

# Medication Information

## Rifampin (Rif – AM – pin)

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### Other names for this medication

Rifadin®

Rofact®

### How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed. It must be taken regularly, until you have none left, even if you feel well.

If you stop taking this antibiotic too early, it may not cure your infection.

Tell your health care provider, including your pharmacist, about any other medications, natural or herbal products that you take – even the ones you buy without a prescription.

If you miss a dose of this medication, take it as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and take the medication at your regular dosing time. Do not take 2 doses at one time.

**Capsule:** Take on an empty stomach with a full glass of water.

**Oral solution:** Shake the oral liquid for at least 15 seconds before measuring and taking each dose. Store at room temperature, and can be used for 24 hours after being mixed by the pharmacist.

**While taking this medication you may notice:**

- nausea
- upset stomach
- diarrhea
- loss in appetite
- rash and/or itchiness
- orange colouring of secretions (such as tears, saliva, urine, stools)  
– this is not a harmful side effect of this medication

**Contact your health care provider or go to the emergency department if you notice:**

- severe abdominal pain
- dark urine
- light coloured stools
- yellowing of the skin or eyes
- significant nausea or loss of appetite
- worsening skin rash or hives
- no improvement or worsening of your infection
- a temperature higher than 38°C (100.4°F)
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- swelling of hands, face, throat, tongue or lips

This medication information handout does not list all possible unwanted effects. Keep track of changes after you start taking this medication and report any unwanted effects to your health care provider.

Your health care provider may ask you to have regular blood tests done to check your liver enzymes while on this medication. **Please make sure you have a lab requisition for this test.**

**Avoid alcohol while on this medication.**

**Pregnancy:** Use rifampin with caution during pregnancy. If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant, talk to your health care provider about the risks and benefits of taking this medication.

**Breastfeeding:** A small amount of rifampin passes into breast milk. Please discuss the risks and benefits of taking this medication with your health care provider.

**Children:** Rifampin is safe to use with infants, children and adolescents.

**Please ask your health care provider to review current medications with rifampin for possible drug interactions as there are many drug interactions.**