

Flucloxin*

Flucloxacillin 250 mg, 500 mg, 1 g

Powder for solution for injection

What is in this leaflet

Please read this leaflet carefully before you are given Flucloxin.

This leaflet answers some common questions about Flucloxin. 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 receiving Flucloxin against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

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

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

What Flucloxin is used for

Flucloxin is an antibiotic which belongs to a group of medicines called penicillins. These medicines work by killing bacteria that cause infections.

Flucloxin is used for the treatment of skin and soft tissue infections, for example: infections in joints or within the lining of the heart (endocarditis), respiratory tract or urinary tract or middle ear infections, infected blood and meningitis. It is also used to prevent infections that can occur during major surgical operations such as heart and lung operations (cardiothoracic surgery) and bone, joint and muscle operations (orthopaedic surgery).

Your doctor may have prescribed Flucloxin for another reason.

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

This medicine is available only with a doctor's prescription.

Before you are given Flucloxin

When you must not be given it

You must not be given Flucloxin if you have an allergy to:

- any medicine containing flucloxacillin, cephalosporins, penicillin or any other β -lactam antibiotic.

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include:

- difficulty in breathing or wheezing
- shortness of breath
- swelling of the face, tongue, lips, or other parts of the body
- hives on the skin, rash, or itching.

You must not be given Flucloxin if you:

- have had liver problems or jaundice (yellow skin and whites of eyes) when you have been given flucloxacillin previously.

Flucloxacillin (Flucloxin) can cause jaundice (yellowing of skin and/or eyes) and severe liver disease that may last for a long time. This reaction is more frequent in older patients (particularly those over 55 years of age) and in those who receive the medicine for more than 14 days.

If you are not sure whether you should be given Flucloxin, talk to your doctor.

Special care should be taken in new-born or premature babies to avoid overdose or high levels of bilirubin, a chemical in the blood which can lead to brain damage.

Before you are given it

Tell your doctor if:

- 1. you have allergies to:**
 - any other medicines, especially penicillin or cephalosporins
- 2. you have, or have had, the following:**
 - liver or kidney problems
 - heart failure
- 3. you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.**

Your doctor can discuss with you the risks and benefits involved.
- 4. you are breastfeeding or planning to breastfeed.** Your doctor can discuss with you the risks and benefits involved.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you are given Flucloxin.

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.

In particular, check with your doctor if you are taking any of the following:

- Oral contraceptives that contain oestrogen - if you are using this type of medicine, you should take additional precautions to prevent pregnancy
- Probenecid, a medicine taken to treat gout
- Methotrexate, medicine taken to treat cancer or autoimmune disorders
- Aminoglycosides – If Flucloxin and an aminoglycoside are to be used

simultaneously, the two antibiotics should not be mixed together

- Certain other “bacteriostatic” antibiotics (antibiotics that stop bacteria growing but do not kill them), such as chloramphenicol and tetracycline
- Paracetamol – there is a risk of blood and fluid abnormality (high anion gap metabolic acidosis) which occurs when there is an increase in plasma acidity, when flucloxacillin is used concomitantly with paracetamol, particularly in certain groups of patients at risk, e.g. patients with severe renal impairment, sepsis or malnutrition, especially if the maximum daily doses of paracetamol are used. High anion gap metabolic acidosis is a serious disease that must have urgent treatment.
- Voriconazole and Posaconazole – the simultaneous administration of flucloxacillin with either of the antifungals voriconazole or posaconazole may lead to decreased blood concentrations of the two antifungals. An increase in dose of the antifungals may be required.
- Warfarin – medicine to prevent blood clotting
- Various laboratory tests - Flucloxin may interfere with some tests.

These medicines may be affected by Flucloxin 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 if you are being given Flucloxin.

Sodium content

Flucloxin contains sodium and should be taken into consideration by patients on a controlled sodium diet.

How Flucloxin is given

Your doctor or nurse will prepare your injection by mixing the Flucloxin Injection powder with a liquid such as water for injections, either in the vial or in another container.

The mixture is usually injected into a muscle or into a vein where it will be given slowly over three to four minutes using a syringe or drip (infusion). In certain circumstances, it can also be injected directly into an infected joint or the chest wall.

How much to be given

Dosage varies according to type of infection, severity and profile of the patient but the usual adult dose by intramuscular or intravenous injection is 250 mg every six hours.

Your doctor will decide what dose and how many times you will receive Flucloxin.

If you think you may have received too much Flucloxin, please tell your doctor or nurse immediately.

Severe kidney disease

If you have severe kidney failure you may be given a lower dosage.

If you do not understand, or are in any doubt, ask your doctor or nurse.

Be aware superinfections may occur. This is a new infection resulting from the invasion of bacteria resistant to flucloxacillin. Flucloxin should be discontinued and another therapy commenced.

While you are being given Flucloxin

Things you must do

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, tell your doctor, dentist or pharmacist that you have been given Flucloxin.

If you are going to have surgery, tell the surgeon or anaesthetist that you are receiving this

medicine. It may affect other medicines used during surgery.

If you become pregnant while you are receiving Flucloxin, tell your doctor immediately.

If you are about to have any blood tests, tell your doctor you have been given Flucloxin.

It may interfere with the results of some tests.

During prolonged therapy, your doctor should carry out periodic tests to assess kidney and liver function and blood cell formation.

Things to be careful of

Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how Flucloxin affects you. It may cause dizziness or light-headedness in some people, especially after the first dose. Make sure you know how you react to it before you drive a car, operate machinery, or do anything else that could be dangerous if you feel dizzy.

Be careful if you are over 65 and unwell or taking other medicines. Some people may experience side effects such as drowsiness, confusion, dizziness and unsteadiness, which may increase the risk of a fall.

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 have received too much Flucloxin.

Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.

Side effects

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

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.

If you are over 65 years of age you may have an increased chance of getting side effects.

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

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

Inform your doctor immediately, or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital if the following symptoms occur:

- Swelling of the face, lips, mouth, throat or hands which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing
- Difficulty breathing, wheezing and/or coughing
- Hives
- Fainting

These are very serious side effects. If you have them, you may have had a serious allergic reaction to Flucloxin. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation. These side effects are very rare.

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

- Loss of appetite
- Indigestion
- Heartburn
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Constipation

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you notice any of the following symptoms:

- Severe abdominal cramps or stomach cramps, watery diarrhoea which may also be bloody, fever in combination with one or both of the above. Flucloxin can affect the normal gut bacteria, causing a new infection (pseudomembranous colitis)
- Upper abdomen tenderness which may indicate liver inflammation or jaundice – yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes
- A sore white mouth or tongue, or vaginal itching and discharge. This may mean you have a fungal infection called thrush. Sometimes the use of Flucloxin allows fungi to grow and the above symptoms to occur. Flucloxin does not work against fungi.
- Severe headache, stiff neck and/or light sensitivity (Aseptic meningitis)
- Frequent infections such as fever, chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers
- Fits
- Blood in the urine or passing less urine than usual
- Unusual bleeding or bruising
- Itching
- Fever
- Redness and blistering of the skin
- Severe rash
- Aching joints
- Fatigue or weakness (symptom of anaemia)
- Irregular heartbeat
- Feeling faint
- A red rash commonly seen on both sides of buttocks, upper inner thighs, armpits, neck (Symmetrical Drug-Related Intertriginous and Flexanthera (SDRIFE))
- Flu like symptoms with a rash, fever, swollen glands (Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and System Symptoms (DRESS))

These are serious side effects of Flucloxin. You may need urgent medical attention. Serious side effects are uncommon.

Very rare cases of blood and fluid abnormality (high anion gap metabolic acidosis) which occurs

when there is an increase in plasma acidity, when flucloxacillin is used concomitantly with paracetamol, generally in the presence of risk factors.

Flucloxacillin may cause hyperbilirubinaemia (high levels of bilirubin in the blood). Bilirubin is produced when red blood cells are broken down. Usually, the liver processes bilirubin but in newborn and premature babies, the liver is not fully developed. High levels of bilirubin will cause jaundice and may lead to brain damage. Babies receiving Flucloxin must be monitored closely.

Flucloxin remains in the body longer in newly born babies and the elderly due to incomplete or decreased kidney function. They are more likely to experience side effects.

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

You should tell your doctor if you develop any of the symptoms above, even if they occur some weeks after you have stopped having the injections.

After being given Flucloxin

Storage

Flucloxin must be kept out of the reach and sight of children.

Flucloxin should not be used beyond the expiry date given on the vial.

Your doctor, nurse or pharmacist will be responsible for storing and preparing the Injection before use

The medicine should not be used if it shows any signs of deterioration such as going cloudy.

Store at or below 25°C.

Once the solution has been diluted the product should be used immediately.

Disposal

Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of Flucloxin no longer required.

Product description

What it looks like

Flucloxin is a white powder for solution for injection.

Flucloxin is available in packs of 5 or 10 vials. Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Ingredients

Active ingredient(s):

Each vial contains 250mg, 500mg or 1g of the active ingredient flucloxacillin as sodium flucloxacillin monohydrate. There are no other ingredients.

Sponsor details

Flucloxin is supplied in New Zealand by:

Douglas Pharmaceuticals Ltd

P O Box 45 027

Auckland 0651

New Zealand

Phone: (09) 835 0660

Date of preparation

This leaflet was revised on 07 May 2026 (based on Data sheet dated 29 January 2026).

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