

Consumer Medicine Information

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet is designed to provide you with answers to some common questions about this medicine. It does not contain all the available information and does not take the place of talking with your doctor.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has more information about this medicine than is contained in this leaflet. Also, your doctor has had the benefit of taking a full and detailed history from you and is in the best position to make an expert judgement to meet your individual needs.

If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, talk to your doctor or health care professional.

Keep this leaflet with this medicine. You may need to read it again.

What Cycloserine is used for

Cycloserine is used to treat tuberculosis. Cycloserine is also an antibiotic which may be used to treat urinary tract infections caused by bacteria.

Cycloserine works by killing or stopping the growth of bacteria causing your infection.

Cycloserine belongs to a group of medicines called antitubercular agents.

Your doctor may have prescribed Cycloserine for another reason. **Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why Cycloserine has been prescribed for you.**

This medicine is available only with a doctor's prescription.

Before taking Cycloserine

Tell your doctor or health care professional if you have any of the following conditions or if you have ever experienced any of these conditions.

When you must not take Cycloserine

Do not take Cycloserine if you have had an allergic reaction to Cycloserine or to any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet (see 'Product Description'). Signs of an allergic reaction may include a skin rash, itching, shortness of breath or swelling of the face, lips or tongue.

Do not take Cycloserine if:

- you have fits (epilepsy)
- you have depression
- you have feelings of nervousness or anxiety
- you have abnormal thoughts
- you have kidney disease
- you drink alcohol to excess.

Do not take Cycloserine if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

Do not take Cycloserine if the expiry date printed on the pack has passed.

If you are not sure whether you should start taking Cycloserine, talk to your doctor or health care professional.

Before you start taking Cycloserine

Tell your doctor if you have allergies to:

- any other medicines
- any other substances such as foods, preservatives or dyes.

Tell your doctor if you have or have had any medical conditions, especially the following:

- kidney problems
- liver problems.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant. Cycloserine may affect your developing baby if you take it during pregnancy. Your doctor will discuss the possible risks and benefits of taking Cycloserine during pregnancy.

Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed. Cycloserine passes into breast milk. Your doctor will discuss the possible risks and benefits of taking Cycloserine during breast-feeding.

Tell your doctor or health care professional about these things before you take Cycloserine.

Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor or health care professional if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop. Some medicines may be affected by Cycloserine or may affect how it works. These include:

- ethionamide, a medicine also used to treat tuberculosis
- isoniazid, a medicine also used to treat tuberculosis

These medicines may be affected by Cycloserine, or may affect how well it works. You may need to take different amounts of your medicine, or you may need to take different medicines. Your doctor will advise you.

Your doctor or health care professional may have more information on medicines to be careful with or to avoid while taking Cycloserine.

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How to take Cycloserine

Carefully follow all directions given to you by your doctor or health care professional. These may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

How much to take

Adults: The usual dose is 500mg to 1g daily taken in divided doses. Elderly patients with kidney disease require a lower dose.

Children: The usual starting dose is 10mg/kg/day.

Your doctor may increase or decrease your dose depending on your condition and how you react to the medicine.

How to take it

Swallow Cycloserine with a glass of water.

When to take it

Cycloserine is usually taken twice a day.

How long to take it

Continue taking Cycloserine until you finish the bottle or until your doctor recommends.

Do not stop taking Cycloserine, or lower the dosage, even if you are feeling better, without checking with your doctor.

If you forget to take it

If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to. Otherwise, take it as soon as you remember then go back to taking your medicine as you would normally. Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose that you missed.

If you are not sure what to do, ask your doctor or health care professional.

If you take too much (overdose)

If you think that you or anyone else has taken too much Cycloserine, immediately telephone your doctor or the Poisons Information Centre (13 11 26), or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

If you have taken too much Cycloserine, the most common signs are:

- headache
- dizziness
- confusion
- drowsiness
- excessive excitability
- tingling in fingers or toes
- difficulty in speaking
- abnormal thoughts.

While you are taking Cycloserine

Things you must do

If the symptoms of your infection do not improve within a few days, or if they become worse, tell your doctor.

Tell all doctors and health care professionals who are treating you that you are taking Cycloserine.

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, tell your doctor or health care professional that you are taking Cycloserine.

Tell your doctor if you become pregnant while you are taking Cycloserine.

Things you must not do

Do not drink alcohol while you are being treated with Cycloserine.

Do not stop taking Cycloserine, or lower the dosage, even if you are feeling better, without checking with your doctor.

Do not give Cycloserine to anyone else, even if their symptoms seem similar to yours or they have the same condition as you. Your doctor has prescribed Cycloserine for you and for your condition.

Side effects

Tell your doctor or health care professional as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking Cycloserine. Like other medicines, Cycloserine may cause some unwanted side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you experience some of the side effects.

Ask your doctor or health care professional to answer any questions you may have.

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you notice any of the following side effects:

- drowsiness
- sleepiness
- headache
- tremor
- difficulty in speaking
- dizziness
- confusion
- disorientation with loss of memory
- abnormal thoughts
- character changes
- excessive excitability
- aggression
- weakness causing loss of movement
- enhanced reflexes
- tingling in fingers or toes
- skin problems such as rash or itchiness.

These side effects may be serious. You may need medical attention or your dose of Cycloserine may need to be lowered.

Tell your doctor immediately or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital if any of the following happen:

- fits
- skin rash, itching, shortness of breath or swelling of the face, lips or tongue.
- signs of anaemia, such as tiredness, being short of breath and looking pale
- chest pains
- unconsciousness

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These are very serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation.

Other side effects not listed above may occur in some patients. **Tell your doctor or health care professional if you notice anything that is making you feel unwell.**

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

Tell your doctor if you notice anything unusual or if you are concerned about any aspect of your health, even if you think the problems are not connected with this medicine and are not referred to in this leaflet.

After taking Cycloserine

Storage

Keep your capsules in the bottle until it is time to take them. If you take the capsules out of the bottle they may not keep as well.

Keep your capsules in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C. Do not store Cycloserine in the bathroom or near a sink. Do not leave it in the car or on window sills. Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

All medicines should be kept where young children cannot reach them. A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

There will be an expiry date (month, year) on your Cycloserine container. **The medicine should not be taken after this date** because it may have lost some of its strength.

Disposal

If your doctor tells you to stop taking Cycloserine or you find that the capsules have passed their expiry date, **please ask your pharmacist what to do with any that are left over.**

Product Description

What it looks like

Cycloserine capsules are red and grey in colour. The capsules are coded with F04.

Ingredients

Active ingredient:
Cycloserine 250mg.

Inactive ingredients:
Talc –purified, brilliant scarlet 4R, iron oxide yellow, titanium dioxide, iron oxide black CI77499, gelatin, edible printing ink.

Supplier

Aspen Pharmacare Australia Pty Ltd
34-36 Chandos Street
St Leonards NSW 2065

Australian Registration Number:

CLOSINA (cycloserine) 250mg capsules - AUST R 28637

This leaflet was revised in September 2005.