

Rifampin

rif-AM-pin

Brand Name: Rifadin, Rifadin IV, Rimactane

Drug Class: Opportunistic Infection and Other Drugs

Rifampin, also known as Rifadin or Rimactane, belongs to the class of medicines called antimycobacterials. These medicines prevent or treat infections caused by a certain type of bacteria.

HIV/AIDS-Related Uses

Rifampin is approved by the FDA for use with other medicines to prevent or treat tuberculosis (TB) in either HIV infected or uninfected individuals. TB is an opportunistic infection that commonly affects people with HIV or AIDS. Rifampin also can be prescribed to prevent infection in people who may have come in contact with TB or meningitis patients.

Dosage Form/Administration

Rifampin comes in capsule and injection forms. To make it easier for a child to take rifampin, the capsules can be opened and the powder mixed with a small amount of applesauce or jelly. Rifampin may also be made into an oral suspension.

Rifampin should be taken on an empty stomach, either 1 hour before or 2 hours after a meal. For a more serious infection, or in people who cannot swallow medicines, rifampin can be given by slow injection into a vein by a doctor or nurse.

Rifampin also is available mixed with other anti-TB medicines. It is available combined with isoniazid in a capsule called Rifamate, or combined with isoniazid and pyrazinamide in a tablet called Rifater.

Contraindications

Patients should tell a doctor about any medical problems before taking this medicine.

Possible Side Effects

Along with its desired effects, rifampin can cause some unwanted effects, including bloody, cloudy, or large amounts of urine; flu-like symptoms (bone or muscle pain, chills, dizziness, fever, headache, shivering, and trouble breathing); skin itching, redness, or rash; unusual bleeding or bruising; unusual tiredness or weakness; vomiting or diarrhea lasting a long time; white spots on mouth or tongue; and yellowing of the eyes or skin. Other

side effects, like diarrhea, heartburn, loss of appetite, nausea, stomach cramps, and vomiting, may not be serious and may lessen or disappear with continued use of this medicine. Rifampin may change urine, stool, saliva, skin, sweat, or tears to a red or orange color; if tears are colored they may permanently stain soft contact lenses.

Drug and Food Interactions

A doctor should be notified of any other medications being taken, including prescription, nonprescription (over-the-counter), or herbal medications.

Clinical Trials

For information on clinical trials that involve Rifampin, visit the ClinicalTrials.gov web site at <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov>. In the Search box, enter: Rifampin AND HIV Infections.

Manufacturer Information

Rimactane
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp
59 Route 10
East Hanover, NJ 07936
(888) 669-6682

Rifadin IV
Aventis Pharmaceuticals (HMR)
P.O. Box 9627 / 10236 Marion Park Dr
Kansas City, MO 64134-0627
(888) 242-9321

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Rifampin



Manufacturer Information (cont.)

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For More Information

Contact your doctor or an AIDSinfo Health Information Specialist:

- Via Phone: 1-800-448-0440 Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 5:00 p.m. ET
- Via Live Help: http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/live_help Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 4:00 p.m. ET