

### ● MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ With systemic use Clinical and laboratory monitoring advised if treatment exceeds 10 days.

### ● DIRECTIONS FOR ADMINISTRATION

- ▶ With intravenous use For intravenous infusion, give over 20–30 minutes.

### ● PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION

- ▶ With systemic use Metronidazole is well absorbed orally and the intravenous route is normally reserved for severe infections. Metronidazole by the rectal route is an effective alternative to the intravenous route when oral administration is not possible.

### ● PATIENT AND CARER ADVICE

Medicines for Children leaflet: Metronidazole for bacterial infections [www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/metronidazole-bacterial-infections](http://www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/metronidazole-bacterial-infections)

### ● PROFESSION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

#### Dental practitioners' formulary

- ▶ With oral use Metronidazole Tablets may be prescribed. Metronidazole Oral Suspension may be prescribed.

- **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 [\[PoM\]](#) £4.99 DT = £1.83

**Metronidazole 400 mg** Metronidazole 400mg tablets | 21 tablet [\[PoM\]](#) £13.03 DT = £5.47

**Metronidazole 500 mg** Metronidazole 500mg tablets | 21 tablet [\[PoM\]](#) £39.27 DT = £39.27

#### ▶ Flagyl (Sanofi)

**Metronidazole 200 mg** Flagyl 200mg tablets | 21 tablet [\[PoM\]](#) £4.49 DT = £1.83

**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

#### 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 [\[PoM\]](#) £37.50 DT = £35.22

#### Vaginal gel

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

#### ▶ Zidovall (Meda Pharmaceuticals Ltd)

**Metronidazole 7.5 mg per 1 gram** Zidovall 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 [\[PoM\]](#) £63.86 DT = £63.86

## 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

#### 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

#### 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

#### 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

- **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.

- **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug.

#### Tablet

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 4, 9, 21, 25

#### ▶ 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. 349 (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. It is also used in combination with gentamicin p. 322 for the empirical treatment of sepsis in neonates less than 48 hours old. 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. 344 is preferred. Benzylpenicillin sodium is inactivated by gastric acid and absorption from the gastro-intestinal tract is low; therefore it must be given by injection.