

Ethambutol



UHN

What is the name of the medicine my doctor has prescribed?

Generic Name	Brand Name
Ethambutol 100mg or 400mg	Etibi [®]

Before taking Ethambutol

As with any medication, it is important to discuss with the TB clinic doctor or nurse the possible risks and benefits of the medication, along with any concerns that you might have.

For Ethambutol (ETH), you might want to consider/discuss the following:

- Any allergies that you have
- Any special diet that you are on
- Any medications that you are currently or will be taking (this includes over-the-counter medications and/or herbal products)
- Any past or current medical conditions

How to take Ethambutol

It is very important that you keep taking this medication for as long it has been prescribed, even if you begin to feel better. This is to ensure that the tuberculosis clears completely, and to prevent a recurrence of TB infection.

It is important that you do not miss any doses!

However, if you do happen to miss a dose, take it as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular dosing schedule. **Do not double dose** in an attempt to make up for the missed dose. Then continue to take your medication as prescribed.

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If you are experiencing stomach upset with ETH, you may take it with some food.

Possible Side Effects of Ethambutol

Most people do not have side effects from Ethambutol. However, please call the TB clinic immediately if you experience any of the following:

- Nausea/vomiting
- Changes in vision or perception of colour
- Numbness, tingling, burning, or pain in hands and feet

Important: If you notice any other effects, or have any questions or concerns, please call the TB Clinic.

Precautions while taking Ethambutol

It is important to limit your alcohol intake while on Ethambutol. Alcohol may increase your chances of experiencing an adverse reaction, and may keep it from working properly.

It is best not to drink alcohol while taking Ethambutol.

Storing Ethambutol

- Keep this medication out of the reach of children.
- Store away from heat and direct light. Keep at room temperature.
- Do not store it in the bathroom, near the kitchen sink, or in other damp places. Heat or moisture may cause the medicine to break down.
- Do not keep outdated medicine or medicine you no longer need. Be sure that any discarded medicine is kept out of the reach of children.

IMPORTANT

If you have **any** questions or concerns while taking Ethambutol please call one of the TB clinic nurses:

Judith Lang, TB Clinic Nurse Practitioner (416) 603-5395

OR

Peggy Howorth, TB Clinic Nurse Clinician (416) 603-5800 ext: 3844

This medication sheet does not provide medical advice.

These sheets are developed by the Toronto Western Hospital Tuberculosis Clinic. They are provided for informational purposes only. These sheets are meant to supplement a discussion with the pharmacist. Please contact a pharmacist or other health care professionals if you have any further questions regarding this medication.