

SULFAMETHOXAZOLE / TRIMETHOPRIM

- > Also known as Septra®, Sulfatrim®, Bactrim®, cotrimoxazole
- > This medication is available as an oral tablet and a specially made liquid, if necessary.
- > This medication is not covered by BC Transplant and may be purchased at a pharmacy of your choice.

What does the medication look like?

There are several brands for this medication and you may not see yours shown exactly below. Please check with your transplant pharmacists if you have any questions.

Sulfamethoxazole/Trimethoprim	Sulfamethoxazole/Trimethoprim
tablet (single strength)	tablet (double strength)

What is this medication for?

This is a combination antibiotic used to prevent or treat a type of lung infection called PCP or PJP which is caused by a fungus. This type of infection is more common in patients who have a weakened immune system (for example after an organ transplant).

How should I take this medication?

Take this medication once a day	
(for example 9 AM)	Your medication times:
If you take this medication three times a week	Your medications times and days of the week:

- This medication may be taken with or without food.
- It can be taken at any time of the day and may be taken at the same time as any of your other medications. It is best to take it at the same time every day, in order to keep a steady amount (drug level) in your body.
- Drink a full glass of water with this medication. This helps prevent kidney stone formation.

<u>Alert</u>: This medication belongs to the class of sulfa medications and it is very important to inform your doctor if you have an allergy to sulfa medications.



Missed Dose or Vomited Dose:

If you miss a dose, take your medication as soon as you remember and then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. If you are more than half way to your next dose, skip the missed dose and continue with your regular schedule. Do not double or take extra doses.

If you vomit within 30 minutes of taking the dose or if you see some of the medication come up, then repeat the dose. Otherwise, just continue on with your next scheduled dosing time.

What are some possible side effects of this medication?

Side Effect	Management	
Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea	Take medication with food to minimize this side effect. Check with your	
	doctor if bothersome or persistent.	
Dizziness	Check with your doctor if this is bothersome or persistent.	
Sun sensitivity	Wear a hat, long sleeves and long pants or skirt outside on sunny days.	
	Apply a sun block lotion with a SPF (sun protection factor) of at least 30	
Skin rash or itching	Notify your doctor or transplant team as soon as possible	