



Q enter a search term

Search

Browse all medications [A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#) [Advanced Search](#) [Phonetic Search](#)

Drugs A to Z

Pill Identifier

Interactions Checker

News & Alerts

Health Professionals

Community

Mednotes

[Drugs A to Z](#) [Drugs by Condition](#) [Drugs by Class](#) [Side Effects](#) [Dosage](#) [Pregnancy](#) [Natural Products](#) [Vet Drugs](#) [Symptom Checker](#) [Harvard Health Topics](#) NEW [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [RSS](#)[Home](#) > [Drugs by Condition](#) > [U](#) > [Urinary Tract Infection](#) > [Bactrim](#) > Consumer Information [Print](#) [Save or Share](#)

Bactrim

Generic Name: [sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim](#) (SUL fa meth OX a zole and trye METH oh prim)

Brand Names: *Bactrim DS*, *Septra*, *Septra DS*, *SMZ-TMP DS*, *Sulfatrim Pediatric*

Ads by Google

[Acid Reflux Symptoms?](#)

[www.AcidRefluxLife.com](#) Find Out About an ARD Medication. Learn More About Your Options.

[Effective Drug Treatment](#)

[www.TheRecoveryPlace.net/Treatment](#) Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Programs. Call (888) 494-8536

[New Indication Approved](#)

[www.Afinitor.com/HCP](#) See Full Prescribing Information Afinitor®(everolimus) Tablets

Sign In or Register

[Forgot password?](#)

username

password

Sign In

Related Bactrim Information

10+ [Approval History](#)
Tablet; Oral FDA
approved 1973

C [Pregnancy Category](#)
Risk cannot be ruled out

Rx [Availability](#)
Prescription only

N/A [CSA Schedule](#)
Not a controlled drug



This document has been reviewed by one or more clinical specialists. See our [editorial policy](#) for more information.

Reviews

Average User
Rating

50 User Reviews

6.0 Rate it!

Related Pages

[Detailed Side Effects](#)
[Drug Interactions](#)
[Support Group Q & A](#)[Pregnancy & Breastfeeding](#)
[Drug Images](#)

Drug Class

[Miscellaneous antibiotics](#)
[Sulfonamides](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

Related Drugs

Urinary Tract Infection
[ciprofloxacin](#), [amoxicillin](#), [doxycycline](#), [Levaquin](#), [Augmentin](#), [sulfamethoxazole/trimethoprim](#), [More...](#)

Bronchitis
[ciprofloxacin](#), [amoxicillin](#), [doxycycline](#), [Levaquin](#), [azithromycin](#), [Augmentin](#), [More...](#)

Bacterial Infection
[ciprofloxacin](#), [amoxicillin](#), [doxycycline](#), [cephalexin](#), [metronidazole](#), [Levaquin](#), [More...](#)

Bacterial Skin Infection

What is sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim?

Sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim are both antibiotics that treat different types of infection caused by bacteria.

ADVERTISEMENT

The combination of sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim is used to treat ear infections, urinary tract infections, bronchitis, traveler's diarrhea, and Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia.

Sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

What is the most important information I should know about sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim?

You should not use this medication if you are allergic to sulfamethoxazole or trimethoprim, if you are pregnant or breast-feeding, or if you have anemia (lack of red blood cells) caused by folic acid deficiency.

Before using sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim, tell your doctor if you have kidney or liver disease, a folic acid deficiency, asthma or severe allergies, AIDS, a glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency (G6PD deficiency), or if you are malnourished.

Take this medication for the full prescribed length of time. Your symptoms may improve before

the infection is completely cleared. Sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim will not treat a viral infection such as the common cold or flu.

Antibiotic medicines can cause diarrhea, which may be a sign of a new infection. If you have diarrhea that is watery or has blood in it, call your doctor. Do not use any medicine to stop the diarrhea unless your doctor has told you to.

Avoid exposure to sunlight or tanning beds. Sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim can make you sunburn more easily. Wear protective clothing and use sunscreen (SPF 30 or higher) when you are outdoors.

What should I discuss with my healthcare provider before taking sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim?

You should not use this medication if you are allergic to sulfamethoxazole or trimethoprim, if you are pregnant or breast-feeding, or if you have anemia (lack of red blood cells) caused by folic acid deficiency.

To make sure you can safely take sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim, tell your doctor if you have any of these other conditions:

- kidney or liver disease;
- a folic acid deficiency;
- asthma or severe allergies;
- AIDS;
- a glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency (G6PD deficiency); or
- if you are malnourished.

FDA pregnancy category C. It is not known whether sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim will harm an unborn [baby](#). Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant while using this medication. Sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim can pass into breast milk and may harm a nursing baby. Do not use this medication without telling your doctor if you are breast-feeding a baby. Do not give this medication to a child younger than 2 months old. Older adults may be more likely to have side effects from this medicine.

[Ads by Google](#)

[Allergic Asthma Treatment](#)

Get information on an allergic asthma treatment option.

www.LivingWithAllergicAsthma.com

[Anxiety Treatment Options](#)

Drug Free Approach to ADD, ADHD Visit & Get a Free Consultation!

www.NwBioFeedback.org

[Claritin® Official Site](#)

Get #1 Pediatrician-Recommended OTC Relief For Kid's Allergies

www.Claritin.com

How should I take sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim?

Take exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Do not take in larger or smaller amounts or for longer than recommended. Follow the directions on your prescription label.

Measure liquid medicine with a special dose-measuring spoon or cup, not a regular table spoon. If you do not have a dose-measuring device, ask your pharmacist for one.

Take this medication for the full prescribed length of time. Your symptoms may improve before the infection is completely cleared. Sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim will not treat a viral infection such as the common cold or flu. Drink plenty of fluids to prevent kidney stones while you are taking trimethoprim and sulfamethoxazole. Store the tablets and liquid at room temperature away from [moisture](#), heat, and light.

[sulfamethoxazole/trimethoprim](#), [tetracycline topical](#), [Bactrim DS](#), [bacitracin topical](#), [Septra](#), [Neosporin](#), [More...](#)

[20 more conditions...](#)

FDA Consumer Updates

- [FDA Intends to Remove Unapproved Drugs from Market](#)
- [Combating Antibiotic Resistance](#)
- [A Guide to Safe Use of Pain Medicine](#)
- [Get Set for Winter Illness Season](#)

[More FDA Updates...](#)

Drug Images



Bactrim 400 MG-80 MG



Bactrim 400 MG-80 MG

[View larger images](#)

Get Updates by Email

Email me about Bactrim:

News and Warnings related to this drug

Also send the Drugs.com monthly newsletter
 FDA Medwatch Alerts for all medications

Related News and Articles

[Smarten Up About Antibiotics, CDC Urges](#)

18 Nov 2010

Knowing when t can help fight the rise of deadly "superbugs," say experts at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. About half of antibiotics ...

[A Radical Plan To Save Antibiotics](#)

7 Sep 2010

From Guardian Web (September 7, 2010) What are we to do about the diminishing power of antibiotics - once

What happens if I miss a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next scheduled dose. Do not take extra medicine to make up the missed dose.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

Overdose can cause dizziness, drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, stomach pain, headache, yellowing of your [skin](#) or eyes, blood in your urine, fever, confusion, or fainting.

What should I avoid while taking sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim?

Antibiotic medicines can cause diarrhea, which may be a sign of a new infection. If you have diarrhea that is watery or has blood in it, call your doctor. Do not use any medicine to stop the diarrhea unless your doctor has told you to.

Avoid exposure to sunlight or tanning beds. Sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim can make you sunburn more easily. Wear protective clothing and use sunscreen (SPF 30 or higher) when you are outdoors.

Sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have any of these signs of an allergic reaction: hives; difficulty breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat. Call your doctor at once if you have a serious side effect such as:

- fever, sore throat, and headache with a severe blistering, peeling, and red skin rash;
- the first sign of any skin rash, no matter how mild;
- pale skin, easy bruising or bleeding;
- cough, feeling short of breath;
- diarrhea that is watery or bloody;
- feeling restless or irritable, confusion, hallucinations, seizure;
- slow heart rate, weak pulse, severe tingling, numbness, muscle pain or weakness;
- nausea, stomach pain, loss of appetite, itching, dark urine, clay-colored stools, jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes);
- fever, chills, [body](#) aches, flu symptoms; or
- urinating less than usual or not at all.

Less serious side effects may include:

- painful or swollen tongue;
- dizziness, spinning sensation;
- ringing in your ears;
- joint pain; or
- sleep problems (insomnia).

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

Ads by Google

[Going Cold Turkey?](#)

Get Info on Withdrawal, Detox, and Rehab for Painkiller Addiction

[TurnToHelp.com](#)

[Free Prescription Savings](#)

Save up to 75% on your prescription Just print our

the miracle drugs that looked set to end ...

[Antibiotic May Up Risk of Dangerous Potassium Levels in Seniors](#)

1 Jul 2010

A new study warns that seniors who take a common antibiotic combination for urinary tract infections are at increased risk of developing potentially ...

[Antibiotic Resistance Can Last a Year, Review Finds](#)

19 May 2010

Some patients who take antibiotics may become resistant to them and stay that way for as long as a year, a new review finds. The researchers analyzed 24 ...

[Low-Dose Antibiotics May Promote Drug Resistance](#)

15 Feb 2010

U.S. scientists have discovered another way that improper antibiotic use can lead to the development of dangerous multidrug-resistant ...

[View more...](#)

Related Questions & Answers

- [Bactrim DS - what are the mg?](#)
- [Bactrim DS - what does it come in liquid, tablets, injections, suppository.?](#)
- [What does Bactrim do to your sensitivity to sunlight?](#)
- [Can you take Bactrim Ds if your allergic to penicillin?](#)
- [Does bactrim contain sulphur drug?](#)

[More Bactrim questions](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

[Lower Your Blood Pressure - The All Natural Way](#)

The only non-drug medical device clinically proven to lower blood pressure [www.resperate.com](#)

[\\$350,000 in Life Insurance](#)

Protect Your Family Today. Coverage as low as \$13.04/month. Free Quote Here [BestQuoteMarket.com](#)

[Weight Loss Medicine](#)

Immediate weight loss - reduces fat absorption - less fat means less pounds [www.pharmcom.com](#)

56,000 discounts

www.yourrxdiscounts.com[Femara® HCP Information](#)

Find Patient Support Info on Femara® (letrozole) 2.5 mg.

Femara.com/HealthcareProviders

What other drugs will affect sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim?

Tell your doctor about all other medications you use, especially:

- seizure medication such as phenytoin (Dilantin);
- a diuretic (water pill);
- a blood thinner such as warfarin (Coumadin);
- methotrexate (Trexall, Rheumatrex); or
- an ACE inhibitor such as benazepril (Lotensin), captopril (Capoten), fosinopril (Monopril), enalapril (Vasotec), lisinopril (Prinivil, Zestril), moexipril (Univasc), perindopril (Aceon), quinapril (Accupril), ramipril (Altace), or trandolapril (Mavik).

This list is not complete and other drugs may interact with sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim. Tell your doctor about all medications you use. This includes prescription, over-the-counter, vitamin, and herbal products. Do not start a new medication without telling your doctor.

More Bactrim resources

- [Bactrim Side Effects](#) (in More Detail)
- [Bactrim Use in Pregnancy & Breastfeeding](#)
- [Drug Images](#)
- [Bactrim Drug Interactions](#)
- [Bactrim Support Group](#)
- [50 Reviews for Bactrim - Add your own review/rating](#)

Advanced [Bactrim Advanced Consumer](#) (Micromedex) - Includes Dosage Information

Professional [Bactrim Prescribing Information](#) (FDA)

Concise [Bactrim Consumer Overview](#)

Med Facts [Bactrim MedFacts Consumer Leaflet](#) (Wolters Kluwer)

Professional [Bactrim DS Prescribing Information](#) (FDA)

Concise [Cotrim Consumer Overview](#)

Concise [Septra Consumer Overview](#)

Professional [Septra Prescribing Information](#) (FDA)

Med Facts [Sulfatrim Suspension MedFacts Consumer Leaflet](#) (Wolters Kluwer)

Compare Bactrim with other medications

- [Acne](#)
- [Bacterial Skin Infection](#)
- [Diverticulitis](#)
- [Granuloma Inguinale](#)
- [Kidney Infections](#)
- [Meningitis](#)
- [Otitis Media](#)
- [Pneumocystis Pneumonia Prophylaxis](#)
- [Prevention of Bladder infection](#)
- [Shigellosis](#)
- [Toxoplasmosis](#)
- [Bacterial Infection](#)
- [Bronchitis](#)
- [Epiglottitis](#)
- [Infection Prophylaxis](#)
- [Melioidosis](#)
- [Nocardiosis](#)
- [Pneumocystis Pneumonia](#)
- [Pneumonia](#)
- [Prostatitis](#)
- [Sinusitis](#)
- [Toxoplasmosis, Prophylaxis](#)

- [Traveler's Diarrhea](#)
- [Urinary Tract Infection](#)
- [Upper Respiratory Tract Infection](#)

Where can I get more information?

- Your pharmacist can provide more information about sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim.

 [Printable Version](#)
 [Email](#)
 [Recommend](#)
 [Tweet](#)
 [Save or Share](#)

Ads by Google

[Liberty Diabetes Supplies](#)

We Deliver Better [Health](#). Receive A Diabetes Cookbook When You Join!

www.libertymedical.com

[Shocking Prostatitis Info](#)

Treatments rated with lab tests. Which ones actually work? Must read

prostatepillreport.com/prostatitis

- Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed.
- Every effort has been made to ensure that the information provided by Cerner Multum, Inc. ("Multum") is accurate, up-to-date, and complete, but no guarantee is made to that effect. Drug information contained herein may be time sensitive. Multum information has been compiled for use by healthcare practitioners and consumers in the United States and therefore Multum does not warrant that uses outside of the United States are appropriate, unless specifically indicated otherwise. Multum's drug information does not endorse drugs, diagnose patients or recommend therapy. Multum's drug information is an informational resource designed to assist licensed healthcare practitioners in caring for their patients and/or to serve consumers viewing this service as a supplement to, and not a substitute for, the expertise, skill, knowledge and judgment of healthcare practitioners. The absence of a warning for a given drug or drug combination in no way should be construed to indicate that the drug or drug combination is safe, effective or appropriate for any given patient. Multum does not assume any responsibility for any aspect of healthcare administered with the aid of information Multum provides. The information contained herein is not intended to cover all possible uses, directions, precautions, warnings, drug interactions, allergic reactions, or adverse effects. If you have questions about the drugs you are taking, check with your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

Copyright 1996-2006 Cerner Multum, Inc. Version: 6.01. Revision Date: 09/27/2010 4:06:28 PM.

Q enter a search term

Search

Ads by Google [Drug Rehab](#) [Drug Treatment](#) [Drug Recovery](#) [Drug Center](#)

Support

[Advertise With Us](#)
[Frequently Asked Questions](#)
[Pharmaceutical Companies](#)
[Widgets for your Website](#)
[Content Submissions](#)
[About Drugs.com](#)
[Contact Us](#)
[Sitemap](#)

Follow us on:  

About Drugs.com

Drugs.com provides accurate and independent information on more than 24,000 prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicines & natural products. This material is provided for educational purposes only and is not to be used for medical advice, diagnosis or treatment.

Data sources include Micromedex™ (updated Feb 3rd, 2011), Cerner Multum™ (updated Feb 17th, 2011), Wolters Kluwer™ (updated Mar 5th, 2011) and others. To view content sources and attributions, refer to our [editorial policy](#).

Copyright © 2000-2011 Drugs.com. All rights reserved.

Your Privacy



We comply with the HONcode standard for trustworthy health information.
[Verify here](#)



Ad Choices

[Terms of Use](#) · [Privacy Policy](#)

