

# Alprim

contains the active ingredient trimethoprim

---

## CONSUMER MEDICINE INFORMATION

---

### What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Alprim.

It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have benefits and risks. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking Alprim against the benefits expected for you.

**If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.**

**Keep this leaflet with your medicine.**

You may need to read it again.

---

### What Alprim is used for

Alprim is used to treat infections of the urinary tract caused by bacteria.

Alprim belongs to a group of medicines called antibiotics. It works by stopping the growth of the bacteria that is causing your infection.

Alprim will not work against infections caused by viruses, such as colds or flu.

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

Your doctor may have prescribed Alprim for another reason.

Alprim is available only with a doctor's prescription.

Alprim is not recommended for use in children under 6 years of age, as the safety and effectiveness of Alprim in this age group has not been established.

---

### Before you take Alprim

#### **When you must not take it**

**Do not take Alprim if you are allergic to any other medicines containing trimethoprim or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.**

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include skin rash, itching or hives; swelling of the face, lips or tongue which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing; wheezing or shortness of breath.

#### **Do not take Alprim if you have:**

- \* a severe blood disorder or anaemia
- \* severe kidney problems.

**Do not take Alprim after the expiry date (EXP) printed on the pack.**

If you take this medicine after the expiry date, it may not work as well.

**Do not take Alprim if the packaging shows signs of tampering or the tablets not look quite right.**

**If you are not sure whether you should start taking this medicine, talk to your doctor.**

#### **Before you start to take it**

**Tell your doctor if you are allergic to any other medicines, foods, dyes or preservatives.**

**Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.**

Your doctor will discuss the risks and benefits of taking Alprim during pregnancy.

**Tell your doctor if you are breastfeeding or wish to breastfeed.**

Alprim passes into breast milk and may affect your baby. Alprim is not recommended during breastfeeding.

**Tell your doctor if you have, or have had, any medical conditions, especially the following:**

- \* folate deficiency
- \* kidney problems
- \* liver problems
- \* any type of blood disorder.

Your doctor may want to take special care if you have any of these conditions.

**If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell him/her before you start taking Alprim.**

## ***Taking other medicines***

**Tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you buy without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.**

Some medicines may be affected by Alprim, or may affect how well it works. These include:

- \* pyrimethamine, a medicine used to prevent malaria
- \* warfarin, a medicine used to prevent blood clots
- \* methotrexate, a medicine used to treat arthritis and some types of cancer
- \* phenytoin, a medicine used to control epilepsy (fits or seizures)
- \* digoxin, a medicine used to treat heart failure or to control a fast irregular heart beat
- \* procainamide, a medicine used to correct an irregular heart beat or to slow an over active heart
- \* zidovudine, zalcitabine or lamivudine; medicines used for certain viral infections
- \* dapsone, a medicine used for leprosy or dermatitis herpetiformis
- \* rifampicin, an antibiotic
- \* cyclosporin, a medicine used to help prevent organ transplant rejection or to treat certain problems with the immune system
- \* diuretics, also known as fluid or water tablets
- \* ACE inhibitors, medicines used to treat high blood pressure and some heart conditions.

Your doctor can tell you what to do if you are taking any of these medicines.

**If you are not sure whether you are taking any of these medicines, check with your doctor or pharmacist.**

Your doctor and pharmacist have more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while taking Alprim.

**Talk to your doctor about the need for additional contraception while taking Alprim.**

Some antibiotics may decrease the effectiveness of some birth control pills.

---

## **How to take Alprim**

---

**Follow all directions given to you by your doctor and pharmacist carefully.**

They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

**If you do not understand the instructions on the pack, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

### ***How much to take***

For adults and children over 12 years, the usual dose is one tablet daily.

For children 6 to 12 years, the usual dose is half a tablet daily.

**Do not give Alprim to children under the age of 6 years.**

There is no information concerning the right dose for children under the age of 6 years.

The elderly and people with kidney problems may need smaller doses.

Some people may need to take folate supplements while taking Alprim. These people may include the elderly, people with folate deficiency and people taking certain medicines. Your doctor will tell you if this is necessary.

### ***How to take Alprim***

**Swallow the tablets whole with a glass of water.**

## ***When to take Alprim***

Alprim can be taken with or without food. Taking Alprim with food will help reduce the chance of a stomach upset.

Alprim tablets are best taken before bedtime.

## ***How long to take Alprim for***

**Keep taking Alprim until you finish the pack, or for as long as your doctor recommends.**

For most infections, Alprim is usually taken for 7 days.

**Do not stop taking Alprim, even if you feel better after a few days, unless advised by your doctor.**

Your infection may not clear completely if you stop taking your medicine too soon.

## ***If you forget to take Alprim***

**If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to.**

**Otherwise, take the missed dose as soon as you remember, and then go back to taking your tablets as you would normally.**

**Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose you missed.**

**If you are not sure what to do or have any questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

## ***If you take too much Alprim (overdose)***

**Immediately telephone your doctor, or the Poisons Information Centre (telephone 13 11 26), or go to Accident and Emergency at the nearest hospital, if you think you or anyone else may have taken too much Alprim.**

**Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.**

You may need urgent medical attention.

If you take too much Alprim, you may experience the following: nausea, vomiting, dizziness, headaches, confusion or mental depression.

---

## While you are taking Alprim

---

### **Things you must do**

**Before starting any new medicine, tell your doctor or pharmacist that you are taking Alprim.**

**Tell all the doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are taking Alprim.**

**If you become pregnant while taking Alprim, tell your doctor.**

**If your symptoms do not improve within a few days, or if they become worse, tell your doctor.**

**If you are taking Alprim for a long time, visit your doctor regularly so that they can check on your progress.**

You may need to have regular blood tests.

**Always discuss with your doctor any problems or difficulties during or after taking Alprim.**

### **Things you must not do**

**Do not use Alprim to treat any other conditions unless your doctor tells you to.**

**Do not give Alprim to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.**

---

## Side effects

---

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking Alprim.**

Alprim helps most people with urinary tract infections, but it may have unwanted side effects in some people.

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 side effects.

**Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects.**

You may not experience any of them.

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

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

- \* stomach upset
- \* nausea (feeling sick), vomiting
- \* sore tongue.

The above list includes the milder side effects of your medicine.

**See your doctor immediately if you notice any of the following:**

- \* any type of skin rash or itching
- \* tiredness which may occur together with headaches, sore mouth or tongue, weight loss or yellowing of the eyes or skin
- \* signs of frequent infections such as fever, chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers.

The above list includes serious side effects which may require medical attention.

**See your doctor immediately or go to Accident and Emergency at the nearest hospital if you notice any of the following:**

- \* signs of an allergic reaction such as itching or hives; swelling of the face, lips or tongue which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing; wheezing or shortness of breath
- \* pink or red itchy spots on the

skin which may blister and progress to form raised, red, pale-centred marks

- \* redness, blistering, peeling or loosening of skin; bleeding of the lips, eyes, mouth, nose and genitals
- \* severe rash with skin peeling, fever, chills and aching muscles.

The side effects listed above are rare but serious and require urgent medical attention or hospitalisation.

**Tell your doctor if you notice anything that is making you feel unwell.**

This is not a complete list of all possible side effects.

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people.

---

## After taking Alprim

---

### **Storage**

**Keep Alprim where children cannot reach it.**

A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

**Keep your tablets in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 30 degrees C.**

**Do not store Alprim or any other medicine in the bathroom or near a sink.**

**Do not leave Alprim in the car or on window sills.**

Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

### **Disposal**

**If your doctor tells you to stop taking Alprim, or your tablets have passed their expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any that are left over.**

---

## Product description

---

### ***What it looks like***

Alprim is a round white tablet marked "TM/300" on one side and "G" on the other.

Each pack contains 7 tablets.

### ***Ingredients***

The active ingredient in Alprim is trimethoprim.

Each Alprim tablet contains 300 mg of trimethoprim.

The tablets also contain the following inactive ingredients:

- \* lactose
- \* povidone
- \* sodium starch glycollate
- \* purified talc
- \* magnesium stearate.

The tablets are gluten free.

### ***Manufacturer***

Alprim is made in Australia by:

#### **Alphapharm Pty Limited**

(ABN 93 002 359 739)

Chase Building 2

Wentworth Park Road

Glebe NSW 2037

Phone: (02) 9298 3999

[www.alphapharm.com.au](http://www.alphapharm.com.au)

Medical Information

Phone: 1800 028 365

Australian Registration Number:

Alprim 300 mg - AUST R 63518

This leaflet was prepared on  
12 November 2004.