



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

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Nitrofurantoin

Nitrofurantoin (monohydrate and macrocrystals formulation: Macrobid®) is an antibiotic used to treat or prevent lower urinary tract infections.

Allergies

- Tell your healthcare provider if you have an allergy or sensitivity to **nitrofurantoin** (Macrobid®) or **dantrolene** (Dantrium®).
- Contact your healthcare provider if you experience itchiness, hives, severe allergic reactions (swelling of face, eyes, hands and feet, tingling/swelling of mouth, chest tightness, difficulty breathing) while taking nitrofurantoin.

Pregnancy and Chest/Breastfeeding

- Nitrofurantoin should **not** be used in pregnancy at term (38 to 42 weeks gestation), during labour, and delivery.
- Nitrofurantoin should **not** be used in individuals who are chest/breastfeeding infants less than one month of age.
- Nitrofurantoin should **not** be used in infants with a blood condition called G6PD (glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase) deficiency unless monitoring is available.

CAUTION

- **Drug Interactions:** Tell your healthcare provider if you are taking any prescription, non-prescription, herbal, or recreational products. Not all individual drug interactions are listed in this document.
- **Consult your healthcare provider:**
 - If you have kidney disease or urinary abnormalities (e.g. low urine output)
 - If you have liver disease, or had previous liver problems using nitrofurantoin.
 - If you are experiencing lung reactions or symptoms (general weakness or discomfort, shortness of breath, cough, fever, chills, or chest pain/pressure).
 - If you are experience tingling, numbness or burning pain in hands, arms, legs or feet. Nitrofurantoin may increase the risk of severe peripheral neuropathy (nerve damage) in the following situations:
 - Anemia (low count of red blood cells).
 - Kidney disease
 - Diabetes
 - Electrolyte imbalances
 - Vitamin B deficiency
 - Nerve injury disorders
 - If you are experiencing significant diarrhea

Last Reviewed by BCCDC Pharmacy April 2019

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Nitrofurantoin (cont'd)

Side Effects

- You may experience headaches, dizziness, or blurred vision
- Nausea, vomiting, upset stomach or pain
- Changes to urine colour (dark colour, rusty-yellow to brown)

Instructions for Taking

- Follow dosage instructions from your healthcare provider. It is important to complete as directed, even if your symptoms have subsided
- Take with food or milk to prevent stomach upset.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. However, if it is close to your next dose, skip the dose and resume your usual dosing time. Do not take a double dose.

Storage Instructions

- Store at room temperature between 20°C to 25°C.
- Protect from light, heat, and moisture.
- Do not use medications beyond the printed expiry date.
- Keep away from the reach of children.

Special Instructions

- If your symptoms have not improved within 3 days or if they are getting worse, contact your health care provider.
- Contact your healthcare provider if you are experiencing dark coloured urine that persists even after completion of treatment, pale stools, diarrhea (includes bloody), nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, pain in the upper stomach, yellowing of your skin or eyes, or other medical conditions noted in the **CAUTION** section.

If you have any questions or need more information,
please visit www.smartsexresource.com or contact your healthcare provider.