cell counts and problems with blood coagulation
- suicide attempts
- pain and burning sensations in joints (algodystrophy)
- low blood pressure after sitting up or standing up
- swelling of the salivary glands
- inflammation of the lining of the mouth
- inflammation of the tongue (glossitis)
- liver inflammation and liver not working well enough
- skin rash (pellagra-like reactions)
- skin reactions caused by light (photodermatoses)

skin cracking or fissures around the mouth (rhagades)
acne
hair loss
inflammation of the lips (cheilitis)
problems with vision (blurred or double vision, complete or partial loss of vision)
ear problems (hearing loss, ringing noises or tinnitus)
joint pain
joint inflammations
muscle weakness
bladder stones
coughing blood
allergic reactions

If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, tell your health care provider as soon as possible.

Reporting of side effects

If you get a side effect, talk to your health care provider. This includes side effects not listed in this leaflet. You may also be able to report such effects directly to your national reporting system if one is available. By reporting side effects, you can help to improve the available information on this medicine.

5. How to store [TB345 trade name]

Product specific information on the storage conditions is shown in the product information as approved by the reference authority, stated in WHOPAR part 1.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What [TB345 trade name] contains

What [TB345 trade name] looks like and contents of the pack

Supplier and Manufacturer

This leaflet was last revised in March 2026

Product specific information on the composition, visual appearance of the formulation, appearance and size of packs as well as on the supplier, is shown in the product information as approved by the reference authority, stated in WHOPAR part 1.