

# Posaconazole

Respiratory Medicine - Information for patients

---

## Why have I been prescribed posaconazole?

Posaconazole belongs to a group of anti-fungal drugs called triazoles. It is used to treat respiratory conditions caused by *Aspergillus* fungus.

If you are pregnant, planning a family or if you are breastfeeding speak to your doctor before using this medicine.

## What dose of posaconazole should I take?

The usual dose is 300mg once a day.

It is important to remember to take posaconazole regularly at the same time each day.

To check that your posaconazole is at a safe and effective dose, the level of the drug in your body needs to be checked. Your doctor will arrange for you to receive a blood test for this and may alter your dose depending on the result.

It is important to check the directions on the label of each new box to ensure you are taking the correct dose.

## How should I take my posaconazole?

Do not stop taking posaconazole unless advised.

Formulation	Strength	Administration instructions
Tablets	100mg	Swallow tablets whole with a glass of water. Can be taken with or without food.

## What are the side effects of posaconazole?

As with all medicines, there is a potential risk of side effects, however not everyone will experience them. They may reduce with time as your body adjusts to treatment or improve following a dose adjustment.

For a full list of side effects please read the leaflet in your medication box.

Your liver and kidney function will be checked before starting treatment and monitored by your GP or in clinic at regular intervals. Your respiratory team may also do an ECG (heart tracing) before and during treatment.

### Common side effects:

- Decreased appetite, nausea, fever, fatigue, dizziness, headache, itchiness or rash.
- Posaconazole may also cause an increase in your blood pressure but this can be monitored.

### When to seek prompt medical attention:

- Tingling or numbness in the hands or feet as this may be a sign of peripheral neuropathy.
- Signs of liver problems such as abdominal pain, vomiting, fatigue, dark urine or jaundice (yellow skin or whites of the eyes).
- Signs of heart rate changes such as dizziness, light headedness or palpitations (fast heart rate).

## What if I forget to take my posaconazole?

You should take your posaconazole as soon as you remember. However, if it is nearly time for your next dose, skip this missed dose and continue your regular dosing schedule. **DO NOT** take a double dose to make up for a missed dose.

## What if I take too much?

If you take more posaconazole than you have been prescribed, contact your GP or respiratory team immediately.

## Can I take posaconazole with my other medications?

Posaconazole can interact with some other medicines. Your doctor or pharmacist will review your current medicines and advise if any changes are necessary.

Always check with your doctor or pharmacist before taking any new or over the counter medicines.

## How should I store my posaconazole?

Store your posaconazole in the original container at room temperature and out of the reach and sight of children.

## Further information

If you have any other questions about posaconazole, please do not hesitate to contact your GP or respiratory team. See below for more information or call 111 for non emergency medical advice.

### Aspergillosis Patients & Carers Support:

<https://aspergillosis.org/>

