



BC Centre for Disease Control
An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

ETHIONAMIDE

What is Ethionamide?

Ethionamide is an antibacterial used to treat tuberculosis and occasionally other related conditions.

When should I take this?

- Take with food or milk to reduce stomach upset.
- Take this medicine at the same times everyday. (This will help you remember to take the medicine)

How should I take this?

- It is very important that you take this medicine regularly.
- Take as directed by your doctor.
- You are to take this medicine:



What should I do if I miss a dose?

- If you miss a dose, take that dose as soon as you remember. But if it is almost time for the next day's dose, skip the missed dose.
- **Do not take a double dose.**

Is there anything I should avoid when taking this?

- Alcohol
- Tell your doctor and pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any over-the-counter (non-prescription) products.

What are some possible side effects?

- Nausea and vomiting
- Diarrhea, stomach upset
- Metallic taste in the mouth
- Excessive salivation

- Dizziness or drowsiness
- Diabetic patients may have a harder time controlling their blood sugar levels.
- If you are on thyroid medication, periodic monitoring of thyroid function is recommended.

Your doctor may prescribe pyridoxine (Vitamin B6) to lessen some of the side effects of ethionamide. Tell your doctor if you experience burning, tingling, or numbness in your hands or feet.

If you experience the following, stop taking this medicine and report these immediately to your doctor or to the Vancouver TB Control Clinic at (604) 707-2692:

- Blurred vision or any loss in vision with or without eye pain
- Fever
- Persistent nausea or vomiting
- Yellowing of skin or eyes
- Unusual tiredness or weakness
- Loss of appetite
- Dark urine
- Rash

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant, or if you wish to breast-feed your baby.

Where should I store this medication?

- Keep away from the reach of children.
- Protect from light.
- Tablets: Store at room temperature in a tightly closed container in a cool, dry place.

Where do I call if I have any other questions?

Vancouver TB Control Clinic: (604) 707-2692
Vaccine and Pharmacy Services: (604) 707-2580

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