

- **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug. Forms available from special-order manufacturers include: oral suspension, oral solution, suppository

Tablet

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 4, 9, 21, 25, 27

▶ **Metronidazole (Non-proprietary)**

Metronidazole 200 mg Metronidazole 200mg tablets | 21 tablet [PoM] £4.03 DT = £4.03

Metronidazole 400 mg Metronidazole 400mg tablets | 21 tablet [PoM] £5.75 DT = £3.75

Metronidazole 500 mg Metronidazole 500mg tablets | 21 tablet [PoM] £39.29 DT = £39.29

▶ **Flagyl (Sanofi)**

Metronidazole 200 mg Flagyl 200mg tablets | 21 tablet [PoM] £4.49 DT = £4.03

Metronidazole 400 mg Flagyl 400mg tablets | 14 tablet [PoM] £6.34

Suppository

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 4, 9

▶ **Flagyl (Sanofi)**

Metronidazole 500 mg Flagyl 500mg suppositories | 10 suppository [PoM] £15.18 DT = £15.18

Metronidazole 1 gram Flagyl 1g suppositories | 10 suppository [PoM] £23.06 DT = £23.06

Oral suspension

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 4, 9

▶ **Metronidazole (Non-proprietary)**

Metronidazole (as Metronidazole benzoate) 40 mg per 1 ml Metronidazole 200mg/5ml oral suspension | 100 ml [PoM] £37.29 DT = £37.29

Vaginal gel

EXCIPIENTS: May contain Disodium edetate, hydroxybenzoates (parabens), propylene glycol

▶ **Zidoval (Mylan)**

Metronidazole 7.5 mg per 1 gram Zidoval 0.75% vaginal gel | 40 gram [PoM] £4.31 DT = £4.31

Infusion

ELECTROLYTES: May contain Sodium

▶ **Metronidazole (Non-proprietary)**

Metronidazole 5 mg per 1 ml Metronidazole 500mg/100ml infusion 100ml bags | 20 bag [PoM] £67.05 DT = £67.05

Tinidazole

- **DRUG ACTION** Tinidazole is an antimicrobial drug with high activity against anaerobic bacteria and protozoa; it has a longer duration of action than metronidazole.

INDICATIONS AND DOSE**Anaerobic infections**▶ **BY MOUTH**

- ▶ Adult: Initially 2 g, followed by 1 g daily usually for 5–6 days, alternatively 500 mg twice daily usually for 5–6 days

Bacterial vaginosis | Acute ulcerative gingivitis▶ **BY MOUTH**

- ▶ Adult: 2 g for 1 single dose

Abdominal surgery prophylaxis▶ **BY MOUTH**

- ▶ Adult: 2 g for 1 single dose, to be administered approximately 12 hours before surgery

Intestinal amoebiasis▶ **BY MOUTH**

- ▶ Child 1 month–11 years: 50–60 mg/kg once daily (max. per dose 2 g) for 3 days
- ▶ Child 12–17 years: 2 g once daily for 2–3 days
- ▶ Adult: 2 g once daily for 2–3 days

Amoebic involvement of liver▶ **BY MOUTH**

- ▶ Child 1 month–11 years: 50–60 mg/kg once daily (max. per dose 2 g) for 5 days
- ▶ Child 12–17 years: 1.5–2 g once daily for 3–6 days

- ▶ Adult: 1.5–2 g once daily for 3–6 days

Urogenital trichomoniasis | Giardiasis▶ **BY MOUTH**

- ▶ Child 1 month–11 years: 50–75 mg/kg (max. per dose 2 g) for 1 single dose, dose may be repeated once if necessary
- ▶ Child 12–17 years: 2 g for 1 single dose, dose may be repeated once if necessary
- ▶ Adult: 2 g for 1 single dose

Helicobacter pylori eradication▶ **BY MOUTH**

- ▶ Adult: (consult local protocol)

- **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: tinidazole

• **SIDE-EFFECTS**

- ▶ **Common or very common** Abdominal pain · appetite decreased · diarrhoea · headache · nausea · skin reactions · vertigo · vomiting
- ▶ **Frequency not known** Angioedema · ataxia · dizziness · fatigue · flushing · leucopenia · oral disorders · peripheral neuropathy · seizure · sensation abnormal · taste altered · tongue discolouration · urine discolouration
- **PREGNANCY** Manufacturer advises avoid in first trimester.
- **BREAST FEEDING** Present in milk—manufacturer advises avoid breast-feeding during and for 3 days after stopping treatment.
- **MONITORING REQUIREMENTS** Clinical and laboratory monitoring advised if treatment exceeds 10 days.

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▶ **Fasigyn (Pfizer Ltd)**

Tinidazole 500 mg Fasigyn 500mg tablets | 16 tablet [PoM] £11.04 DT = £11.04

ANTIBACTERIALS > PENICILLINS**Penicillins****Benzylpenicillin and phenoxymethylpenicillin**

Benzylpenicillin sodium p. 577 (Penicillin G) remains an important and useful antibiotic but is inactivated by bacterial beta-lactamases. It is effective for many streptococcal (including pneumococcal), gonococcal, and meningococcal infections and also for anthrax, diphtheria, gas-gangrene, and leptospirosis. Pneumococci, meningococci, and gonococci which have decreased sensitivity to penicillin have been isolated; benzylpenicillin sodium is no longer the drug of first choice for pneumococcal meningitis. Although benzylpenicillin sodium is effective in the treatment of tetanus, metronidazole p. 572 is preferred. Benzylpenicillin is inactivated by gastric acid and absorption from the gastro-intestinal tract is low; therefore it must be given by injection.

Benzathine benzylpenicillin p. 577 is used for the treatment of early syphilis and late latent syphilis; it is given by intramuscular injection.

Phenoxymethylpenicillin p. 578 (Penicillin V) has a similar antibacterial spectrum to benzylpenicillin sodium, but is less active. It is gastric acid-stable, so is suitable for oral administration. It should not be used for serious infections because absorption can be unpredictable and plasma concentrations variable. It is indicated principally for respiratory-tract infections in children, for streptococcal tonsillitis, and for continuing treatment after one or more injections of benzylpenicillin sodium when clinical response has begun. It should not be used for meningococcal or gonococcal infections. Phenoxymethylpenicillin is used for prophylaxis against streptococcal infections following