

### 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).

