



Pyrazinamide (PZA)

UHN

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

Generic Name	Brand Name
Pyrazinamide 500 mg	Tebrazid®

Before taking Pyrazinamide (PZA)

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 PZA, 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 PZA

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.

This information is to be used for informational purposes only and is not intended as a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Please consult your health care provider for advice about a specific medical condition. A single copy of these materials may be reprinted for non-commercial personal use only.

© 2006 University Health Network. All rights reserved.

Author: TWH Tuberculosis Clinic

Created: 04/2006

Form: D-5347



Possible Side Effects of PZA

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

- Joint pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Unusual tiredness or weakness
- Yellow eyes or skin
- Dark urine

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

Precautions while taking PZA

It is important to limit your alcohol intake while on PZA. Alcohol may increase your chances of experiencing an adverse reaction to PZA, and may keep it from working properly. **It is best not to drink alcohol while on PZA.**

If you have or have had **gout, and/or diabetes**, please discuss this with your TB clinic doctor or nurse.

Storing PZA

- 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 Pyrazinamide 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



University Health Network
Toronto General Hospital Toronto Western Hospital Princess Margaret Hospital

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.