

Hiprex

Methenamine hippurate

1g tablets

What is in this leaflet

Please read this leaflet carefully before you start using Hiprex.

This leaflet answers some common questions about Hiprex. It does not contain all the available information. 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 you using Hiprex against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

If you have any concerns about using this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine. You may need to read it again.

What Hiprex is used for

Hiprex is used for the prevention or suppression of urinary tract bacteria associated with recurring urinary tract infections

Hiprex contains the active ingredient methenamine hippurate. In the urinary tract, methenamine hippurate is slowly converted into formaldehyde, which has an antibacterial action on bacteria associated with recurring urinary tract infections.

Your doctor may have prescribed Hiprex for another reason.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why Hiprex has been prescribed for you.

Before you use Hiprex

When you must not use it

Do not use Hiprex if:

- You are allergic or hypersensitive to methenamine hippurate, formaldehyde or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet
- You have serious problems with your kidneys, kidney infections, severe dehydration, or gout
- You have serious problems with your liver
- You have metabolic acidosis (a serious chemical imbalance in your blood).

If you are not sure whether you should start using Hiprex, talk to your doctor.

Before you start to use it

Tell your doctor if:

- You are experiencing an acute urinary tract infection, or you have recurring urinary tract infections and your doctor has not investigated the cause.

If you have not told your doctor about the above, tell them before you start using Hiprex.

Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including medicines that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop. You should also tell any health professional who is prescribing a new medication for you that you are taking Hiprex.

Some medicines may interfere with Hiprex. These include:

- Sulfonamide antibiotics
- Urinary alkalisating agents (as this may reduce the effectiveness of Hiprex)

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

Your doctor or pharmacist has more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while taking Hiprex.

How to take Hiprex

How much to take

Adults and Children 12 years and over: 1 tablet twice daily
Swallow the tablet with a glass of water or other liquid. The tablet can be halved or crushed if you are unable to swallow it whole.

Hiprex can be taken with or without food.

Do not use this medicine in children under 12 years.

When to take it

Take Hiprex twice daily.

How long to take it

Continue using Hiprex for as long as your doctor has told you to.

Do not stop taking Hiprex unless your doctor tells you to.

If you forget to take it

Take your dose as soon as you remember and then go back to taking it as before. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and take the next tablet at your usual time.

Do not take a double dose to make up for a missed dose.

While you are using Hiprex

Things you must do

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, tell your doctor and pharmacist that you are taking Hiprex.

If your doctor prescribes antibiotics to treat an acute urinary tract infection, ask them if you should stop taking Hiprex.

Things you must not do

Do not give Hiprex to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.
Do not take more than the recommended dose of Hiprex.

In case of overdose

If you take too much (overdose)

Immediately telephone your doctor or the National Poisons Centre (telephone 0800 POISON or 0800 764 766) or go to accident and emergency at your nearest hospital, if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much Hiprex.

Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

Side Effects

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

All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the adverse effects. Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

Uncommon side effects: Nausea, vomiting, gastric irritation, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, skin rashes or itching, bladder irritation or difficulty urinating.

Other adverse effects not listed above may also occur in some patients. Tell your doctor if you notice any other effects.

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

After using Hiprex

Storage

Store in a cool dry place at or below 30°C, with the bottle lid tightly closed. Hiprex is sensitive to moisture.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date. Store all medicines out of reach of children.

Disposal

Return to a pharmacy any unused medicine, and any medicine past its expiry date as shown on the dispensing label or on the packaging.

Product description

What it looks like

White, oblong-shaped tablet, coded HX with score line on one surface and plain on the other face. Available in bottles of 20 or 100 tablets.

Ingredients

Active ingredient:

- Methenamine hippurate 1 g.

Inactive ingredients:

- Magnesium stearate, povidone.

Sponsor Details

Hiprex is supplied in New Zealand by:

iNova Pharmaceuticals (New Zealand) Ltd

c/- Simpson Grierson
88 Shortland Street,
Auckland 1141
NEW ZEALAND

Toll-free number: 0508 375 394

Date of Preparation

This leaflet was prepared on 14th August 2023.