

Liposomal amphotericin B (AmBisome)

What

- Fights off fungal infections including bloodstream, heart, lung, bone and joint infections

How

- Given by IV over 120 minutes
 - Administer 500 mL of saline over 30 minutes before AmBisome to prevent kidney toxicity.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Upset stomach, nausea, diarrhea, headache
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes
- Infusion reactions: Fever, chills, rigors, hypotension, fast heartbeat, chest pain, rash
- Abnormal electrolytes: Low potassium, low magnesium, low calcium, low sodium
- Kidney toxicity: Decreased urine, swollen legs or ankles

Tips

- If you are having any side effects, please inform your doctor, nurse and pharmacist.
- If your doctor recommends, take acetaminophen (Tylenol) and diphenhydramine (Benadryl) to prevent infusion reactions.
- Your doctor will check your blood tests 2 to 3 times a week to monitor electrolytes and kidney function closely.
- Drink plenty of fluids to prevent kidney toxicity.



You have been prescribed an antibiotic. This is a medication that treats or sometimes prevents infection. Please read this information about what medicine has been prescribed, how it should be taken, what side effects you should watch for and other tips.

UCLA Infectious Diseases Outpatient Parenteral Antimicrobial Therapy Team

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Azithromycin, Clarithromycin

What

- Fights off bacterial infections, such as *Mycobacterium* infection

How

- Given by IV over 60 minutes
- Taken by mouth
 - If oral form causes an upset stomach, take it with food.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue
- Irregular heartbeats
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes
- Metallic taste
- Ringing in the ear

Tips

- Let your doctor or pharmacist know if you start any new medication while taking azithromycin or clarithromycin.
- If you have any side effects, please inform your nurse, doctor and pharmacist.



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Tedizolid

What

- Fights off bacterial infections including bloodstream, lung, skin, and bone infections

How

- Given by IV over 60 minutes
- Taken by mouth
 - If oral form causes upset stomach, take it with food.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, headache
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes
- Low platelet, white blood cell, red blood cell counts: Bruising or bleeding and abnormal fatigue, tiredness, dizziness
- Changes in vision: Blurriness, color vision changes, sensation of brightness
- Tingling, numbness in hands and feet

Tips

- If you are having any side effects, please inform your doctor, nurse and pharmacist.



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Rifampin, Rifabutin

What

- Fights off bacterial infections, such as *Mycobacterium* tuberculosis and non-tuberculosis *Mycobacterium* infections, and hardware or prosthetic infections

How

- Taken by mouth
 - Take with water on an empty stomach 1 to 2 hours after food or antacids.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue
- Flu-like symptoms
- Inflammation of eye (rifabutin): Eye pain, redness, sensitivity to light, decreased vision
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes
- Orange discoloration of body fluids (tears, urine, sweat, contact lenses)

Tips

- Rifampin or rifabutin may decrease the effectiveness of certain drugs; let your doctor or pharmacist know if you have started any new medication.
- If you have any side effects, please inform your doctor and pharmacist.



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Micafungin

What

- Fights off fungal infections including bloodstream, heart, lung, bone and joint infections

How

- Given by IV over 60 minutes

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Upset stomach, nausea, diarrhea, headache
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes
- Infusion reactions: Rash; itching; fast heartbeat; sweating; swelling of face, hands or legs

Tips

- If you are having any side effects, please inform your doctor, nurse and pharmacist.
- Slowing down the infusion rate may help if you have a reaction to the infusion. Please talk to your pharmacist.



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Omadacycline

What

- Fights off bacterial infections, such as *Mycobacterium* infection

How

- Given by IV over 60 minutes
- Taken by mouth:
 - Take with water on an empty stomach.
 - Avoid food or drink (except water) for 2 hours after taking omadacycline.
 - Avoid dairy and other products that contain calcium, magnesium, aluminum, iron (such as multivitamins or antacids) for 4 hours after taking omadacycline.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, headache
- Infusion site reactions
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes

Tips

- If you are having any side effects, please inform your doctor, nurse and pharmacist.



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Linezolid

What

- Fights off bacterial infections including bloodstream, heart, lung, skin, bone and joint infections

How

- Given by IV over 30 to 120 minutes
- Taken by mouth
 - If oral form causes an upset stomach, take it with food.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Changes in vision: Blurriness, color vision changes, sensation of brightness
- Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue
- High lactic acid: Muscle aches, rapid breathing, stomach pain, nausea
- Low platelet and red blood cell counts: Bruising, bleeding, abnormal fatigue, dizziness
- Low sodium: Nausea, headache, confusion
- Serotonin syndrome: Fever, confusion, sweating, restlessness, high blood pressure, fast heart rate
- Tingling, pain, numbness of hands and feet

Tips

- Avoid foods and beverages with high tyramine content (aged cheese, fermented meat, sauerkraut, red wine, soy sauce, tap beers).
- Tell your doctor if you are taking an anti-depressant or anxiety medication.
- If you have any side effects, please inform your nurse, doctor and pharmacist.



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Pyrazinamide

What

- Fights off bacterial infections, such as *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection

How

- Taken by mouth
 - If oral form causes an upset stomach, take it with food.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue
- Large and small joint pain or stiffness
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes

Tips

- Pyrazinamide can decrease uric acid elimination; let your doctor know if you have gout.
- If you have any side effects, please inform your doctor and pharmacist.



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Isoniazid

What

- Fights off bacterial infections, such as *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection

How

- Taken by mouth
 - If oral form causes an upset stomach, take it with food.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Confusion
- Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes
- Tingling, pain, numbness of hands and feet

Tips

- Take 25 - 50 mg of vitamin B6 (pyridoxine) to help reduce side effects of tingling and numbness.
- If you have any side effects, please inform your doctor and pharmacist.



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Daptomycin

What

- Fights off bacterial infections including bloodstream, heart, bone and joint infections

How

- Given by IV over 30 to 60 minutes

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue
- Muscle aches and pain: Watch for changes in urine color
- New fevers
- Trouble breathing

Tips

- Let your doctor and pharmacist know if you take a cholesterol statin medication.
- If you have any side effects, please inform your nurse, doctor and pharmacist.



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Levofloxacin, Moxifloxacin, Ciprofloxacin

What

- Fights off bacterial infections including bloodstream, lung, skin, bone and joint infections

How

- Given by IV over 60 to 90 minutes
- Taken with food
 - If oral form causes upset stomach, take it with food.
 - Ciprofloxacin: Take 2 hours before and 4 hours after multivitamins or milk.
 - Levofloxacin: Take 2 hours before or after multivitamins or milk.
 - Moxifloxacin: Take 4 hours before or 8 hours after multivitamins or milk.
- Take ciprofloxacin two hours before and four hours after taking multivitamins or milk.
- Take levofloxacin two hours before or after taking multivitamins or milk.
- Take moxifloxacin four hours before or eight hours after taking multivitamins or milk.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue
- High or low blood sugar level
- Inflammation of tendons (pain, swelling, discomfort)
- Irregular heartbeats
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes
- Neurologic toxicity: Headache, dizziness, changes in mood or sleep patterns, confusion
- Sun sensitivity
- Tingling, pain, numbness of hands and feet

Tips

- Products with magnesium, aluminum, iron or zinc (such as multivitamins or milk) can decrease the absorption.
- Wear sunscreen and protective clothing
- If you have any side effects, please inform your nurse, doctor and pharmacist.



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Ethambutol

What

- Fights off bacterial infections, such as *Mycobacterium* infection

How

- Taken by mouth
 - If oral form causes an upset stomach, take it with food.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Changes in vision: Blurriness, color vision changes
- Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue

Tips

- Promptly report any visual changes to your doctor.
- If you have any side effects, please inform your doctor and pharmacist.
- Have routine eye doctor check-ups every 3 months or as directed by your doctor.



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Penicillin, Oxacillin, Ampicillin, Piperacillin-tazobactam, Cefazolin, Ceftriaxone, Ceftazidime, Cefepime, Ertapenem, Imipenem - cilastatin, Meropenem, and more

What

- Fights off bacterial infections including bloodstream, heart, lung, skin, bone and joint infections

How

- Given by IV over 30 minutes, IV push over 5 minutes, or as continuous infusion over 24 hours
- Dose and frequency vary depending on the beta-lactam antibiotic selected for your type of infection.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Decrease red blood cell, white blood cell or platelet counts
- Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue
- Rash, hives (itchy, raised patches of skin), itching, swelling

Tips

- Side effects may vary depending on the type of beta-lactam antibiotic; ask your doctor or pharmacist for more information
- If you have any side effects, please inform your nurse, doctor and pharmacist.



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Clofazimine

What

- Fights off bacterial infections, such as *Mycobacterium* infection

How

- Taken by mouth
 - Take with food.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue
- Dry skin, rash
- Irregular heartbeats
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes
- Orange-pink to brown-black discoloration of skin and bodily fluids (tears, sweat, sputum, urine, feces)
- Vision changes, burning sensation of eyes, dry eyes

Tips

- Skin and body fluid discoloration occurs in about 75% of patients.
- If you are feeling depressed, please let your doctor know.
- If you have any side effects, please inform your nurse, doctor and pharmacist.
- For refills, contact your pharmacist.



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Vancomycin

What

- Fights off bacterial infections including bloodstream, heart, lung, bone and joint infections

How

- Given by IV over 60 to 120 minutes

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you will need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.
- The dose and frequency may change based on your weekly drug level, which will be determined by a pharmacist.

Side effects

- Kidney toxicity: Decreased urine, swollen legs or ankles
- Infusion reactions: Redness, flushing, itching
- Ringing in the ears
- Low white blood cell and platelet counts
- Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue

Tips

- Drink plenty of fluids to prevent kidney toxicity.
- If you are having side effects, please inform your nurse, doctor, and pharmacist.
- Drug monitoring is required while you are on this antibiotic. Record the time of your blood draw then the time you infuse the medication. Your blood draw should be before you infuse the medication.



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Fluconazole, Voriconazole, Posaconazole, Isavuconazole

What

- Fights off fungal infections including bloodstream, heart, lung, bone and joint infections

How

- Given by IV over 60 to 180 minutes
- Taken by mouth:
 - Fluconazole, voriconazole, isavuconazole: Take with or without food.
 - Posaconazole: Take with food when possible.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Upset stomach, nausea, diarrhea, dry mouth
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes
- Abnormal heartbeat (fluconazole, voriconazole, posaconazole)
- Visual disturbances and troubling dreams (voriconazole)
- Sun sensitivity (voriconazole)

Tips

- If you are having any side effects, please inform your doctor and pharmacist.
- If your doctor recommends drug monitoring, record the time of your blood draw. Then record the time you take the medication. Your blood draw should be before you take the medication.



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Trimethoprim-Sulfamethoxazole

What

- Fight off bacterial infections including bloodstream, lung, skin, bone and joint infections

How

- Given by IV over 60 to 90 minutes
- Taken by mouth
 - If oral form causes an upset stomach, take it with food.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- High potassium level: Muscle cramping, chest pain, fast or irregular heart rate
- Kidney toxicity: Decreased urine, swollen legs or ankles
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes
- Low white blood cells, red blood cells or platelet counts
- Sensitivity to sun
- Upset stomach, diarrhea, nausea, fatigue

Tips

- Drink plenty of fluids to prevent kidney toxicity.
- If you have any side effects, please inform your nurse, doctor and pharmacist.
- Wear sunscreen and protective clothing



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Bedaquiline

What

- Fights off infections, such as *Mycobacterium* infection

How

- Taken by mouth
 - If oral form causes an upset stomach, take it with food.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Upset stomach, nausea, diarrhea, headache, dizziness, joint pain, dry skin
- Abnormal heartbeat
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes

Tips

- If you are having any side effects, please inform your doctor and pharmacist.
- Your doctor will monitor your baseline and ongoing electrocardiogram test.
- For refills, contact your pharmacist.



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 - Administer 500 mL of saline over 30 minutes before AmBisome to prevent kidney toxicity.

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.

Side effects

- Upset stomach, nausea, diarrhea, headache
- Liver toxicity: Right-side abdominal pain, yellowing of skin or eyes
- Infusion reactions: Fever, chills, rigors, hypotension, fast heartbeat, chest pain, rash
- Abnormal electrolytes: Low potassium, low magnesium, low calcium, low sodium
- Kidney toxicity: Decreased urine, swollen legs or ankles

Tips

- If you are having any side effects, please inform your doctor, nurse and pharmacist.
- If your doctor recommends, take acetaminophen (Tylenol) and diphenhydramine (Benadryl) to prevent infusion reactions.
- Your doctor will check your blood tests 2 to 3 times a week to monitor electrolytes and kidney function closely.
- Drink plenty of fluids to prevent kidney toxicity.



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Amikacin, Tobramycin, Gentamicin

What

- Fights off bacterial infections including lung, bloodstream, heart and more

How

- Given by IV over 30 to 60 minutes (amikacin, tobramycin, gentamicin)
- Inhaled through a nebulizer (amikacin, tobramycin)

Duration

- Your doctor will decide how long you need to take this medication based on the type of infection and its severity.
- The dose and frequency may change based on your weekly drug level, which will be determined by a pharmacist.

Side effects

- Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue
- Ear toxicity (ringing in the ear)
- Electrolyte disturbances
- Imbalance, dizziness, disorientation
- Kidney toxicity: Decreased urine, swollen legs or ankles
- Voice hoarseness, wheezing, coughing (only for inhaled)

Tips

- Drug monitoring is required while you are on this antibiotic. Record the time of your blood draw then the time you infuse the medication. Your blood draw should be before you infuse the medication.
- You will need to see an audiologist every month or every 3 months as directed by your doctor.
- Drink plenty of fluids to prevent kidney toxicity.
- If you have any side effects, please inform your nurse, doctor and pharmacist.



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