

# Metrolag®

DCI Metronidazole

## Efficiency

Metrolag is a nitroimidazole anti-infective and antiparasitic agent. It inhibits nucleic acid synthesis and is used in the treatment of infections caused by anaerobic bacteria and protozoa.

It is effective against, among others: the protozoa *Giardia intestinalis*, *Entamoeba histolytica* and *Trichomonas vaginalis*, bacteria of the genus *Clostridium*, including *Clostridium difficile* and *Clostridium perfringens*, *Helicobacter pylori* and Gram-negative anaerobic bacilli, such as *Bacteroides* (including *Bacteroides fragilis*), *Prevotella*, *Veillonella* and *Fusobacterium*.

Metronidazole is used in the treatment of pseudomembranous colitis, which is why it may be found in combination with other antibiotics such as related macrolides that can cause this type of disease. Metronidazole is also prescribed for the treatment of rosacea and telangiectasia.

## Indications

- The main indications for Metrolag include: Metrolag tablets can be used in cases of amoebiasis (intestinal or hepatic), *Trichomonas* infections of the urogenital tract, *Gardnerella vaginalis* infections and lambliasis.
- Metrolag solution for intravenous infusion can be used in cases of sepsis, bacteraemia, brain abscess, necrotising pneumonia, osteomyelitis, puerperal fever, pelvic abscess, parametritis, peritonitis and post-operative wound infections if anaerobic germs have been isolated.
- Metrolag i.v. can also be used to prevent and treat post-operative infections caused by anaerobic bacteria, particularly if the germ is *Bacteroides*.

## Posologies

Metrolag tablets are taken orally in doses of 250 or 500 mg. The tablets are unscored.

Metrolag can be given to children aged 6 and over, with the dosage adjusted according to the child's weight. The child must be able to swallow the tablet properly.

### *Gardnerella vaginalis* – vaginitis (non-specific)

Two treatment regimens are applicable: either 1.0 to 1.5 g of metronidazole per day (= 2 to 3 500 mg tablets) for 5 to 7 days or 2.0 g of metronidazole (= 4 500 mg tablets) in a single dose on the first day of treatment, followed by a second identical dose (2.0 g = 4 500 mg tablets) on the third day of treatment.

### The same treatment is recommended for the partner.

### *Trichomonas* infections, urethritis and vaginitis

Two treatment regimens are applicable: either minute therapy (single dose): a single dose, preferably in the evening, of 2 g of metronidazole (= 4 x 500 mg tablets) or standard therapy (10 days): for 10 days, morning and evening, take one 250 mg tablet of metronidazole each time. To prevent re-infection, the partner should always be treated with the same oral dose.

### *Amebiasis*

*Adults*: 1 tablet of 500 mg metronidazole 3 to 4 times a day.

*Children*: 40 mg metronidazole/kg body weight a day, divided into 3 to 4 doses. The 250 mg tablets are suitable for children from 19 kg body weight upwards. Duration of treatment: 7 to 10 days in the case of acute intestinal or hepatic amebiasis.

### *Lambliasis*

Five-day course of treatment:

*Adults*: 1 metronidazole 250 mg tablet 3 times a day.

*Children*: 15 mg metronidazole/kg body weight/day divided into 3 doses. The 250 mg tablets are suitable for children from 50 kg body weight.

### Intravenous infusion solution

Intravenous administration of metronidazole should be limited to patients for whom oral therapy is not possible. Oral therapy should be substituted for intravenous therapy as soon as possible. Metrolag i.v. is a ready-to-use solution for infusion.

Metrolag may be administered alone or concomitantly (but not mixed) with other antibacterial chemotherapies if these are indicated.

Prophylaxis of post-operative anaerobic infections.

## Contraindications

Pregnancy, breast-feeding, alcoholism, renal insufficiency and hepatic insufficiency (under strict control). Hypersensitivity to imidazole derivatives.

## Side effects (the most common)

Headaches, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, taste disorders, anorexia, pruritus.

## Packaging on the market

Metrolag tablets	
250 mg	20 tablets
500 mg	8 tablets
500 mg	24 tablets

Metrolag i.v.

Bag of 100 ml	5 mg/ml	10 et 20 bags
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