

This product is no longer marketed in New Zealand and this consumer medicine information may not be up to date. More up-to-date consumer medicine information for a product with the same active ingredient may be available on the Medsafe website.

## TRISUL PAEDIATRIC SUGAR FREE

**Cotrimoxazole (trimethoprim/sulphamethoxazole)  
240mg/5mL Suspension**



### What is in this leaflet

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This leaflet answers some common questions about TRISUL. It does not contain all the information available on this medicine. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist. All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of using TRISUL against the benefits expected it will have for you. If you have any concerns about using this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist. Keep this leaflet. You may want to read it again.

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### What TRISUL is used for and how it works

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TRISUL contains two active ingredients, trimethoprim and sulphamethoxazole. They belong to a group of medicines known as antibiotics and work by stopping the growth of bacteria that is causing your infection.

TRISUL is used to treat infections of the urinary tract and upper and lower respiratory tract.

Your doctor may, however, prescribe TRISUL for another reason. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why TRISUL has been prescribed for you.

There is no evidence that TRISUL is addictive.

TRISUL is available on prescription from your doctor.

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### Before you take TRISUL

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#### ***When you must not take it***

Do not take TRISUL if:

- You are allergic to trimethoprim, sulphamethoxazole (or any other sulphonamide – sulphur containing antibiotic) or any other ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet
- You have severe liver or kidney disease
- You have a low red blood cell count (anaemia)
- You have a low white blood cell count
- You have a low platelet count
- You plan on becoming pregnant or are pregnant
- You are currently breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed
- TRISUL should not be given to premature babies or to full term infants under 6 weeks of age.

Symptoms of an allergic reaction may include shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty breathing, swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body; rash, itching or hives on the skin.

#### ***Before you take it***

Tell your doctor:

- If you are allergic to diuretics (fluid tablets), medicines used to treat diabetes or medicines used to treat an overactive thyroid. This may increase your chances of an allergic reaction to TRISUL.
- If you have any type of blood disorder (including porphyria and glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency)
- If you have liver or kidney problems
- If you suffer from epilepsy (fits)
- If you have asthma or other respiratory tract problems
- If you have rheumatoid arthritis
- If you have malabsorption syndrome or suffer from malnutrition
- If you have a folate deficiency

### ***Taking other medicines***

If you are taking any other medicines, including any you get without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop, tell your doctor or pharmacist.

Medicines that may interfere with TRISUL include:

- Sulphonylureas, medicines used to treat diabetes
- Diuretics (fluid tablets), mainly thiazide type diuretics
- Phenytoin, a medicine used to control epilepsy (fits or seizures)
- Rifampicin, an antibiotic
- Warfarin, a medicine used to treat blood clots
- Cyclosporin, a medicine used to help prevent organ transplant rejection or to treat certain problems with the immune system
- Methotrexate, a medicine used to treat arthritis, psoriasis and some cancers
- Digoxin, a medicine used to treat heart failure or to control a fast irregular heart beat
- Procainamide, a medicine used to correct an irregular heart beat or to slow an overactive heart beat
- Amantadine, a medicine used to treat Parkinson's disease
- Zidovudine or lamivudine, medicines used to treat HIV infection

These medicines may be affected by TRISUL or may affect how well TRISUL works. You may need different amounts of your medicines or you may need to take different medicines.

Your doctor or pharmacist has more information which medicines you need to be careful with or avoid while you are taking TRISUL.

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## **How to take TRISUL properly**

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**Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or pharmacist carefully.**

### ***How much to take***

Your doctor will tell you how much TRISUL you need to take each day. The dose of TRISUL suspension will depend on the child's age and body weight. It is important that you take TRISUL as directed by your doctor. Do not take more than the recommended dose.

Take TRISUL with some food or drink. This will lessen the chance of stomach upset.

### ***How long to take it***

Your doctor will tell you how long they wish for you to continue TRISUL treatment. Most infections need treatment for at least 5 days.

Some conditions may however, may require treatment to be longer than this for the infection to go. Check with your doctor if you are unsure how long you should take TRISUL for.

## ***If you forget a dose***

If you forget a dose, skip the dose you missed and take the next dose when it is due. Do not take more than one dose at a time to make up for missed doses.

If you are not sure what to do, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Taking your medicine at the same time each day may help you to remember to take it regularly. If you have trouble remembering to take your medicine, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

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## **While you are taking TRISUL**

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Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are taking TRISUL.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist that you are taking TRISUL before you start any new medicine.

Tell your doctor immediately if you develop a skin rash or hives while taking TRISUL.

Tell your doctor immediately if you become pregnant while taking TRISUL.

If you are going to have surgery, tell the surgeon or anaesthetist that you are taking TRISUL.

If you are going to have any blood tests, tell your doctor that you are taking TRISUL.

Do not take TRISUL to treat any other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.

Do not stop taking TRISUL or lower the dose without first checking with your doctor.

Do not give this medicine to anyone else, even if their symptoms seem similar to yours.

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## **Side effects**

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Tell your pharmacist or doctor as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking TRISUL.

All medicines can have some unwanted effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the side effects.

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following and they worry you:**

- Feeling sick, vomiting, stomach upset, diarrhoea
- Oral thrush (white, furry sore tongue and mouth)
- Vaginal thrush (sore and itchy vagina, vaginal discharge)
- Headache
- Dizziness or feeling unsteady
- Muscle or joint aches
- Increased sensitivity to sunlight

**Tell your doctor immediately if you experience:**

- Skin rash
- Watery and severe diarrhoea, which may also be bloody
- Severe stomach cramps
- Unusual tiredness or weakness and looking pale
- Bruising or bleeding more easily than normal

- Signs of frequent infections such as fever, chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers
- Yellowing of the eyes or skin (jaundice)
- Passing very little or no urine
- Fits
- Redness, itching, swelling, blistering of the skin
- Severe and persistent headache
- Tingling or numbness in the hands and feet
- Cough, shortness of breath
- Depression, hallucinations

**These side effects are rare but serious. You may need urgent medical attention.**

The list of side effects mentioned above is not complete. If you should suffer from any of these side effects or any other undesired effect please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

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## **In case of overdose**

**Immediately contact your doctor or the National Poisons Information Centre (0800 POISON or 0800 764 766) or go to the Emergency department at your nearest hospital, if you think that you may have taken too much, or if anyone else has taken any TRISUL by mistake. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.** Take the container of TRISUL with you if you can.

Keep telephone numbers for these places handy.

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## **Storage conditions**

Do not take this medicine after the expiry date shown on the label or if the packaging shows signs of tampering.

Keep your TRISUL in the container until it is time to take them.

TRISUL Paediatric Sugar Free Suspension should be stored below 30°C and out of reach of children. Protect from light.

Do not store TRISUL, or any other medicine, in the bathroom or near a sink.

### ***Disposal***

If your doctor tells you to stop taking TRISUL or if the suspension has passed the expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with the remaining medicine.

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## **Product Description**

### ***What TRISUL looks like***

TRISUL 240mg/5ml Paediatric Sugar Free suspension is a pink liquid with an aniseed smell and flavour.

### ***Ingredients***

TRISUL Paediatric Sugar Free Suspension contains the active ingredients trimethoprim and sulphamethoxazole.

TRISUL Paediatric Sugar Free Suspension also contains sorbitol, polysorbate 80, carmellose sodium, alcohol, glycerol, saccharin sodium, dispersible cellulose, purified water, methyl hydroxybenzoate, propyl hydroxybenzoate, anise oil, licosoft, amaranth and ponceau 4R.

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## **If you want to know more**

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Should you have any questions regarding this product, please contact your doctor or pharmacist.

### ***Who supplies this medicine***

Distributed in New Zealand by:

Mylan New Zealand Ltd,  
PO Box 11183,  
Ellerslie,  
Auckland.

Telephone: (09) 579 2792

### ***Date of information***

2 February 2009  
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