

THE MEDICINES PAGES

The Medicines Pages gives information about the medicines mentioned in this book. For general information about medicines, and before giving a medicine, be sure to read the chapter called "Use of Medicines in Women's Health," beginning on page 468. For specific information about each medicine, look it up in these Medicines Pages. Medicines are listed by their generic (scientific) names, the same names used in the chapters. The medicines are arranged in the order of the alphabet:

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

For example, if you are looking up **h**ydroxyzine, it comes after **d**oxycycline but before **m**etronidazole.

You can also find a medicine in the Medicines Pages by using:

- the problem index on page 486. This index lists the health problems discussed in this book and medicines used to treat them. The index gives the page number where information about the health problem can be found. Be sure to read about the problem before treating it with medicine. Remember: good health does not depend only on medicines! The most important 'medicine' for good health is good health information.
- the medicine index on page 487. This index lists the generic names of medicines and some common brand (commercial) names. If there is a medicine you want to use, you can look it up here to find the number of the page where you can learn more about that medicine.

Both the problem and medicine indexes are arranged in the order of the alphabet.

The information about each medicine appears in a box like this:




The generic name is shown in heavy letters:

Some brand names are shown in slanted letters:

These pictures appear with the word **CAUTION** when pregnant or breastfeeding women need to take special care. If the medicine should not be used by a woman who is pregnant or breastfeeding, the picture is crossed out.

General information about the medicine is found here:

The rest of the chart gives other important information about using the medicine safely.

<p>ciprofloxacin (<i>Ciloxan, Cipro, Ciprobay</i>)</p> <p><small>Ciprofloxacin is a strong antibiotic of the quinolone family that is used to treat skin and kidney infections, and some STIs like chancroid.</small></p>		
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> <p>Tablets: 250, 500, or 750 mg</p>	<p>Warning!</p> <p>This medicine reacts with caffeine (in coffee, chocolate, cola drinks etc.) making the caffeine even stronger. Do not take with dairy products.</p>	
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> <p>For chancroid or bloody diarrhea with fever: 500 mg, by mouth, 2 times a day for 3 days (see page 274 for drug combinations to treat genital sores)</p> <p>For kidney infection: Take 500 mg, by mouth, 2 times a day for 10 days.</p>	<p>Information you should know</p> <p>Drink lots of water. You can eat while taking ciprofloxacin, just avoid dairy products.</p>	
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p> <p> Do not use if you are pregnant, breastfeeding or younger than 16 years old.</p>	<p>Other medicines that may work</p> <p>for chancroid: azithromycin, erythromycin, ceftriaxone</p> <p>for kidney infection: ceftriaxone, cotrimoxazole, gentamicin</p> <p>for bloody diarrhea with fever: cotrimoxazole, norfloxacin</p>	
<p><i>Side effects</i></p> <p> Nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, headache.</p>		

Problem Index

This is a list of health problems discussed in this book that can be treated with medicines. The problems are listed in order of the alphabet in the left column. The middle column has the numbers of the pages where you can read about each problem before taking any medicine. The right column has medicines that can be used to treat each problem on the left. To learn more about a medicine, look it up in the medicine tables that start on page 490.

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womb infection.....	97.....	amoxicillin, ampicillin, azithromycin, ceftriaxone, doxycycline, erythromycin, gentamicin, metronidazole, spectinomycin
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List of Medicines

This list of medicines has two different kinds of names—brand (commercial) names and generic (scientific) names. You can look up the the name of a medicine you want to use here to find the page number in the Medicines Pages where you can learn more about it. Brand names are shown *in slanted letters like this*. Brand names have the generic name of the medicine next to it.

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acetaminophen or paracetamol (APAP, Panadol, Tempra, Tylenol, others)

Acetaminophen and paracetamol are 2 names for the same drug that is used to ease pain and lower fever. It is one of the safest pain killers. It does not cause stomach irritation and can be used instead of aspirin by people with stomach ulcers. It can also be used by pregnant women. **See paracetamol, page 511.**

acyclovir (Zovirax)

CAUTION



Acyclovir is a medicine that kills viruses and is used to fight herpes, which can cause painful blisters on the genitals, anus, and in the mouth; and shingles, an infection common in people with HIV. Acyclovir will not stop herpes from coming back, but it makes it less painful and keeps it from spreading.

In what forms does this medicine come?



Tablets:
200 or 800 mg
Ointment: 5%

Who should not take this medicine?



Someone with kidney damage.

How much and when to take



For genital herpes infection or cold sores: Take 200 mg by mouth 5 times a day, or 400 mg by mouth 3 times a day, for 7 to 10 days. **For cold sores:** Apply ointment on sores 6 times a day for 7 days. Wash hands immediately.

For shingles: Take 800 mg by mouth 5 times a day for 7 to 10 days.

Information you should know



To shorten the duration and severity of herpes sores, start taking acyclovir as soon as signs start to appear.

Side effects



May sometimes cause headache, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea..

Signs of taking too much



Headache, loss of memory, nausea, cannot pass urine.

adrenaline or epinephrine (Adrenalin)

Adrenaline and epinephrine are two names for the same drug. It is used for severe allergic reactions or allergic shock, for example, allergic reaction to penicillin. It is also used for severe asthma attacks. **See epinephrine, page 500.**

amoxicillin (Amoxifar, Amoxil, Himox, Megamox, Sumoxil)

Amoxicillin is an antibiotic of the penicillin family used to treat some sexually transmitted infections, pneumonia, and other infections. Because of high levels of drug resistance, it is less useful than previously.

In what forms does this medicine come?



Tablets: 250 and 500 mg
Liquid: 125, 200, 250 or 400 mg per 5 ml

Who should not take this medicine?



Do not use if allergic to medicines of the penicillin family.

How much and when to take



For chlamydia: 500 mg, by mouth, 3 times a day for 7 days (for drug combinations to treat vaginal discharge, see page 268).

For pelvic inflammatory disease: 500 mg, by mouth, 3 times a day for 14 days (for drug combinations to treat PID, see page 275).

Side effects



May cause diarrhea, rash, nausea or vomiting. May cause yeast infection in women or diaper rash in children.

Information you should know



If you do not start to get better in 3 days, look for medical help; you may need a different medicine. Take with food.

Other medicines that may work

for bladder or kidney infection: ceftriaxone, ciprofloxacin, cotrimoxazole, gentamicin, nitrofurantoin

for breast infection:

cephalexin, dicloxacillin, erythromycin

ampicillin (*Amcil, Ampicin, Omnipen, Penbritin, Polycillin*)

Ampicillin is an antibiotic of the penicillin family used to treat many kinds of infections. Because of high levels of drug resistance, it is less useful than previously.

In what forms does this medicine come?



Tablets and Capsules:
250 or 500 mg
Liquid:
125 or 250 mg per 5 ml
Powder for mixing injections:
500 mg

Who should not take this medicine?



Do not use ampicillin if you are allergic to medicines of the penicillin family.

Side effects



May cause stomach upset and diarrhea. May cause rash.

How much and when to take



For infection after abortion (drugs by injection) or womb infection: Inject 2 grams (2000 mg) into muscle or into vein, then reduce dose to 1 gram every 6 hours. Also take gentamicin or metronidazole (see page 256 for drug combinations to treat infection after abortion and page 97 for womb infection).

For fever during childbirth: Inject 2 grams (2000 mg) into muscle or into vein, then reduce dose to 1 gram every 4 hours until you can get medical attention.



Warning

If you do not start to get better in 3 days, look for medical help; you may need another medicine.

Information you should know















Take this medicine before eating.





Other medicines that may work





for womb infection after childbirth: see drug combinations on page 97.






for infection after abortion: see drug combinations on page 256.







aspirin (<i>acetylsalicylic acid, ASA, others</i>)		CAUTION 
Aspirin works against pain, swelling, and fever.		
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>Tablets: 300, 500 mg and other sizes. Low-dose tablets: 81 mg</p>	<p><i>Side effects</i> </p> <p>May cause stomach upset, stomach pain, or bleeding problems.</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>For pain, swelling or fever: 300 to 600 mg by mouth no more than 6 times a day as needed.</p> <p>To prevent pre-eclampsia: 81 mg by mouth 1 time each day after 12 weeks of pregnancy and until the birth.</p>	<p><i>Information you should know</i></p>  <p>Aspirin treats some sicknesses like arthritis and heart problems, but is usually used to ease pain and fever. It is important to find the cause of the pain or fever and cure that. If pain lasts more than 10 days or fever more than 3 days, get medical help.</p>
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p> 	<p>Avoid aspirin during the last 3 months of pregnancy except to prevent pre-eclampsia. People with stomach ulcers or bleeding problems should not take aspirin. Do not use before surgery. Do not use if breastfeeding in the first week of the baby's life. Do not give to children.</p>	<p><i>Signs of taking too much</i> </p> <p>Ringing in the ears, headache, dizziness, confusion, fast breathing.</p>
		<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for pain or fever: paracetamol for pain, fever, or swelling: ibuprofen for severe pain: codeine</p>

azithromycin (<i>Zithromax</i>)		
Azithromycin is an antibiotic of the macrolide family used to treat many STIs. It may be expensive or hard to find, but it works well against STIs that cause discharge or genital sores where many other antibiotics do not. It can be used during pregnancy and breastfeeding.		
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>Capsules: 250 mg</p>	<p><i>Side effects</i> </p> <p>Diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain.</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>For chlamydia or chancroid: Take 1 gram (1000 mg) by mouth 1 time only (<i>also take other drugs, see pages 268 and 271</i>).</p> <p>For PID: Take 1 gram (1000 mg) by mouth 1 time each week for 2 weeks (<i>also take other drugs, see page 275</i>).</p> <p>To prevent infection before an abortion: Take 500 mg by mouth 1 time only.</p>	<p><i>Information you should know</i></p>  <p>If weekly dose is used, take with food.</p>
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p> 	<p>People with allergies to erythromycin and other antibiotics of the macrolide family.</p>	<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for chlamydia: see drug combinations on page 268 for chancroid: see drug combinations on page 271 for PID: see drug combinations on page 275</p>

benzathine penicillin (<i>Bicillin L-A, Penadur L-A, Permapen</i>)			
Benzathine penicillin is a long-acting antibiotic of the penicillin family used to treat syphilis, genital ulcers, and other infections, including some sore throats. It is always given as an injection into muscle.			
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>Powder for mixing for injection: 1.2 or 2.4 million Units in a 5 ml vial.</p>	<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p> 	<p>People who are allergic to medicines of the penicillin family.</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>For syphilis: If there is a sore, inject 2.4 million Units into muscle one time only. If there is a blood test or the sores have already disappeared, then every week for 3 weeks.</p>	<p><i>Warning</i></p> 	<p>Have epinephrine on hand whenever you inject penicillin. Watch for allergic reactions and allergic shock which could start within 30 minutes.</p>
		<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p>	<p>for syphilis: doxycycline, tetracycline, erythromycin also treat for chancroid, see page 271</p>






benzylpenicillin (<i>Celindex, Hi-Do-Pen, penicillin G potassium or sodium</i>)			
Benzylpenicillin is an antibiotic of the penicillin family used to treat many serious infections.			
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>Powder for mixing for injection: 1 or 5 million Units.</p>		<p>Watch for allergic reactions and signs of shock.</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>For tetanus in newborns: Inject 100,000 Units/kg into muscle 4 times a day for 10 days. Can give with immune globulin therapy.</p>	<p><i>Warning</i></p>	
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p> 	<p>People allergic to medicines of the penicillin family.</p>	<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p>	<p>for infection after abortion: ampicillin, ceftriaxone, clindamycin, doxycycline, gentamicin, metronidazole (see page 256 for medicine combinations).</p>








ceftriaxone (<i>Nitrocephin, Rocephin</i>)		CAUTION 
<p>Ceftriaxone is a very strong antibiotic of the cephalosporin family that is injected into muscle or vein. It is used for many infections including gonorrhea, pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), kidney infections, and serious infections after abortion, childbirth, or miscarriage.</p>		
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>In vials for injection: 250, 500 mg, 1 gram, and 2 grams.</p>	<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p>  <p>Do not use if you are allergic to antibiotics of the cephalosporin family, or if you had hives or a severe allergic reaction to penicillin.</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>For infection after abortion: Inject 1 to 2 g IM or IV 1 or 2 times a day for 4 to 7 days (see page 256 for drug combinations to treat infection after abortion).</p> <p>For PID: Inject 250 mg into muscle one time only (see page 275 for drug combinations to treat PID).</p> <p>For gonorrhea: Inject 250 mg into muscle one time only (see page 268 for drug combinations to treat STIs).</p> <p>For kidney infection: Inject 1 gram IM or IV once a day for 10 days.</p> <p>For chancroid: Inject 250 mg into muscle one time only (see page 271 for drug combinations).</p>	<p>Warning</p>  <p>Watch for allergic reaction.</p> <p>Always be prepared to treat for allergic reaction and shock when injecting antibiotics.</p> <p>Other medicines that may work</p> <p>for PID or infection after abortion: ampicillin, amoxicillin, azithromycin, clindamycin, doxycycline, erythromycin, gentamicin, metronidazole, spectinomycin (see page 256 and 275)</p> <p>for gonorrhea: spectinomycin</p> <p>for kidney infection: ciprofloxacin, cotrimoxazole, gentamicin</p>








cephalexin (<i>Ceporex, Keflex, Keftab</i>)		
<p>Cephalexin is an antibiotic of the cephalosporin family used to treat breast infections, bronchitis and some skin infections.</p>		
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>Tablets: 250 or 500 mg Liquid: 125 or 250 mg per 5 ml</p>	<p>Warning</p>  <p>Watch for allergic reaction.</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>For breast or skin infection and infection after female genital cutting: 250 mg by mouth 4 times a day for 7 to 14 days. Serious infections may need higher doses, but use no more than 4 g in 24 hours.</p>	<p>Information you should know</p>  <p>If you start having bloody diarrhea with fever, stop taking cephalexin and treat with metronidazole (see page 507).</p>
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p> 	<p>Do not take cephalexin if you are allergic to antibiotics of the cephalosporin family.</p>	<p>Other medicines that may work</p> <p>for breast or skin infection: dicloxacillin, erythromycin, penicillin</p> <p>for infection after female genital cutting: dicloxacillin, erythromycin</p>
<p><i>Side effects</i></p> 	<p>Nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. In rare cases, the beginning of bloody diarrhea with fever.</p>	








activated charcoal (*Activated Carbon, Liquid Antidote*)








Activated charcoal is a specially prepared charcoal used to treat some poisonings by drugs like aspirin, acetaminophen, phenobarbitol, or other medicines or chemicals, or poisonous mushrooms. After giving activated charcoal, get medical help immediately.

<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p>	 <p>Liquid: 25 grams per 120 ml Powder: 15 grams</p>	<p><i>Side effects</i></p>  <p>Black stools, vomiting, diarrhea.</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>Take 30 to 100 g by mouth all at one time and as soon as possible.</p>	
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p> 	<p>Do not take if you have swallowed lighter fluid, fuel, kerosene or petroleum products.</p>	<p><i>Warning</i></p>  <p>Get medical help immediately. People who take too much of a drug can get very sick and may need much more help than activated charcoal.</p>

ciprofloxacin (<i>Ciloxan, Cipro, Ciprobay</i>)		
Ciprofloxacin is a strong antibiotic of the quinolone family that is used to treat skin and kidney infections, and some STIs like chancroid.		
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p>  <p>Tablets: 250, 500, or 750 mg</p>	 <p>Warning</p> <p>This medicine reacts with caffeine (in coffee, chocolate, cola drinks, etc.), making the caffeine even stronger. Do not take with dairy products.</p>	
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p>  <p>For chancroid or bloody diarrhea with fever: 500 mg, by mouth, 2 times a day for 3 days (see page 271 for drug combinations to treat genital sores).</p> <p>For kidney infection: Take 500 mg, by mouth, 2 times a day for 10 days.</p>	<p>Information you should know</p>  <p>Drink lots of water. You can eat while taking ciprofloxacin, just avoid dairy products.</p>	
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p>  <p>Do not use if you are pregnant, breastfeeding or younger than 16 years old.</p>	<p>Other medicines that may work</p> <p>for chancroid: azithromycin, erythromycin, ceftriaxone</p> <p>for kidney infection: ceftriaxone, cotrimoxazole, gentamicin</p> <p>for bloody diarrhea with fever: cotrimoxazole, norfloxacin</p>	
<p><i>Side effects</i></p>  <p>Nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, headache.</p>		




clindamycin (<i>Cleocin, Dalacin</i>)		CAUTION 
Clindamycin is an antibiotic of the lincosamide family that is used to treat infections of the vagina, pelvis, abdomen, skin, and respiratory tract.		
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p>  <p>Capsules: 25 mg, 75 mg, 150 mg, 300 mg Liquid for injection: 150 mg/ ml Cream: 2%</p>	 <p>Side effects</p> <p>Nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea can happen within a few weeks of using this medicine. If clindamycin gives you a skin rash, stop using it and see your health worker.</p>	
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p>  <p>For bacterial vaginosis vaginal infection: Tablets: Take 300 mg, by mouth, 2 times a day for 7 days. Cream: Put 5 g high in the vagina each night at bedtime for 7 days.</p> <p>For infection after abortion: Inject 900 mg into vein 3 times a day (see page 256 for drug combinations for post-abortion infections).</p> <p>For malaria in the first 3 months of pregnancy: Take 300 mg by mouth 4 times a day for 7 days. Also take 600 mg of quinine, 3 times a day for 7 days.</p>	<p>Warning</p>  <p>Using for more than 30 days can lead to thrush and yeast infections, and harm people with kidney or liver problems. The vaginal cream can weaken condoms for up to 3 days after use.</p>	
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p>  <p>If you are breastfeeding and this medicine gives your baby diarrhea, stop using it.</p>	<p>Information you should know</p>  <p>Using this medicine with erythromycin or chloramphenicol can make both drugs less effective. If you have your monthly bleeding while using the cream, do not use a tampon because it will absorb the medicine.</p>	
	<p>Other medicines that may work</p> <p>for bacterial vaginosis: metronidazole</p> <p>for womb infection or infection after abortion: ampicillin, ceftriaxone, doxycycline, erythromycin, gentamicin, metronidazole</p>	

codeine		CAUTION 	
Codeine is a pain killer of the opiate family that also calms coughs and helps you relax and sleep. Only use codeine to calm very bad coughs after you have treated the cause for the cough. Only use codeine for pain when milder pain medicines do not work.			
In what forms does this medicine come? 	Liquid: 15 mg per ml Tablets: 15, 30, or 60 mg Cough syrup: Different strengths	Signs of taking too much 	Sleepiness, stupor, coma.
How much and when to take 	For coughs: 7 to 15 mg 4 times a day, only as needed. For severe pain: 30 to 60 mg 4 to 6 times a day, as needed.	Treatment for taking too much 	Naloxone (<i>Narcan</i>) can be given as an injection to someone who has taken too much codeine. Seek medical help.
Side effects 	May cause constipation (difficulty passing stools) and temporary inability to pass urine. Nausea, vomiting, itching, headaches.		
Information you should know 	Codeine is habit forming (addictive). If you use it for several days, you will need more for it to keep working.		
	Other medicines that may work	for pain: acetaminophen, aspirin, ibuprofen for severe pain: morphine for cough: drink plenty of water; use home-made cough syrup (see page 303).	

cotrimoxazole = trimethoprim + sulfamethoxazole		CAUTION 	
(AzoGantanol, Bactrim, Coptin, Gantanol, Pologrim, Septra, Sulfatrim, TMP/SMX, Trimpex, others)			
Cotrimoxazole is a combination of 2 antibiotics (one from the sulfa family) that is used to treat bladder and kidney infections. It also helps prevent diarrhea, pneumonia, and other infections for people with HIV.			
In what forms does this medicine come? 	Tablets: 120 mg (20 mg trimethoprim + 100 mg sulfamethoxazole), 480 mg (80 mg trimethoprim + 400 mg sulfamethoxazole—called "single strength"), and 960 mg (160 mg trimethoprim + 800 mg sulfamethoxazole—called "double strength") Oral suspension: 240 mg (40 mg trimethoprim + 200 mg sulfamethoxazole) per 5 ml	Who should not take this medicine? 	Women in the last 3 months of pregnancy should avoid this medicine. If you are allergic to sulfa antibiotics, do not take this drug.
		Side effects 	Stop taking it if it causes allergic reactions like itching or skin rashes. Also may cause nausea and vomiting.
How much and when to take 	For bladder infection: Take two 480 tablets by mouth 2 times a day for 3 days. For kidney infection: Take two 480 tablets by mouth 2 times a day for 10 days.	Warning 	Take with lots of water.
For prevention of diarrhea, pneumonia and other infections for people with HIV: Take two 480 tablets every day. For bloody diarrhea with fever for people with AIDS: Take two 480 tablets by mouth 2 times a day for 7 to 14 days. For pneumonia for people with AIDS: Take four 480 tablets by mouth 3 times a day for 21 days. For children born to mothers with HIV: Give 120 mg (2.5 ml of liquid by mouth) to babies less than 6 months old; give 240 mg (5 ml of liquid by mouth) to children from 6 months to 6 years old, each day.		Signs of taking too much 	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, confusion, sweating.
	Other medicines that may work	for bladder and kidney infection: ceftriaxone, ciprofloxacin, nitrofurantoin for bloody diarrhea with fever for people with AIDS: ciprofloxacin, norfloxacin	








dexamethasone (Decadron, Decilone, Inflamm, Maxidex)

Dexamethasone is a steroid medicine used to treat allergic shock (see page 545).

<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>Tablets: 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1, 1.5, 2, 4, or 6 mg Liquid: 0.5 mg per 5 ml, or 1 mg per 1 ml For injection: 4, 8, 10, 16, or 20 mg per ml</p>	<p><i>Side effects</i></p>  <p>If the person has diabetes, it could make it worse for a few hours. Also, it might raise blood pressure.</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>For allergic shock: Inject 20 mg into muscle. If signs return, take 20 mg by mouth and repeat once if needed.</p>	<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for allergic shock: hydrocortisone</p>






diazepam (Anxionil, Calmpose, Valium) **CAUTION**









Diazepam is a tranquilizer used to treat and prevent convulsions and seizures. It also relieves anxiety and helps promote sleep.









<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>Tablets: 5 or 10 mg For injections: 5 mg per 1 ml or 10 mg per 2 ml</p>	<p><i>Side effects</i></p>  <p>Frequent or large doses of diazepam during pregnancy can cause birth defects.</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p>  <p>Use crushed tablets in water if you do not have injectable diazepam.</p> <p>For agitation or DTs during alcohol withdrawal: Take 10 to 20 mg by mouth. Repeat after 1 hour if needed. If signs continue, give every 4 to 5 hours while seeking medical help.</p> <p>For anxiety or sleeplessness: Take 2.5 to 5 mg by mouth.</p>	<p>For convulsions: Use 20 mg of injectable diazepam in the anus using a syringe without a needle (see page 87). Repeat after 30 minutes if needed, using 10 mg.</p>	<p><i>Warning</i></p>  <p>Diazepam is an addictive (habit-forming) drug. Avoid taking with other drugs that will make you sleepy, especially alcohol.</p> <p><i>Information you should know</i></p>  <p>Diazepam does not treat pain. It is very habit-forming.</p> <p><i>Signs of taking too much</i></p>  <p>Sleepiness, loss of balance, confusion.</p>
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p> 	<p>Pregnant or breastfeeding women should only use diazepam to stop seizures.</p>	<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for convulsions: magnesium sulfate for sleep: diphenhydramine for anxiety: hydroxyzine</p>







dicloxacillin






Dicloxacillin is an antibiotic of the penicillin family used to treat breast and skin infections.

<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>Capsules: 125, 250, or 500 mg Liquid: 62.5 mg per 5 ml</p>	<p><i>Side effects</i></p>  <p>Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea.</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>For breast, skin or other infections: Take 500 mg 4 times a day for 7 days.</p>	<p><i>Warning</i></p>  <p>Watch for allergic reactions or shock.</p>
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p> 	<p>Do not take this drug if you are allergic to penicillin.</p>	<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for breast or skin infections: cephalixin, erythromycin, penicillin</p>

diphenhydramine hydrochloride (<i>Bectivo, Benadryl</i>)		CAUTION  	
Diphenhydramine is an antihistamine that dries up mucus in the nose and also makes you sleepy. It is useful for treating itching and sleep problems. It is also a treatment for allergic reactions and allergic shock.			
In what forms does this medicine come? 	Tablets or capsules: 25 or 50 mg Syrup: 12.5 mg per 5 ml Ampules for injection: 10, 30, or 50 mg in 1 ml	Side effects 	Sleepiness, dry mouth. Sometimes causes nausea and vomiting. In rare cases can have the opposite effect and excite rather than calm you.
How much and when to take 	For allergies, mild to moderate allergic reaction, or itching: Take 25 to 50 mg, by mouth, 3 or 4 times a day as needed. For sleep: Take 25 to 50 mg at bedtime. For allergic shock: Inject 50 mg into muscle, repeat in 8 hours or sooner if needed (see page 545).	Warning 	Do not use if you need to be alert. Makes the effects of tranquilizers and alcohol dangerously stronger.
		Information you should know 	Only inject diphenhydramine for severe allergic reactions or shock.
Who should not take this medicine? 	Pregnant and breastfeeding women should not use this drug as a long-term treatment for allergies. People with asthma should not take it.	Other medicines that may work	for allergies: hydroxyzine, promethazine for sleep: diazepam

doxycycline (<i>Biocolyn, Doryx, Monodox, Vibramycin, Vibra-Tabs</i>)		CAUTION  	
Doxycycline is an antibiotic of the tetracycline family used to treat many different infections including STIs, pelvic infections, infections after abortions, and others. It is used instead of tetracycline.			
In what forms does this medicine come? 	Tablets: 50 mg and 100 mg	Side effects 	Diarrhea or upset stomach. Some people get a rash after staying a long time in the sun.
How much and when to take 	For vaginal discharge from an STI (chlamydia): Take 100 mg, by mouth, 2 times a day for 7 days (also take other drugs, see page 268).	Warning 	Do not take if pregnant and try to avoid if breastfeeding. Do not use doxycycline that is old or has passed the expiration date. Do not take with dairy products or antacids.
	For early syphilis: 100 mg by mouth 2 times a day for 14 days.		
	For PID: Take 100 mg, by mouth, 2 times a day for 14 days (also take other drugs for PID, see page 275).		
For infection prevention after an abortion or deinfubulation: Take 100 mg 2 times a day for 5 days. For infection after abortion: Take 100 mg by mouth 2 times a day for 10 days (also take other drugs, see page 256).	Information you should know 	Do not take just before laying down. Sit up while taking pills and drink lots of water to prevent the irritation that swallowing this medicine can cause.	
For infection after childbirth: Take 100 mg by mouth, 2 times a day until fever has been gone for 2 full days (also use other drugs, see page 97).	Other medicines that may work	for syphilis: benzathine, erythromycin, penicillin, tetracycline for gonorrhea: ceftriaxone, spectinomycin for chlamydia: amoxicillin, azithromycin, erythromycin, tetracycline to prevent infection after abortion: erythromycin for infection after abortion: see page 256	
Who should not take this medicine? 	Pregnant women and children under 8. Doxycycline can damage a baby's or child's teeth and bones. Women who are breastfeeding can take doxycycline for a short time to treat infections, but should avoid taking it long-term.		

epinephrine or adrenaline (Adrenalin)	
<p>Epinephrine and adrenaline are two names for the same drug. It is used for allergic reactions or allergic shock, for example, allergic shock caused by penicillin. It is also used for severe asthma attacks.</p>	
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>Ampoules for injection: 1 mg in 1 ml</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>For asthma, moderate allergic reaction or allergic shock: Inject ½ mg (½ ml) into the muscle of the outer thigh or just under the skin. If needed, a second dose can be given after 20-30 minutes, and a third dose after another 20-30 minutes (<i>also give other drugs, see page 545</i>).</p>
<p><i>Side effects</i></p> 	<p>Fear, restlessness, nervousness, tension, headaches, dizziness, increased heart rate.</p>
<p>Warning</p>  <p>Be careful never to give more than the recommended amount. Avoid injecting this into the buttocks, instead use the back of the upper arm.</p>	
<p>Information you should know</p>  <p>Take the person's pulse before injecting. Do not give more than 3 doses. If the pulse goes up by more than 30 beats per minute after the first injection, do not give another dose.</p>	
<p>Signs of taking too much</p>  <p>High blood pressure, fast heart beat, stroke.</p>	

ergometrine maleate, methylergonovine maleate (Anurhage, Ergonovine, Ergotrate, Methergine)	
<p>Ergometrine causes contractions of the womb and its blood vessels and is used to control heavy bleeding after childbirth or an abortion. Ergometrine and methylergonovine are the same drug. After giving this medicine, get help.</p>	
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>Tablets: 0.2 mg For injection: 0.2, 0.25 and 0.5 mg in 1 ml vial</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>For heavy bleeding after childbirth: After the placenta has come out, inject 0.2 mg into muscle, or give 1 tablet (0.2 mg) by mouth every 2 to 4 hours for severe bleeding or every 6 to 12 hours for less severe bleeding. Continue to give until bleeding stops and the womb is hard, about 48 hours.</p> <p>For heavy bleeding due to complications after an abortion: Give an injection of 0.2 mg into muscle, then give a 0.2 mg pill or an injection every 6 hours for 24 hours.</p>
<p><i>Side effects</i></p> 	<p>Nausea, vomiting, dizziness, sweating.</p>
<p>Warning</p>  <p>Do not use these drugs to start labor or make labor stronger. Never give this medicine before the baby and the placenta have come out.</p>	
<p>Information you should know</p>  <p>Do not use this drug to cause an abortion because it could kill the woman before making her abort. (<i>For abortion, see Chapter 15</i>).</p>	
<p>Other medicines that may work</p> <p>oxytocin, misoprostol</p>	

erythromycin (*E.E.S., E-Mycin, Ery-max, Ethril, Ilosone, Ilotycin*)

Erythromycin is an antibiotic of the macrolide family used to treat many infections, including some STIs, respiratory and skin infections. It can be safely used during pregnancy and is widely available.

In what forms does this medicine come?



Tablets or capsules:
200, 250 or 500 mg
Ointment: 1%
Powder for solution:
125 mg per 5 ml

Side effects



May upset stomach or cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea.

How much and when to take



For chlamydia: 500 mg by mouth 4 times a day for 7 days (see page 268 for drug combinations to treat vaginal discharge from STIs).

For breast infection, infection after female genital cutting or deinfibulation: 500 mg by mouth 4 times a day for 7 days.

For chancroid or skin infections: 500 mg by mouth 4 times a day for 7 days (also use other drugs, see page 271). **For syphilis or PID:** 500 mg by mouth 4 times a day for 15 days. Also give other drugs (see page 275).

For newborn eye-care: Use 1% ointment one time only.

For skin infection: Give 250 mg by mouth, 4 times a day for 7 to 10 days.

Information you should know



Erythromycin works best when taken 1 hour before or 2 hours after a meal. If this upsets your stomach too much, take with a little food. Do not break up tablets. Many tablets are coated to prevent strong stomach juices from breaking down the drug before it can begin to work.

Other medicines that may work

for breast infection: cephalixin, dicloxacillin

for infection after genital cutting: cephalixin, doxycycline

for STIs: see pages 268 and 271 for drug combinations

for newborn eye-care: tetracycline ointment, chloramphenicol ointment

for skin infection: dicloxacillin

Who should not take this medicine?



Do not use if you are allergic to antibiotics of the macrolide family.

estrogen (*ethinyl estradiol, mestranol*)

Chemical forms of estrogen are used in birth control pills and injections. They are similar to the hormone estrogen made in a woman's body. Estrogen can also be used to treat abnormal bleeding. It should no longer be used for problems of menopause (see Chapter 8). For more information, see the section on birth control pills, injections, and emergency family planning (see Chapter 13 and pages 522 to 524).

ethambutol (*Interbutol, Myambutol, Mycrol, Odetol, Triambutol*)

Ethambutol is used to treat tuberculosis (TB) especially where other TB medicines are no longer strong enough. It is used in combination with other drugs. See Chapter 25.

In what forms does this medicine come?



Tablets: 100 or 400 mg
Syrup: 25 mg/ml

Side effects



Ethambutol often causes vision changes in one or both eyes. It might make the area of what you can see smaller, or cause patchy dark spots or "holes" in your vision. This usually goes away when you stop taking the drug.

How much and when to take



The doses for tuberculosis medicines differ from region to region. See a health worker. (Take ethambutol in combination with other drugs, see page 389.)

Information you should know
















It is very important that you take the entire course of treatment for tuberculosis, even if it lasts for a year. If not, you might infect other people or get sick again with a kind of TB that is very hard to cure.

Who should not take this medicine?



People with serious vision problems, including cataracts, should not take this drug. Neither should people with severe kidney problems.

<h2>fluconazole (Diflucan)</h2> 	
<p>Fluconazole is a strong anti-fungus medicine that is used to treat thrush and other yeast and fungal infections. Use only if you have HIV and other remedies do not work.</p>	
<p>In what forms does this medicine come?</p> 	<p>Capsule: 50 mg Liquid: 50 mg per 5 ml Solution for IV injection: 2 mg/ 5 ml in vial</p>
<p>Who should not take this medicine?</p> 	<p>Do not use during pregnancy or if breastfeeding. Also, anyone who has hepatitis, liver disease, or kidney problems should not take this drug.</p>
<p>How much and when to take</p> 	<p>For yeast infections in the mouth or throat (thrush): Take 800 mg by mouth once only. Then take 400 mg a day for 14 days. If not better in 3 to 5 days, increase amount to 800 mg a day.</p> <p>For yeast infections of the skin: Take 200 mg to 400 mg by mouth once a day for 7 to 14 days.</p>
<p>Side effects</p> 	<p>May cause nausea, vomiting.</p>
<p>Other medicines that may work</p>	<p>ketoconazole, nystatin</p>

<h2>gentamicin (Bactiderm, Garamycin, Servigenta)</h2>		<p>CAUTION</p> 
<p>Gentamicin is a very strong antibiotic of the aminoglycoside family that is used to treat gonorrhea, kidney and other serious infections, and for pelvic inflammatory disease in combination with other drugs. You should use this drug only when the woman is vomiting and cannot keep other medicines down or no other antibiotic is available.</p>		
<p>In what forms does this medicine come?</p> 	<p>In vials for injection: 10 or 40 mg per ml</p>	<p>Warning</p> 
<p>How much and when to take</p> 	<p>For kidney infection, womb infection, infection after abortion, or infection during labor: Give this medicine according to a woman's body weight: inject into muscle 1.5 mg for every kg of weight, every 8 hours, for 5 to 10 days; or you can use the following average dose: Inject 80 mg into muscle every 8 hours for 5 to 10 days (also use other drugs, see pages 97 and 256).</p> <p>For fever during childbirth: Give 80 mg in the muscle or vein, every 8 hours. Also give ampicillin.</p>	<p>Information you should know</p> 
<p>Who should not take this medicine?</p> 	<p>Pregnant women or people with kidney problems should use this drug very carefully. Do not use this drug if you are allergic to other antibiotics of the aminoglycoside family.</p>	<p>Signs of taking too much</p> 
<p>Side effects</p> 	<p>This drug can damage the kidneys or cause deafness.</p>	<p>Other medicines that may work</p> <p>for womb or pelvic infection: amoxicillin, ampicillin, azithromycin, ceftriaxone, doxycycline, erythromycin, metronidazole, spectinomycin</p> <p>for infection after abortion: ampicillin, ceftriaxone, clindamycin, doxycycline, metronidazole</p> <p>for kidney infection: ceftriaxone, ciprofloxacin, cotrimoxazole</p>

gentian violet (*Crystal Violet, methylrosanilinium chloride*)

Gentian violet is a disinfectant used to help fight infections of the skin, mouth, and vagina.

In what forms does this medicine come?



Liquid: 0.5%, 1%, 2%
Tincture: 0.5%
Crystals: 1 teaspoon in ½ liter of water makes a 2% liquid.

Side effects



Long-term use causes irritation. Use on a sore or on broken skin may stain that skin purple when it heals.

How much and when to take



For vaginal yeast infections: Soak clean cotton with 1% liquid and place high in the vagina overnight for 3 nights. Be sure to remove the cotton every morning.

For yeast infections in the mouth (thrush): Rinse the mouth with 1% liquid for 1 minute 2 times a day, but do not swallow.

For skin infections: First wash with soap and water, and dry. Then paint on skin, mouth, or vulva 3 times a day for 5 days.

For skin infections for people with AIDS: First wash with soap and water, and dry. Then paint on skin, mouth, or vulva 2 times a day until rash is gone.



Warning

Do not have sex while you are using gentian violet for a vaginal infection, to avoid passing the infection to your partner. Stop using gentian violet if it starts to irritate you. Keep it away from eyes.

Information you should know



After putting this in an infant's mouth, turn the baby face down so it does not swallow too much. Gentian violet will stain your skin and clothes purple.

Other medicines that may work

for skin infections: antibiotic ointments, iodine
for thrush in the mouth: lemon (*not for babies*), nystatin
for vaginal yeast infections: nystatin, miconazole, clotrimazole

hepatitis B vaccine (*Engerix-B, Recombivax HB*)

This vaccine provides life-long immunity to Hepatitis B. It is given in 3 separate doses: the 2nd dose is given 1 to 2 months after the first dose; and the 3rd dose is given 4 to 12 months after the 2nd dose. **Must be stored at 2 to 3° C or it loses its strength. Doses for these 2 brands of the vaccine are different:**

Engerix-B: children 0 to 11 years, 10 ucg; children 12 to 19 years and adults, 20 ucg

Recombivax HB: children 0 to 11 years old, 2.5 ucg; children 12 to 19 years, 5 ucg; adults 10 ucg

hydrocortisone or cortisol (*Eczacort, Hycotil, Solu-Cortef, others*)

CAUTION



Hydrocortisone is an anti-swelling and anti-itch medicine used to treat rashes. It is also useful for treating hemorrhoids (piles). In its injection form and as tablets it is an important drug for treating allergic shock.

In what forms does this medicine come?



Cream or ointment: in many strengths, often 1%
Tablets: 5, 10, and 20 mg
Liquid for injection and powder for mixing for injection: various strengths



Warning

Do not use cream with a bandage covering it. Pregnant and breastfeeding women should use tablets with caution, but can safely use cream.

How much and when to take



For rash, itching or piles: Apply cream directly on skin 3 or 4 times a day.
For allergic shock: Inject 500 mg into muscle, repeat in 4 hours

if needed (*also give other drugs, see page 545*). If signs return later, take 500 to 1000 mg by mouth and repeat once if needed.

Signs of taking too much



High blood pressure, passing more urine than usual.







Side effects










Cream may cause thinning and scarring of skin if used for more than 10 days.

Other medicines that may work

for allergic shock: dexamethasone, diphenhydramine
for allergies or itching: diphenhydramine

hydroxyzine (<i>Atarax, Iterax, Marax, My-Pam, Vistaril</i>)		CAUTION 	
Hydroxyzine is an antihistamine used for allergic reactions, to control itching, and sometimes to treat nausea, vomiting, and anxiety.			
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p>  <p>Tablets: 25, 50, or 100 mg For injection: 25 or 50 mg per 5 ml Syrup: 10 or 25 mg per 5 ml</p>	<p><i>Side effects</i> </p> <p>Causes dry mouth, sleepiness, and may cause loss of appetite.</p>		
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p>  <p>For itching: Take 25 to 50 mg by mouth 3 or 4 times a day. To relieve anxiety: Take 25 to 50 mg by mouth 4 times a day.</p> <p>For moderate allergic reactions or hives: Inject into muscle: 25 mg 3 or 4 times a day</p>	<p><i>Signs of taking too much</i> </p> <p>Sleepiness</p>		
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p>  <p>Do not use during first 3 months of pregnancy. In the rest of pregnancy or if breastfeeding, use only if there is no other choice. Do not use this drug if you must stay alert.</p>	<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for itching, allergy or allergic shock: diphenhydramine, promethazine for anxiety: diazepam</p>		

ibuprofen (<i>Actiprofen, Advil, Genpril, Motrin, Nuprin, Rufen, others</i>)		CAUTION 	
Ibuprofen works against pain, swelling, and fever. It is very useful to relieve discomfort during monthly bleeding and pain from arthritis and AIDS.			
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p>  <p>Tablets: 200 mg and larger Liquid: 100 mg per 5 ml</p>	<p><i>Warning</i> </p> <p>Avoid taking within a week of surgery.</p>		
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p>  <p>Take 200 to 400 mg 4 to 6 times a day. Do not take more than 2400 mg daily.</p>	<p><i>Information you should know</i> </p> <p>Causes less irritation if taken with food, especially dairy products, at mealtimes.</p>		
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p>  <p>People with stomach ulcers. Pregnant women during the last 3 months of pregnancy.</p>	<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for pain, swelling and fever: aspirin for pain and fever: acetaminophen for severe pain: codeine, morphine</p>		
<p><i>Side effects</i> </p> <p>May cause stomach irritation or pain. Take with food.</p>			

isoniazid (*Bisonid, INH, Isoniazidum, isonicotinic acid hydrazide, Odinah, Zidrid*)

Isoniazid is used to treat tuberculosis (TB) in combination with other medicines. **See Chapter 25.** People with HIV can use isoniazid to prevent latent TB (TB with no signs) from becoming active TB.

In what forms does this medicine come?



Tablet: 100 or 300 mg
Syrup: 50 mg per 5ml

Side effects



May cause pain or numbness in arms and legs. Sometimes isoniazid may cause severe hepatitis with signs like tiredness, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, dark urine, or yellowing of eyes. If this happens, stop taking this medicine immediately.

How much and when to take



The doses for medicines to treat tuberculosis differ from region to region. See a health worker. (*Take isoniazid in combination with other drugs, see page 389.*)

For prevention of TB in adults with HIV: Take 300 mg by mouth every day for 6 months to 3 years.

Information you should know



Never take more than 300 mg a day if you take it every day, or 900 mg if you take it 3 times a week. It is important to take the full course of treatment for tuberculosis. If not, you can infect other people or get sick again with a kind of TB that is very hard to cure.

Who should not take this medicine?



Anyone who has hepatitis, liver disease, or has taken isoniazid before and had liver problems, should not take this drug.

Signs of taking too much



Nausea, vomiting, dizziness, slurred speech, blurred vision. If you take too much, take 50 mg pyridoxine (vitamin B6) 3 times a day.

ketoconazole (*Nizoral*)

Ketoconazole is a strong anti-fungus medicine that is used to treat thrush and other yeast infections. Use only if you have HIV and other remedies do not work.

In what forms does this medicine come?



Tablets: 200 mg
Also comes as 2% skin cream and 1% shampoo



Warning

Do not take if you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Do not put cream or shampoo in vagina. Take with food. Do not drink alcohol while using this medicine.

How much and when to take



For fungal infection on the skin: Take 200 mg by mouth once a day for 10 days.

For yeast infection inside the mouth (thrush): Take 200 mg by mouth 2 times a day for 14 days.

Information you should know



This medicine works best if taken with orange juice.

Who should not take this medicine?



Anyone who has liver disease should not take this drug.

Other medicines that may work

for yeast infections without STIs: clotrimazole, fluconazole, gentian violet, miconazole, nystatin, vinegar

Side effects



May cause nausea, vomiting.

magnesium sulfate

Magnesium sulfate is the best medicine to prevent convulsions in pregnant women with eclampsia.

In what forms does this medicine come?



Injections of 10%, 12.5%, 25%, or 50% solution.

Information you should know

Injecting a large amount needs a big needle and may be uncomfortable. You might want to split the dose in half and give 2 smaller shots, one in each hip.

How much and when to take



For convulsions:
Inject 10 g into muscle. After 4 hours, inject another 4 g if necessary.



Who should not take this medicine?



Women with kidney problems should not be given this drug.

Signs of taking too much



Sweating, low blood pressure, weakness, problems breathing.



Warning

Only use this drug if a woman's blood pressure is over 160/110. After giving, continue to check her blood pressure. Too much of this medicine can slow down or stop her breathing!

Other medicines that may work

For convulsions: diazepam

medroxyprogesterone acetate

CAUTION



(Amen, Curretab, Cycrin, Depo-Provera, Megestron, Provera)

Medroxyprogesterone acetate is a chemical form of progesterone, a hormone produced naturally in a woman's body. It can be used to treat irregular bleeding caused by changing hormones, especially around the time of menopause. For more information, see **Chapter 8** "Growing Older." For family planning, see **Chapter 13**.

In what forms does this medicine come?



Tablets: 2.5, 5, or 10 mg
Liquid for injection: 150 or 400 mg per ml

Who should not take this medicine?



Women with hepatitis, or cancer of the breast or cervix should not take this medicine.

How much and when to take



For heavy bleeding:
Take 10 mg by mouth once a day for 10 days. If bleeding continues, take for 10 more days.



Warning

If bleeding continues after 20 days of treatment, see a health worker. It could be a serious problem.

methyl ergonovine (Methergine)

Methyl ergonovine causes contractions of the womb and its blood vessels and is used to control heavy bleeding after childbirth. It is the same drug as ergometrine and ergonovine. **See ergometrine, page 500.**

metronidazole (*Flagyl, Methoprotostat, Metro, Metroxyn, Satric*)

Metronidazole is used for vaginal infections caused by yeast and trichomonas. It is also effective against some bacteria and amebic dysentery (see **Where There Is No Doctor**).

In what forms does this medicine come?



Tablets: 200, 250, 400, or 500 mg
Inserts: 375, 500 mg
For injection into vein: 500 mg in 100 ml

Who should not take this medicine?



People with liver problems like jaundice (yellow eyes).

How much and when to take



For PID: Take 400 to 500 mg by mouth 3 times a day for 14 days (*take in combination with other drugs, see page 275*).

For mild vaginal infections: Put one 500 mg insert in the vagina 2 times a day for 5 days.

For trichomonas or bacterial vaginosis: Take 2 grams by mouth 1 time only, but not if you are pregnant. *If you are pregnant:* Take 400 to 500 mg by mouth 2 times a day for 7 days (*to treat abnormal discharge with or without an STI, see drug combinations on pages 266 and 268*).

For womb infection after abortion or childbirth: Give 500 mg by mouth 3 times a day **or** inject 500 mg into a vein 3 times a day (*see treatment combinations recommended on page 256 for abortion and page 97 for childbirth*).

For bloody diarrhea without fever: 500 mg 3 times a day for 7 days.

For tetanus: 7.5 mg/kg 4 times a day for 10 days.

For fever during childbirth: Take 400 to 500 mg by mouth 3 times a day. Also take ampicillin.

Side effects



Metallic taste in mouth, dark urine, upset stomach or nausea, headache.



Warning

Stop taking it if you feel numb. If you are in the first 3 months of pregnancy, do not take the one large dose. But if you are breastfeeding, the one large dose is the safest way to take it.

Information you should know



Your sexual partner should also be treated. Do not drink alcohol, not even 1 beer, while you are taking metronidazole. It will make you feel very nauseous.

Other medicines that may work

for bacterial vaginosis and trichomonas: clindamycin, tinidazole

miconazole (*Daktarin, Fungtopic, Micatin, Monistat*)

Miconazole is an anti-fungus medicine used to treat vaginal yeast and other fungus infections.

In what forms does this medicine come?



Cream: 2%, 4%
Inserts: 100 mg, 200 mg, and 1200 mg

Side effects



Irritation

How much and when to take



For yeast infections:

2% Cream: put 5 g in the vagina every night for 7 days.
4% Cream: put 5 g in the vagina every night for 3 days.
100 mg inserts: put 1 in the vagina every night for 7 days.
200 mg inserts: put 1 in the vagina every night for 3 days.



Warning

If miconazole irritates you, stop using it. Avoid having sex for 3-4 days so you do not pass it to your partner. Keep it out of your eyes.

Other medicines that may work

for yeast infections: nystatin, clotrimazole, fluconazole, gentian violet or ketoconazole

mifepristone (*Mifegyne, Mifeprex*) and misoprostol (*Cytotec*)

Mifepristone is used for medical abortion. It blocks the effects of the hormone that maintains pregnancy. Taken together with misoprostol up to 10 weeks of pregnancy, mifepristone is very effective in causing a complete abortion. Misoprostol makes the womb contract and expel the pregnancy.

Taking misoprostol by itself is also effective, but it is more effective when both medicines are used together. Misoprostol can also be used to stop bleeding after childbirth or incomplete abortion, or if the placenta takes more than 1 hour to come out. It is also used for stomach ulcers.

Before taking these medicines, read the chapter "Abortion and Complications from Abortion."

In what forms do these medicines come?



mifepristone: Tablets, 200 mg
misoprostol: Tablets, 100 or 200 mcg

Side effects



It is normal to have painful cramping and heavy bleeding with clots for 3 to 6 hours after taking misoprostol. You may also have nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, and slight fever in the first few hours. These signs will go away on their own. Bleeding lasts 2 to 4 weeks but gets lighter after 1 to 2 weeks.

How to take mifepristone with misoprostol:



For medical abortion until 10 weeks (70 days) of pregnancy: Swallow 200 mg mifepristone. After 24 to 48 hours, insert 800 micrograms (mcg) misoprostol in the vagina, **or** dissolve 800 mcg misoprostol inside the mouth, against the cheek **or** under the tongue for about 30 minutes. Then swallow what is left.

Do not take these medicines if you cannot get to a clinic or hospital within one hour, especially if more than 10 weeks pregnant, **or if you think you have a pregnancy in the tube** (see page 73).



Warning

If you have continued heavy bleeding (soaking more than 2 cloths or large pads in 1 hour for 2 hours in a row) especially with dizziness or lightheadedness, **get medical care immediately**. You may have an incomplete abortion (see page 251) and need an MVA or D and C (see page 244).

How to take misoprostol by itself:



For medical abortion until 10 weeks (70 days) of pregnancy: Dissolve 800 mcg inside the mouth, against the cheek or under the tongue, for about 30 minutes. Then swallow what is left. 3 hours later, dissolve and swallow another 800 mcg the same way or insert 800 mcg deep in the vagina. If bleeding does not start after 3 more hours, insert another 800 mcg in the vagina, **or** dissolve and swallow another 800 mcg for a total of 2400 mcg.








For heavy bleeding after giving birth: Dissolve 600 mcg inside the mouth, against the cheek or under the tongue, for about 30 minutes. Then swallow what is left. If the woman cannot swallow, insert tablets in her rectum where they will dissolve and be absorbed. Wear a glove.








For incomplete abortion, or if the placenta takes more than 1 hour to come out: dissolve 400 mcg misoprostol against the cheek or under the tongue for about 30 minutes, 1 time only. **Or** swallow 600 mcg misoprostol, 1 time only.





Information you should know













Taking misoprostol, with or without mifepristone, is more effective the earlier it is taken in pregnancy. After 10 weeks it becomes less effective and there are more side effects, especially heavy vaginal bleeding.






nitrofurantoin (<i>Furadantin, Macrobid, Macrochantin</i>)		CAUTION	
Nitrofurantoin is an antibiotic used to treat kidney and bladder infections.			
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p>  <p>Tablets: 25, 50 or 100 mg Suspension: 25 mg/5 ml</p>	<p><i>Side effects</i></p>  <p>Nausea or vomiting, headaches, passing gas. To limit these, take with milk or food.</p>		
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p>  <p>For bladder infections: 100 mg 2 times a day for 5 days.</p>	<p><i>Information you should know</i></p>  <p>If you do not feel better in 2 days (48 hours), there may be a resistance to this medicine in your area. If possible, check with a health worker or take other medicines.</p>		
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p>  <p>People with kidneys that did not work well before they got an infection. Women in their last month of pregnancy.</p>	<p><i>Signs of taking too much</i></p>  <p>Vomiting, chest pains. Urine may turn dark yellow or brown.</p>		
	<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for bladder infections: cotrimoxazole, norfloxacin</p>		









norfloxacin (<i>Lexinor, Noroxin, Uritracin</i>)			
Norfloxacin is an antibiotic of the quinolone family used to treat bladder and kidney infections, and serious cases of diarrhea.			
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p>  <p>Tablets: 400 mg</p>	<p><i>Side effects</i></p>  <p>May cause lightheadedness and increase the effect of caffeine. To limit these, take either 1 hour before eating or 2 hours after eating.</p>		
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p>  <p>For bladder infections: Take 1 tablet 2 times a day for 3 days.</p> <p>For kidney infections: Take 1 tablet 2 times a day either 1 hour before eating or 2 hours after eating for 10 days.</p>	<p><i>Warning</i></p>  <p>Take with lots of water. Do not take this drug while using antacids or vitamins that contain iron or zinc. If norfloxacin gives you an allergic reaction, stop using it. Other UTI medicines are easier on the body.</p>		
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p>  <p>Women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or anyone under 16 years old should not take norfloxacin. People with allergies to quinolone antibiotics should not take norfloxacin.</p>	<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for bladder or kidney infections: ceftriaxone, ciprofloxacin, cotrimoxazole, gentamicin</p>		








nystatin (<i>Dermodex, Mycostatin, Nilstat, Nystat</i>)		
<p>Nystatin is an anti-fungus medicine used to treat yeast infections in the mouth (thrush), the vagina, or the skin.</p>		
<p>In what forms does this medicine come?</p> 	<p>Inserts: 100,000 U Lozenges for the mouth: 200,000 U Cream: 100,000 U per gram Liquid: 100,000 U per ml</p>	
<p>How much and when to take</p> 	<p>For mouth or throat infections: Three or four times a day, put 1 ml of liquid in mouth, swish around both sides of mouth for several minutes and swallow. Do this for 7 to 14 days.</p> <p>For skin infections: Keep area dry and apply cream 3 times a day until rash is gone.</p> <p>For vaginal infections: Put cream inside the vagina twice daily for 10-14 days; or put 100,000 U insert inside the vagina at bedtime for 14 nights.</p> <p>For vaginal discharge not caused by STIs: Put 100,000 U insert in the vagina at bedtime for 7 nights.</p>	
 <p>Warning</p>		<p>If nystatin causes you irritation, stop using it. Avoid having sex for 3-4 days so you do not pass the infection to your partner.</p>
 <p>Information you should know</p>		<p>Nystatin works only against candida yeast infections, while miconazole works against other fungal infections as well. Clotrimazole may be less costly and easier to use.</p>
<p>Other medicines that may work</p>		<p>for yeast infections: miconazole, ketoconazole, clotrimazole, vinegar or gentian violet</p>






oxytocin (<i>Oxtimon, Pitocin, Syntocinon, Uteracon</i>)		
<p>Oxytocin is used to cause contractions of the womb and its blood vessels to control heavy bleeding after childbirth or if the placenta takes more than 1 hour to come out.</p>		
<p>In what forms does this medicine come?</p> 	<p>For injection: 10 Units in 1 ml</p>	
<p>How much and when to take</p> 	<p>Inject 10 Units into mother in a large muscle after the baby is born. Repeat after 10 minutes if needed.</p>	
 <p>Warning</p>		<p>Do not use this drug to cause an abortion, because it could kill the woman before making her abort. (See Chapter 15, "Abortion.")</p> <p>Using oxytocin to speed up labor or give strength to the mother in labor can be dangerous to both mother and child. Do not give it before the baby is out.</p>
<p>Side effects</p> 	<p>Oxytocin can cause the womb to contract so strongly that it will not relax after and may even tear the womb. Also, oxytocin can cause high blood pressure.</p>	
<p>Other medicines that may work</p>		<p>for heavy bleeding after childbirth: ergometrine, misoprostol</p>


paracetamol, acetaminophen (<i>APAP, Panadol, Tempra, Tylenol, others</i>)		
<p>Paracetamol and acetaminophen are 2 names for the same drug that is used to ease pain and lower fever. It is one of the safest pain killers. It does not cause stomach irritation and so it can be used instead of aspirin or ibuprofen by people with stomach ulcers. It can also be used by pregnant women, and is safe at lower doses for children.</p>		
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>Tablets: 100, 325 and 500 mg Liquid: 120 or 160 mg per 5 ml Inserts: 80, 120, 300, 325, or 650 mg Drops: 80 mg per 0.8 ml</p>	<p><i>Information you should know</i></p>  <p>Acetaminophen does not cure the sickness, it only eases the pain or the fever. It is important to find the cause of the pain or fever and cure that.</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>500 to 1000 mg, by mouth, 4 to 6 times a day as needed, but do not take more than 4,000 mg a day.</p>	
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p> 	<p>Do not take acetaminophen if you have liver or kidney damage.</p>	<p><i>Signs of taking too much</i></p>  <p>Nausea Vomiting Pain in the stomach</p>
<p><i>Warning</i></p> 	<p>If your fever or pain lasts for more than 3 days, get medical help. Acetaminophen can cause liver damage if you take too much or if taken regularly with or after drinking alcohol. Overdoses can be very dangerous.</p>	<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for pain, fever, or swelling: aspirin, ibuprofen (do not take either if you are pregnant) for severe pain: codeine</p>








penicillin (<i>Betapen VK, PenVee K, phenoxymethyl penicillin</i>)		
<p>Penicillin is an antibiotic used to treat mouth, tooth, skin and many other infections. Unfortunately a lot of resistance to penicillin has developed and it is less useful than previously.</p>		
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>Tablets: 250, 500 mg Liquid: 125 or 250 mg per 5 ml</p>	<p><i>Side effects</i></p>  <p>Rash</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>For sores: 500 mg by mouth 4 times a day for 10 days.</p>	<p><i>Warning</i></p>  <p>Watch for allergic reactions and allergic shock (see page 545).</p>
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p> 	<p>Do not take if you are allergic to any antibiotics of the penicillin family.</p>	<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for skin infection: dicloxacillin, erythromycin</p>








podofilox (<i>Condylox</i>)			
Podofilox is a liquid or gel that can be put directly on genital warts to shrink them. It is safer and easier to use than podophyllin.			
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p>  <p>Liquid: 0.5 % Gel: 0.5 %</p>	 <p>If there is bleeding, swelling, or severe pain, wash it off with soap and water and stop using it.</p>		
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p>  <p>Apply liquid to warts with a cotton swab or clean cloth rolled to a fine point. The gel can be applied with a finger. Use 2 times a day for 3 days, then stop using for 4 days. If necessary, repeat this up to 4 times.</p>	<p>Warning</p> <p>If there is bleeding, swelling, or severe pain, wash it off with soap and water and stop using it.</p>		
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p>  <p>Do not use this if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.</p>	<p><i>Information you should know</i></p>  <p>Do not have sex on the days you use podofilox.</p>		
<p><i>Side effects</i></p>  <p>Redness, itching, burning or pain.</p>	<p><i>Signs of taking too much</i></p>  <p>Nausea, vomiting, trouble breathing, seizures, coma.</p>		
<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for genital warts: trichloroacetic acid, bichloroacetic acid</p>			








probenecid (<i>Benemid, Probalan</i>)		CAUTION 	
Used with some antibiotics of the penicillin family, probenecid increases the amount of penicillin in the blood and makes it last longer, increasing the effectiveness of treatment.			
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p>  <p>Tablets: 500 mg</p>	<p><i>Side effects</i></p>  <p>It sometimes causes headache, nausea, or vomiting.</p>		
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p>  <p>Take 500 mg to 1 gram by mouth each time you use an antibiotic from the penicillin family.</p>	<p>Warning</p>  <p>Use with caution during pregnancy and breastfeeding, and if you have a stomach ulcer.</p>		
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p>  <p>Do not give probenecid to children under 2 years old.</p>	<p><i>Signs of taking too much</i></p>  <p>Vomiting</p>		




procaine penicillin (<i>Benzylpenicillin Procaine, Bicillin C-R, Crysticillin, Duracillin AS, Penadur, Pfizepen AS, Wycillin</i>)		
Procaine penicillin is an antibiotic used to treat womb and other infections.		
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>For injection: vials of 300,000, 400,000 or 600,000 Units Powder for mixing for injection: 1 gram = 1 million Units</p>	 <p>Warning</p> <p>Use with caution if you have asthma. Do not use with tetracycline. Never inject this into the vein.</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>For fever during pregnancy: Inject 1 million Units into muscle every 12 hours while you take the woman for medical treatment. To reduce pain, do not inject in the same place twice.</p>	<p><i>Information you should know</i></p>  <p>When taken with probenecid, the amount of penicillin in the blood increases and lasts longer, making the treatment more effective.</p>
<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p> 	<p>Do not use this drug if you are allergic to antibiotics of the penicillin family.</p>	<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for fever during pregnancy: ampicillin</p>

progesterone, progestin 	
Progestin is a chemical found in birth control pills and injections that is similar to the hormone progesterone produced in women's bodies. It is also used to treat irregular bleeding caused by changing levels of hormones. For information about birth control pills, injections, and emergency pills, see Chapter 13 and pages 522 to 524 .	

promethazine (<i>Mepergan, Phenergan, Thaprozine</i>)		CAUTION 
Promethazine is an antihistamine that dries up mucus and makes you drowsy. It is used for allergic reactions, to sleep at night, and to help stop uncontrollable vomiting.		
<p><i>In what forms does this medicine come?</i></p> 	<p>Tablets: 10, 12.5, 25, or 50 mg Syrup: 5 mg per 5 ml Injection: ampules of 25 or 50 mg in 1 ml Rectal inserts: 12.5, 25, or 50 mg</p>	<p><i>Who should not take this medicine?</i></p>  <p>Pregnant and breastfeeding women should not use this drug regularly. Do not take this if you need to stay alert. Do not give to children under 2 years.</p>
<p><i>How much and when to take</i></p> 	<p>For moderate allergic reaction: Give 25 mg by mouth or injection into muscle. Repeat in 8 hours or sooner if needed.</p>	<p><i>Side effects</i></p>  <p>Often causes dry mouth and blurry vision. Sometimes causes twitching in body, face and especially eyes and neck.</p>
<p>For allergic shock: Inject 50 mg into muscle. Repeat in 8 hours or sooner if needed. (See page 545 for information on treating allergic reactions and shock.)</p> <p>For vomiting: Insert into rectum or inject 25 to 50 mg into muscle every 6 hours as needed.</p> <p>For sleep: Take 25 to 50 mg at bedtime.</p>	<p>Warning</p>  <p>Pregnant and breastfeeding women should take with caution. Do not drive or use heavy machines if you are taking this medicine.</p>	<p><i>Signs of taking too much</i></p>  <p>Unconsciousness, seizures.</p>
		<p><i>Other medicines that may work</i></p> <p>for allergy or allergic reaction: diphenhydramine, hydroxyzine</p>

pyrazinamide (<i>Isopas, Pyzamed, PZA, Zinamide, Zinastat</i>)		 
Pyrazinamide is used to treat tuberculosis (TB) (see Chapter 25).		
In what forms does this medicine come? 	Tablets: 400 or 500 mg Liquid: 30 mg/ml	Side effects  Yellow skin or eyes, rash, fever, loss of appetite, tiredness, liver tenderness, gout or arthritis. If you have any of these problems, get medical help.
How much and when to take 	The doses for tuberculosis medicines differ from region to region. See a health worker. (Take pyrazinamide in combination with other drugs, see page 389).	Warning  Pregnant and breastfeeding women should avoid this drug since its effects on the baby are not known. It is very important that you take the entire course of treatment for tuberculosis. If not, you might infect other people or get sick again with a kind of TB that is very hard to cure.
Who should not take this medicine? 	People with liver damage or hepatitis should not take this medicine.	

rifampicin (<i>Resimin, rifampin, Rifastat</i>)		CAUTION  
Rifampicin is an antibiotic used to treat tuberculosis (TB) (see Chapter 25) and other kinds of infections, including leprosy (Hansen's Disease).		
In what forms does this medicine come? 	Tablets: 150 or 300 mg Liquid: 25 mg/ml and 50 mg per 5 ml Ampules for injection: 600 mg	Side effects  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, diarrhea, cramps • Hot face, itching, rash • Headaches, fever, chills, bone pain • Yellow skin or eyes
How much and when to take 	Doses for tuberculosis medicines differ from region to region. See a health worker. (Take rifampicin in combination with other drugs, see page 389). Do not take more than 600 mg a day.	Except for yellow skin or eyes, these side effects usually happen 2 to 3 hours after taking this medicine and can sometimes be avoided by taking the medicine with food.
Who should not take this medicine? 	People with liver damage or liver disease should not take this medicine.	Information you should know  May turn urine, stool, tears, sweat, or spit a red-orange. It will stain contact lenses too. Reduces the effectiveness of hormonal contraceptives. Take the entire course of TB treatment to prevent drug resistance and infecting others.

spectinomycin (<i>SCM, Stanilo, Togamycin, Trobicin</i>)	
Spectinomycin is a strong aminocyclitol antibiotic used to treat most types of gonorrhea, but it does not work for gonorrhea of the throat. It is especially useful for people allergic to penicillin and cephalosporin antibiotics.	
In what forms does this medicine come? 	Vials for injection: 2 grams
How much and when to take 	For gonorrhea or PID: Inject 2g (2000 mg) into muscle one time only. (See pages 268 and 275 for drug combinations to treat these problems.)
	Side effects  Chills, pain or redness at injection site, dizziness, nausea.
	Other medicines that may work for gonorrhea: ceftriaxone for PID: amoxicillin, azithromycin, ceftriaxone, doxycycline, metronidazole

streptomycin

Streptomycin is an antibiotic of the aminoglycoside family used to treat tuberculosis (TB). It is given only by injection into muscle. It is used for TB in combination with other medicines. **See Chapter 25.**

In what forms does this medicine come?



Liquid for injection:
500 mg per ml

Side effects



May damage hearing or balance, and can cause a rash and difficulty urinating.

How much and when to take



The doses for tuberculosis medicines differ from region to region. See a health worker. *(Take streptomycin in combination with other drugs, see page 389).*

Information you should know

Wear gloves if you touch this medicine often because it can cause a serious rash.

Who should not take this medicine?



Pregnant women should not use streptomycin because it can cause deafness in the baby. People with allergies to antibiotics of the aminoglycoside family like gentamicin should not take this drug. People with kidney problems should use with caution.



It is very important that you take the entire course of treatment for tuberculosis. If not, you might infect other people or get sick again with a kind of TB that is very hard to cure.

tetanus toxoid (Tetavax)

Tetanus toxoid is an immunization given to prevent a tetanus infection. It can be given during or after pregnancy, or after an abortion. If a woman gets 2 injections (or better still, 3 injections) when pregnant, it will also prevent this deadly infection in her newborn baby.

In what forms does this medicine come?



Liquid for injection:
4, 5, or 10 U per 0.5 ml

Information you should know



Tetanus immunizations should be given to everyone, starting in childhood. Tetanus immunization is often given to children as part of a combined immunization called DPT, and the three DPT immunizations are equal to the first 2 tetanus toxoid immunizations. Teens and adults may get the combined Td immunization. Every country has its own schedule. The example below shows the *minimum* time in between injections for adults in one schedule.

How much and when to take



To be safe from tetanus for your entire life, you must get 5 immunization injections, and then one injection every 10 years.








For each immunization: Give 1 injection of 0.5 ml into the muscle of the upper arm.






First..... As soon as possible
Second 4 weeks after the first
Third..... 6 months after the second
Fourth..... 1 year after the third
Fifth..... 1 year after the fourth
Booster Every 10 years after last injection



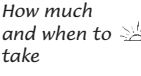


Side effects



Pain, redness, warmth, slight swelling.

tetracycline (<i>Achromycin, Sumycin, Terramycin, Theracine, Unimycin</i>)			
Tetracycline is an antibiotic of the tetracycline family. It is used to treat many infections including chlamydia, syphilis, pelvic inflammatory disease, respiratory infections, diarrhea, and other infections. Doxycycline works for all the same infections, costs less and is easier to take (see page 499).			
In what forms does this medicine come? 	Capsules: 100, 250, or 500 mg Ointment: 1%	Warning 	Do not take within 1 hour of eating dairy products or antacids. Do not take if past expiration date.
How much and when to take 	For chlamydia: 500 mg 4 times a day for 7 days (also take other medicines, see page 268). For syphilis: 500 mg 4 times a day for 14 days. For baby eye care: a bit of ointment in each eye at birth, one time only.	Information you should know 	Tetracycline does no good in fighting common colds or preventing STIs.
		Side effects 	If you spend a lot of time in the sun it can cause skin rashes. It may cause diarrhea or upset stomach.
Who should not take this medicine? 	Do not use tetracycline if you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Do not give to children under 9 years old except for baby eye care. Do not take if allergic to antibiotics of the tetracycline family.	Other medicines that may work	for chlamydia: amoxicillin, azithromycin, doxycycline, erythromycin for PID: ceftriaxone, doxycycline, metronidazole, spectinomycin for newborn eye care: erythromycin ointment for syphilis: benzathine penicillin, doxycycline, erythromycin

tinidazole (<i>Fasigyn, Simplotan, Tindamax</i>)			
Tinidazole is used for vaginal infections caused by trichomonas. It is also effective against some amoebas, parasites, and giardia. It is similar to metronidazole but you don't have to take it as long.			
In what forms does this medicine come? 	Tablets: 250 mg, 500 mg	Warning 	Your sexual partner should also be treated. Do not drink alcohol, not even one beer, while you are taking tinidazole or for 3 days after. It will make you feel very nauseous. Avoid this medicine if you are pregnant.
How much and when to take 	For trichimonas: Take 2 grams by mouth one time only, but not if you are pregnant. If you are pregnant: Use metronidazole instead.		Information you should know 
Side effects 	Metallic taste in mouth, upset stomach or nausea, headache.	Other medicines that may work	for trichimonas: metronidazole

trichloroacetic acid, bichloroacetic acid			
Either trichloroacetic acid or bichloroacetic acid can be used to treat genital warts.			
In what forms does this medicine come? 	Liquids in strengths between 10% and 35%	Warning 	Use very carefully. It can burn normal skin badly enough to cause a scar.
How much and when to take 	Put only on wart once a week for 1 to 3 weeks as needed.	Information you should know 	First protect the area around the wart with petroleum gel. Then put on trichloroacetic acid. It will hurt for 15 to 30 minutes. If it spills onto healthy skin, wash it off with soap and water. You can also put baby powder (talc) or baking soda on spills.
		Side effects 	Trichloroacetic acid will hurt or destroy normal skin if spilled.

MEDICINES FOR AIDS – ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY (ART)

(see also pages 291 and 292)

Certain medicines can help people with HIV live longer and healthier lives. Taken daily as a combination of at least 3 medicines, this is called Antiretroviral Therapy, or ART.

HIV care and ART programs

HIV is a complicated disease that affects every part of your body. As soon as you have a positive HIV test, try to find an HIV care program that can provide medicines to prevent and treat HIV illnesses, counseling and other support. They can help you start ART and manage any possible side effects. Getting drugs from an ART program is more reliable and less costly than buying them from a private source.

When is ART needed?

People who test positive for HIV and show signs that their immune system is becoming weak need ART. A blood test called a *CD4 cell count* can measure how well the immune system is working. If your CD4 count is below 350, even if you feel healthy, you should talk to your health worker about starting ART.

If you are pregnant and test positive for HIV, you should start ART even if you do not get a CD4 test.

Before starting ART, it is important to discuss with your health worker:

- Have you ever taken any ART before? This may affect what medicines you should take now.
- Do you have any illnesses or serious infections such as pneumonia? They may need to be treated first.
- Do you know about the benefits, risks, and possible side effects of ART? Try to talk to someone who is already using ART as well as your health worker.
- Are you able to take medicines every day, at the correct times? This is necessary for ART to work.
- Is a steady supply of the medicines you need available?
- Have you told at least one person that you have HIV? She or he may be able to help if something prevents you from getting or taking your medicines.
- Is there an HIV support group you can turn to for information and help?

Do not start taking ART on your own. They may be the wrong medicines for you and can have serious side effects or cause drug resistance.

Do not share ART medicines with anyone. The medicines will not work if you take less than the recommended dose.

Do not buy ART from someone who is not part of an approved HIV care or ART program.

IMPORTANT *Once you start taking ART you must continue for the rest of your life, or the virus will multiply in your body once again and you will become sick. If you do not take ART every day, at the right time, resistance can develop and the drugs will no longer work for you or for others in your community.*

How to take ART

ART is effective only in combinations (regimens) of at least 3 medicines. Some medicines are combined into 1 or 2 tablets or capsules so there are fewer pills to take. This makes taking medicines every day easier. The 4 combinations described on the next page are widely available, have fewer side effects, and are safer. Depending on what is available, other combinations of medicines may be used where you live.

- Whatever combination you use, **take each medicine every day, at the same time of day.**
- Twice-a-day medicines should be taken every 12 hours. For example, if you take the first dose at 6:00 in the morning, then the second dose should be taken at 6:00 in the evening. Some medicines need to be taken only once a day (see page 476).

Side effects of ART

ART can have side effects. Some side effects decrease and go away completely with time. Others appear only after you have taken a medicine for a long time. Some common side effects are bothersome but are not serious, such as diarrhea, tiredness, headaches, and stomach problems. Talk to your health worker about how to handle these problems. But keep taking all your medicines until your health worker tells you to change or stop.

Other side effects can be life-threatening, such as severe liver problems, severe tiredness with shortness of breath, skin allergies and rashes, tingling or burning in the hands and feet, and anemia. **If you have serious side effects, see a health worker right away.**

Drug resistance – first and second line combinations

The ART you start on is called a first line combination, or first line regimen. Over a period of years, HIV can become resistant to ART (see page 481). Many people may need to switch to a second line of drugs. Talk to your health worker about which drugs work in your area and if you need to change.

Updated recommendations

These recommendations for ART are based on information as of April 2019.

Changes in drugs: Any of the combinations on page 519 may be available as one pill, taken once daily.

- Combinations with dolutegravir (DTG) are recommended for all women, but it is unclear if DTG might cause birth defects, so women of child-bearing age may wish to avoid it.
- Combinations with efavirenz (EFV) are now recommended for all women, including women who are pregnant or breastfeeding.
- Emtricitabine (FTC) can substitute for lamivudine (3TC) in combinations that include tenofovir (TDF) or dolutegravir (DTG). The dose for FTC and 3TC in those combinations is the same.

Changes in when to start: People with HIV should start ART early while they are still healthy to avoid serious illnesses. HIV positive people should start treatment, even if no CD4 test is available.

Changes in who to treat: All pregnant, HIV positive women should start treatment. ART should also be started for anyone with HIV **and** active TB or hepatitis B infection, no matter what their CD4 count is, or whether they have advanced HIV disease.

ART Combinations for adults and adolescents (not for children under 10 years old)

Combination 1		
Medicines	Dose	Things you should know
• tenofovir (TDF)	300 mg once a day	Can cause kidney problems
• lamivudine (3TC) or emtricitabine (FTC)	150 mg 2 times a day, or 300 mg once a day	
• dolutegravir (DTG)	50 mg once a day	Take 50 mg 2 times a day if you are also taking rifampicin for TB
or efavirenz (EFV)	400 or 600 mg once a day	Better choice if planning to get pregnant, if you have Hep B or C or liver problems. Makes hormonal birth control less effective.
Combination 2		
Medicines	Dose	Things you should know
• zidovudine (AZT)	250 to 300 mg 2 times a day	Anemia Low white blood count
• lamivudine (3TC)	150 mg 2 times a day, or 300 mg once a day	
• efavirenz (EFV)	600 mg once a day	Makes hormonal birth control less effective. Good choice for people with kidney disease and people over 50 years old.
Combination 3		
Medicines	Dose	Things you should know
• tenofovir (TDF)	300 mg once a day	Can cause kidney problems
• lamivudine (3TC) or emtricitabine (FTC)	150 mg 2 times a day, or 300 mg once a day	
• Atazanavir + ritonavir (ATV/r) or Darunavir + ritonavir (DRV/r) or Lopinavir + ritonavir (LPV/r)	300 mg + 100 mg once a day 800 mg + 100 mg once a day or 600 mg + 100 mg 2 times a day 400 mg + 100 mg 2 times a day	Not for people with Hep B or C or liver disease; not for people allergic to sulfa medicines; makes hormonal birth control less effective; take 800 mg + 200 mg 2 times a day if you are also taking rifampicin for TB. May cause diarrhea.

ART for pregnant women

All pregnant women who have HIV should start ART to maintain or improve their health. ART will also help prevent HIV from spreading to the baby. Once a pregnant woman starts an ART combination, she should continue for the rest of her life.

A woman who is already on ART when she becomes pregnant should continue taking it throughout her pregnancy, during the birth, while breastfeeding, and after. When her baby is born, he will also need medicines.

Preventing Mother-to-Child Transmission, or PMTCT

To prevent HIV spreading to her baby, a pregnant woman with HIV needs to take ART medicines during pregnancy, labor, and breastfeeding. The baby will also need medicines. Medicines are only one part of preventing HIV in a baby. Safer sex during pregnancy, safe birth practices, careful feeding of the baby and treatment of illnesses in both mother and child are also important to prevent babies from getting HIV.

ART medicines to prevent HIV in babies (mother-to-child transmission)

If the mother **IS** already taking ART, she should continue taking her medicines and also give the baby the medicines listed in Option 1.

If the mother **IS NOT** taking ART, she and her baby should take the medicines listed in Option 1 or in Option 2. Use medicines recommended and available in your country.

Option 1

FOR THE MOTHER

Start taking one of the combinations of ART as soon as possible. You will need to take ART medicines every day for the rest of your life.

FOR THE BABY

Whether or not the baby is breastfeeding, the baby should be given:

- AZT (ZDV, zidovudine), oral suspension, 4 mg/kg, 2 times a day for 6 weeks, **OR**
- NVP (nevirapine), oral suspension, 2 mg/kg, once a day for 6 weeks.

Option 2

FOR THE MOTHER

During pregnancy, starting as soon as possible from 14 weeks of becoming pregnant she should take:

- AZT (ZDV, zidovudine), 300 mg, 2 times a day.

During labor, she should take:

- NVP (nevirapine), 200 mg, in a single dose when labor starts, **AND**
- 3TC (lamivudine), 150 mg, when labor starts, and every 12 hours until the baby is born, **AND**
- continue taking AZT (ZDV, zidovudine), 300 mg, 2 times a day.

After the birth, she should continue taking for 7 days:

- 3TC (lamivudine), 150 mg, 2 times a day, **AND**
- AZT (ZDV, zidovudine), 300 mg, 2 times a day.

FOR THE BABY

Immediately after birth, the baby should be given:

- NVP (nevirapine), 2 mg/kg oral suspension (or 6 mg)

If the mother **IS TAKING ART**, continue giving the baby this NVP dose every day for 6 weeks.

If the mother is **NOT TAKING ART and is NOT breastfeeding**, continue giving the baby this NVP dose every day for 6 weeks.

If the mother is **NOT TAKING ART and IS breastfeeding**, continue giving the baby this NVP dose every day until 1 week after she stops breastfeeding.

Preventing HIV right after a woman has been exposed to it

When a woman is exposed to HIV, for example when a health worker is stuck with a needle or a woman is raped by someone who probably has HIV, it is sometimes possible to prevent getting HIV by taking ART medicines for a short time. This is called Post Exposure Prophylaxis, or PEP.

If you think you have been exposed to HIV (see page 285 for information about how HIV is spread), talk with a health worker you trust as soon as possible about whether starting PEP is the best decision for you. You should start taking PEP medicines within a few hours, and no later than 3 days after exposure. Start one of the ART combinations on page 519, preferably Combination 1 or Combination 4. Other combinations may be available and recommended in your area. Whatever combination you use, take the medicines for 28 days.

ORAL CONTRACEPTIVES (BIRTH CONTROL PILLS)

Most birth control pills contain 2 hormones similar to the hormones that a woman's body normally makes. These hormones are called estrogen and progestin. Usually, brands that contain a smaller amount of both hormones are the safest and work best for most women.



Birth control pills come in different strengths of each hormone and are sold under many different brand names. We list only a few brands in the chart below. Groups 1, 2, and 3 list different types of combined pills.

Group 1 - Triphasic pills

These contain low amounts of both estrogen and progestin in a mix that changes throughout the month. Since the amounts change, it is important to take the pills in order.

<u>Brand names:</u>	Gracial	Qlaira	Trinordiol	Triquilar
	Logynon	Synphase	Trinovium	Triphasil

Group 2 - Low dose pills

These contain low amounts of estrogen and progestin in a mix that stays the same throughout the month.

<u>Brand names:</u>	Alesse	Diane	Harmonet	Ovysmen 1/35
	Brevicon 1 + 35	Femoden	Norinyl	
	Cilest	Gynera	Ortho-Novum	

Group 3 - Low dose pills

These pills are high in progestin and low in estrogen.

<u>Brand names:</u>	Lo-Femenal	Microgynon	Nordette
	Lo-Ovral	Microvlar	

As a rule, women who take birth control pills have less heavy monthly bleeding. This may be a good thing, especially for women who are anemic. But if a woman misses her monthly bleeding for months or is disturbed by the very light monthly bleeding, she can change to a brand with more estrogen from Group 2.

To assure effectiveness and minimize spotting (small amounts of bleeding at other times than your normal monthly bleeding), take the pill at the same time each day. If spotting continues after 3 or 4 months, try one of the brands in Group 3.

For a woman who has very heavy monthly bleeding or whose breasts become painful before her monthly bleeding begins, a brand low in estrogen but high in progestin may be better. These pills are found in Group 3.

Progestin-only pills should be taken at the same time every day, even during monthly bleeding. Menstrual bleeding is often irregular. There is also an increased chance of pregnancy if a woman forgets to take even one pill.



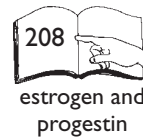
Group 4 - Progestin-only pills (minipills)

Minipills contain only progestin.

<u>Brand names:</u>	Femulen	Micronor	Neogest	Ovrette
	Microlut	Micronovum	Microval	

Emergency family planning (EC, emergency contraceptive pills)

You can use regular birth control pills or special emergency pills to prevent pregnancy within 5 days after unprotected sex. The number of pills you need to take depends on the amount of estrogen or progestin each pill contains. There are many brands of pills, and some brand names are used for more than one type of pill. The chart on the next page lists only a few common brands for each type of pill. Make sure you know the amount of hormone in the pills before you use them in an emergency.



How to take pills for emergency family planning

Pills for emergency family planning		
Emergency pills containing 1.5 mg (1500 mcg) levonorgestrel (<i>Norlevo 1.5, Plan B One-Step, Postinor-1</i>)	Take one pill, one time only	
Emergency pills containing 30 mg ulipristal acetate (<i>Ella, Ella One</i>)	Take one pill, one time only	
Emergency pills containing 0.75 mg (750 mcg) levonorgestrel (<i>Norlevo 0.75, Optinor, Postinor, Postinor-2, Plan B</i>)	Take 2 pills, one time only	
Emergency pills containing 50 mcg ethinyl estradiol and 250 mcg levonorgestrel (<i>Tetragynon</i>)	Take 2 pills	Take 2 more pills 12 hours later
Combined pills containing 50 mcg ethinyl estradiol and 250 mcg levonorgestrel (<i>Neogynon, Nordiol</i>) or 500 mcg norgestrel (<i>Ovral</i>)	Take 2 pills	Take 2 more pills 12 hours later
Combined pills containing 30 mcg ethinyl estradiol and 150 mcg levonorgestrel (<i>Microgynon, Nordette</i>) or 300 mcg norgestrel (<i>Lo-Femenal, Lo/Ovral</i>)	Take 4 pills	Take 4 more pills 12 hours later
Combined pills containing 20 mcg ethinyl estradiol and 100 mcg levonorgestrel (<i>Alesse, Lutera</i>)	Take 5 pills	Take 5 more pills 12 hours later
Progestin-only pills (<i>minipills</i>) containing 75 mcg norgestrel (<i>Ovrette</i>)	Take 40 pills one time only	
Progestin-only pills (<i>minipills</i>) containing 37.5 mcg levonorgestrel (<i>Neogest</i>)	Take 40 pills one time only	
Progestin-only pills (<i>mini pills</i>) containing 30 mcg levonorgestrel (<i>Microlut, Microval</i>)	Take 50 pills one time only	

With a pack of 28 pills, use any of the first 21 pills for emergency contraception. Do not use the last 7 pills in a 28-day pack, because these pills do not contain any hormones.

Progestin-only pills and special emergency pills have fewer side effects (headaches and nausea) than combined pills used for emergency family planning.