

# Megatrim® DS

Tablet

# Megatrim®

Suspension

## Description

Megatrim is a broad spectrum antibacterial drug containing Trimethoprim BP and Sulphamethoxazole BP in a 1:5 fixed combination. Each Megatrim DS tablet and Megatrim Suspension contains Trimethoprim BP and Sulphamethoxazole BP.

## Indications

Megatrim is bactericidal *in vitro* to a wide range of Gram-positive and Gram-negative organisms, including Streptococcus, Staphylococcus, Pneumococcus, Neisseria, *B. catarrhalis*, *Escherichia coli*, Klebsiella, Proteus spp., Haemophilus, Salmonella, Shigella, *Vibrio cholerae*, Brucella, *Pneumocystis carinii*, Nocardia and Bordetella. A particularly high degree of activity is exhibited against *Haemophilus influenzae*, *E. coli* and Proteus spp., making Megatrim particularly suitable for the treatment of chronic bronchitis and urinary tract infections.

Megatrim exerts its bactericidal action by the sequential blockade of two bacterial enzyme systems in the biosynthesis of Folinic acid in the micro-organisms. The synergy thus produced accounts for the high degree of bactericidal activity.

Indications are :

- ♦ Respiratory tract infections, including acute and chronic bronchitis (treatment and prophylaxis), bronchiectasis, lung abscess, lobar and broncho-pneumonia, *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonitis, sinusitis and otitis media.
- ♦ Genito-urinary tract infections, including urethritis, acute and chronic cystitis, pyelonephritis, prostatitis and gonorrhoea.
- ♦ Gastro-intestinal tract infections, caused by *Salmonella typhi* and *Salmonella paratyphi*, including the chronic carrier state.

- ♦ Other infections, caused by a wide range of organisms confirmed to be susceptible to Megatrim and where the therapeutic benefits are considered to outweigh the possible occurrence of adverse events. Such infections include acute and chronic osteomyelitis, acute brucellosis, skin infections including pyoderma, abscesses and wound infections, septicaemia, bacillary dysentery and cholera (as an adjuvant to fluid and electrolyte replacement), nocardiosis and mycetoma.

## Dosage and Administration

### Dosage Guideline

*Megatrim DS tablet :*

#### Adults and Children Over 12 Years

Usual dosage	One Megatrim DS tablet twice daily
High dosage for severe infections and septicaemia	1½ Megatrim DS tablets, twice daily
Uncomplicated gonorrhoea	2 Megatrim DS tablets 12 hourly for 2 days or 2½ Megatrim DS tablets with 8-12 hours' intervals between the doses
Minimum dosage for long term treatment (>14 days)	½ Megatrim DS tablet twice daily

*Megatrim Suspension*

#### Children

6-12 years	1-2 teaspoonful twice daily
2-5 years	½-1 teaspoonful twice daily
up to 2 years	½ teaspoonful twice daily

*Duration of therapy :* In acute infections, apart from gonorrhoea, Megatrim DS should be given for at least 5 days or until the patient has been symptom free for 2 days. Treatment for prostatitis and acute brucellosis should be maintained for a period of at least 4 weeks, whilst in nocardiosis and mycetoma, dosage guideline requires long term therapy.

## **Contraindications**

- ♦ Hypersensitivity to trimethoprim or sulphonamides.
- ♦ Patients with documented megaloblastic anaemia due to folate deficiency.
- ♦ Patients showing marked liver parenchymal damage, blood dyscrasia, severe renal insufficiency, glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency.

## **Precautions**

Prolonged full dose treatment with sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim combination is associated with the risk of macrocytic anaemia due to the drug's interference in the conversion of Folic acid into Folinic acid. If this occurs, it can be reversed by giving Folinic acid.

Care should be taken when giving this combination to diabetic patients receiving sulphonylurea drug for possible potentiation of action of sulphonylurea.

## **Side Effects**

The side effects like crystalluria, allergic reactions, haemolysis, thrombocytopenia, neutropenia, agranulocytosis etc. have been reported rarely with Sulphamethoxazole-Trimethoprim combination. Other side effects are less serious in nature such as malaise, headache, nausea and vomiting. These are normally transient and do not require withdrawal of treatment.

## **Use in Special Population**

*Pregnancy and lactation* : Pregnancy and during the nursing period, because sulphonamides pass the placenta and are excreted in the breast milk and may cause kernicterus.

## **Commercial Packs**

Megatrim<sup>®</sup> DS Tablet : Box containing 10 blister strips of 10 tablets. Each Megatrim<sup>®</sup> DS tablet contains 160 mg Trimethoprim BP and 800 mg Sulphamethoxazole BP.

Megatrim<sup>®</sup> Suspension : 60 ml suspension in amber glass bottle. Each 5 ml of Suspension contains 40 mg Trimethoprim BP and 200 mg Sulphamethoxazole BP.