

Urinary Tract Infections

Drug Class	Folate Antagonist; Anti-Infective; Antiprotozoal
Prototype Med	Trimethoprim-Sulfamethoxazole
Other Meds	Bactrim and Septra Trimethoprim (Proloprim)

Sulfamethoxazole is only available in combination with trimethoprim. However, trimethoprim is available by itself under the brand name Proloprim

Therapeutic Use

Urinary Tract Infections
Pneumocystis Pneumonia
Shigella Enteritis (Travelers Diarrhea)
Chronic bronchitis
Acute otitis media in children

Adverse Drug Reactions

Nausea, Vomiting, Anorexia
Allergic skin reactions
thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, anemia, agranulocytosis, aplastic anemia
Superinfection – Clostridium difficile-associated diarrhea (CDAD), Candida infections
Severe rash, including Stevens-Johnson syndrome
Kernicterus

Precautions

Decreased kidney or liver function
Hypersensitivity to sulfites used as preservatives (wine, foods), other drugs related to sulfonamides (acetazolamide, thiazide diuretics, tolbutamide)
Suppressed bone marrow
Clients at risk for megaloblastic anemia (clients with alcoholism, pregnant women, clients who are debilitated)

Nursing Interventions

Monitor/Report severe symptoms.
Monitor for rash and hives.
Monitor/Report severe diarrhea
Monitor/Report rash and/or blisters on skin to provider.
Encourage patient to drink plenty of fluids
Monitor I & O

Nursing Interventions (cont)

Monitor CBCs and Urinalysis throughout treatment

Administration

Available as a fixed-dose combination in tablets, liquid solution, and IV form.
Give oral dose with 8 oz. of water.
Administer intermittent IV infusion slowly (over 60 to 90 min) and with recommended dilution.
Drink at least 1,200 to 1,500 mL water/day during treatment with this drug.

Patient Education

Take with food to minimize GI symptoms.
Report rash, hives, fatigue, pallor, bruising, or new infections to provider
Report watery/bloody diarrhea, pain in mouth, difficulty eating, vaginal itching/burning to provider
Warn clients that sulfonamides decrease the effectiveness of oral contraceptives; use alternate form of contraception.
Report onset of rash and/or blisters on the skin to provider

Contraindications

Women who are pregnant or nursing
Allergy to sulfonamides, trimethoprim, cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitors (celecoxib [Celebrex])
Clients with megaloblastic anemia caused by folic acid deficiency
Children under 2 months
Pharyngitis caused by group A beta-hemolytic streptococci
Hyperkalemia
Severely impaired urine creatinine clearance

Interactions

Alcohol with the drug may cause a disulfiram-type reaction.
May increase effects of warfarin, phenytoin, tolbutamide (and other sulfonylurea oral antidiabetic drugs).
Taken with methotrexate, clients may have increased immunosuppression.
Reduced effectiveness of oral contraceptives (use alternative contraception).

