

Understanding Your Tuberculosis Medicines – Second Line



Patient and Family Education

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23-0262



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Second Line Anti-Tubercular Medications

They are antibiotics used to treat resistant TB infections when first-line agents are not effective against TB or in case of intolerance to usual first-line medications.

- Amikacin
- Moxifloxacin
- Levofloxacin
- Cycloserine
- Ethionamide
- Clofazimine
- Linezolid
- Bedaquiline
- Pretomanid

Refer to medication details below:

| Name | How To Take | When To Take | Common Side Effects | Monitoring |
|---------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| Amikacin | Intramuscular or Intravenous | | Dizziness, hearing loss, Numbness and tingling sensation in hands, feet, and decrease in urine | Kidney function test Hearing test |
| Moxifloxacin | Once daily by mouth (At the same time each day) | Can be taken with or without food | Headache, nausea vomiting, Pain and swelling in joints or tendons, bone pain, stomach upset, constipation or diarrhea | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heart tracing (ECG) • Tendons pain and swelling • Blood glucose levels (especially in diabetics) |

| Name | How To Take | When To Take | Common Side Effects | Monitoring |
|---------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| Levofloxacin | Once daily by mouth (At the same time each day) | Can be taken with or without food | Headache, nausea, vomiting, Pain and swelling in tendons, joint stiffness, bone pain, tremors, stomach upset, constipation or diarrhea | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heart tracing (ECG) • Tendons pain and swelling • Blood glucose levels (especially in diabetics) |
| Cycloserine | Once daily by mouth (At the same time each day) | Can be taken with or without food | Numbness and tingling sensation in hands and feet, mood and behavior changes, loss of memory, difficulty in concentration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kidney function tests • Checking for numbness in hands and feet • Checking for mood changes |
| Ethionamide | Once daily by mouth at bedtime | Can be taken with or without food | Skin rash, nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, menstrual irregularity and low blood sugar levels | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liver function tests • Heart tracing (ECG) • Tendon pain and swelling • Blood glucose levels (especially in diabetics) |
| Clofazimine | Once daily by mouth (At the same time each day) | Can be taken with or without food | Headache, skin rash, nausea, vomiting, chest pain, loss of appetite and joint pain | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heart tracing (ECG) • Checking for mood changes |

| Name | How To Take | When To Take | Common Side Effects | Monitoring |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Linezolid | Once daily by mouth (At the same time each day) | Can be taken with or without food | Fever, headache, skin rash, itching, dizziness, changes in vision, unpleasant taste in the mouth, bleeding or bruises, numbness or tingling in hands and feet, nausea, vomiting, stomach pain diarrhea or constipation | • Complete Blood Count (CBC) |
| Bedaquiline | Once daily by mouth (At the same time each day) | To be taken with food | Headache, nausea and vomiting, coughing up blood (Hemoptysis), and loss of appetite, chest pain, joint pain, and skin rash | • Heart tracing (ECG) • Liver function tests |
| Pretomanid | Once daily by mouth (At the same time each day) | To be taken with food | Headache, acne, rash, itching, numbness and tingling sensation in hands and feet, stomach upset, nausea and vomiting, visual changes, symptoms of low blood glucose, chest pain and cough | • Heart tracing (ECG) • Visual function • Liver function tests • Complete Blood Count (CBC) |

In case you experience signs of an allergic reaction (like skin rash, redness or itching, facial swelling, difficulty in breathing, wheezing or dizziness) or signs of liver damage (like stomach pain, nausea or vomiting) or heart problems (like palpitations, chest pain dizziness, or difficulty breathing) stop taking your anti-TB medicines and seek emergency medical care

Walk-in Clinic on weekdays from 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM, the Treatment Room on weekdays from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM and weekends from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM, or the Emergency Room after 8:00 PM.

What should I do if I forget a dose?

Try to take medicines regularly as prescribed.

- Take the missed dose as soon as you remember
- If it is almost time for your next usual dose, wait until then to take your medicine and skip the missed dose.
- Do not take two doses at the same time.

What precautions should I take before using anti-TB medicines?

- Tell your doctor/pharmacist/nurse if you are allergic to any medicines.
- Tell your doctor/pharmacist/nurse what prescription and nonprescription medications (like herbal or vitamin supplements) you take.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant, or are breastfeeding.
- Tell your doctor if you have or previously had liver disease or other medical illnesses.

How should I store the medicine?

- Store the medicines in a cool and dry place
- Protect from moisture, heat, and direct light
- Keep all medication out of reach of children

