

Side Effect	Management
Blood disorder (Rare side effect) <u>Warning Signs (may not show symptoms)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unusual bleeding or bruising</li> <li>Lip or mouth ulcers with “flu-like” symptoms</li> </ul>	Consult your doctor immediately.  Inform your doctor if you have G6PD deficiency.

If you develop rashes, facial swelling or shortness of breath after taking the medication, you could be allergic to the medication. Please seek medical attention immediately.

### Are There any Special Precautions That I Need to Take?

- Do inform your doctor if you intend to conceive or breastfeed while taking Probenecid.

### How Do I Store Probenecid?

- Store your medication in a cool, dry place away from heat, moisture and direct sunlight.

If you have any problem with your treatment, please contact your doctor, pharmacist or nurse clinician.

Please keep all medications out of reach of children.

## PHARMACY

### Drug Information

# Probenecid



## What is Probenecid?

- Probenecid is a tablet medication that reduces the level of uric acid (body's waste product) in the blood. High levels of uric acid in the blood can cause pain and swelling in the joints (known as gout attack).
- Probenecid treats gout by helping your kidneys remove uric acid from your blood.
- Probenecid is used for the long-term control of gout. However, it does not treat acute (short-term) gout attack or cure gout.

## How Is Probenecid Taken?

- The Probenecid tablet is taken through the mouth, with or after food to reduce stomach discomfort.
- A typical dose for Probenecid ranges from 250mg to 1g, twice a day. You would be given a low dose at the start. The dose will slowly increase as needed, depending on your disease control and response to the medication.
- Probenecid may cause urinary stones as a side effect. To reduce the risk of urinary stones, you should drink at least 8 glasses of water each day when taking Probenecid, unless advised otherwise by your doctor. Inform your doctor if you have a history of kidney stones.

## What Should I Do If I Miss a Dose?

- If you miss a dose, take the missed dose soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, take only the usual dose. Do not double the dosage to make up for the missed dose.

## How Long Does It Take for Probenecid to Be Effective?

- Probenecid takes time to work. It is important that you take your medication regularly to benefit from the medication.
- During the first few months of taking Probenecid, you may experience more gout attacks. However, taking Probenecid regularly will reduce the number of gout attacks and make them less painful.

## Can Probenecid Be Taken with Other Medications?

- Probenecid can be taken together with painkillers and other gout medications prescribed by your doctor.
- It is important that you inform the doctor, pharmacist or rheumatology nurse clinician about other medications that you are currently taking, as they may affect the way you benefit from Probenecid. Such medications include over-the-counter medicines, supplements and traditional/herbal remedies.

## What Dietary Changes Should I Make?

- Avoid drinking alcohol as it may increase uric acid levels in your blood, triggering new gout attacks.
- Reduce intake of food and beverages with high sugar (fructose) content (e.g. soft drinks) and food that is high in purine (e.g. organ meats).

## Should I Continue or Stop Probenecid During an Acute Gout Attack?

- If you are already taking Probenecid, continue taking it, together with the other medications that you have been prescribed for the acute gout attack.

## What Are the Important Side Effects of Probenecid?

- While serious side effects are rare, you may still experience the following side effects. Always discuss with your doctor if you experience any side effects.

Side Effect	Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nausea</li><li>• Loss of appetite</li><li>• Stomach irritation</li></ul>	Take medication with food.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Headache</li><li>• Dizziness</li></ul>	Consult your doctor if this continues.
Kidney stones <u>Warning Signs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lower back pain with dark or pinkish urine</li><li>• Painful urination</li></ul>	Consult your doctor immediately.