



# DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

## Division of Public Health

**ANY SEXUAL PARTNER WHO HAS A HISTORY OF ALLERGY TO THIS ANTIBIOTIC OR THE PHARMACEUTICAL CLASS OF ANTIBIOTIC SHOULD NOT TAKE THIS ANTIBIOTIC AND SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY EXAMINED BY A HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL**

### METRONIDAZOLE (for FLAGYL) - ORAL

**USES:** Metronidazole is an antibiotic used to treat a variety of infections.

**HOW TO TAKE THIS MEDICATION:** This medication should be taken with food or a full glass of water or milk to prevent stomach upset.

Antibiotics work best when the amount of medicine in your body is kept at a constant level. Do this by taking the medication at evenly spaced intervals throughout the day and night. Continue to take this medication until the full prescribed amount is finished, even if symptoms disappear after a few days. Stopping the medication too early may allow bacteria to continue to grow, resulting in a relapse of the infection.

**SIDE EFFECTS:** Dizziness, headache, diarrhea, nausea, stomach pain, change in taste sensation or dry mouth may occur. If these effects persist or worsen, contact your prescriber.

Unlikely, but report seizures, loss of consciousness or tingling of hands or feet.

Very unlikely, but report unsteadiness, mood/mental changes, rash, itching, sore throat, fever, severe stomach pain, vomiting or vaginal irritation.

This drug may cause urine to darken in color. This is not harmful.

Use of this medication for prolonged or repeated periods, may result in a secondary infection (e.g., oral, bladder or vaginal yeast infection).

**PRECAUTIONS:** Tell your prescriber your medical history, including any allergies.

Tell your prescriber if you are pregnant before using this drug. Risks of use during pregnancy for treatment of certain infections must be discussed with your prescriber before use.

This drug is excreted into breast milk and it is recommended not using this drug while breast-feeding.

Consult your prescriber.

Avoid alcoholic beverages while taking this medication as severe stomach upset, nausea, vomiting, headache and flushing can occur.

**DRUG INTERACTIONS:** Inform your prescriber about your complete medical history and all the medicines you use (both prescription and nonprescription), especially if you take "blood thinners" (i.e., Coumadin) or phenobarbital. Your dose may need to be changed. Do not take this medicine if you are currently taking disulfiram (Antabuse) to treat alcoholism. Contact your prescriber.

**NOTES:** Treatment of certain infections (trichomoniasis), may require that sexual partners be treated as well to avoid reinfection. During therapy, refrain from sexual intercourse or wear a condom.

This medication has been prescribed for your current condition only. Do not use it later for another infection or give it to someone else. A different medication may be necessary in those cases.

**MISSED DOSE:** If you miss a dose, take as soon as remembered; do not take if it is almost time for the next dose, instead, skip the missed dose and resume your usual dosing schedule. Do not "double-up" the dose to catch up.

**STORAGE:** Store at room temperature away from moisture and sunlight. Do not store in the bathroom. If you have any further questions, please, call a pharmacist at 1-800-797-8062.