



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

## RIFAMPIN

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### What is Rifampin?

Rifampin is an antibiotic used to prevent or treat tuberculosis (TB) and occasionally other related infections.

### When should I take this?

- Take on an empty stomach (1 hour before or 2 hours after food)
- Take this medicine at the same time 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:
  - Two capsules once per day.
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 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.**

**Use an alternative form of contraception (e.g. condoms) if you are taking birth control pills.**

### What are some possible side effects?

**If you experience the following, stop taking this medicine and report these immediately to your doctor:**

- Unusual tiredness or weakness
- Fever
- Loss of appetite
- Nausea (urge to vomit)
- Stomach upset or diarrhea
- Dark urine
- Yellowing of skin or eyes
- Sore mouth or tongue
- Bruising of skin
- Rash

**It is important that you go for all lab tests ordered by your doctor.**

This medicine may cause your tears, saliva, sweat, urine and feces to be colored red-orange. This is harmless but may permanently stain soft contact lenses.

**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
- Capsules: Store at room temperature in a tightly closed container in a cool, dry place.
- Suspension: Refrigerate. Shake well before use

**Where do I call if I have any other questions?**