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INFORMATION ON METRONIDAZOLE

What is Metronidazole?

- Metronidazole is an antibiotic.
- It can also help to reduce inflammation and that's why it's used in some types of scarring hair loss conditions (such as lichen planopilaris)

How is Metronidazole prescribed?

- Dr. Donovan will tell you how much and how often to take this medication. The dose is typically 500 mg twice or three times daily.
- It may have a metallic taste

Can I use Metronidazole with other treatments?

- Do not take metronidazole if you take anticoagulants, lithium or phenytoin or disulfuram
- Do not use cimetidine
- Do not use alcohol with Metronidazole as the combination will make you feel unwell.
- Alcohol may cause an upset stomach, vomiting, stomach cramps, headaches, sweating, and flushing (redness of the face).
- You need to avoid alcohol for three days after using Flagyl

Who should not use Metronidazole?

- You need to let Dr Donovan know if you take any medications. He can then tell you if Metronidazole is unsafe.
- You shouldn't use Metronidazole if you are were allergic to it in the past
- You shouldn't use it if you can't stop alcohol
- Don't take Metronidazole if you have blood, kidney or liver disease or Crohn's disease
- All women should tell Dr. Donovan if they plan to become pregnant soon.
- Don't use metronidazole if you have any nervous system problems or diseases

What side effects are possible with Metronidazole?

- Metronidazole makes you more sensitive to the sun
- Can make you sick if you take it with alcohol
- Other side effects include:
 - vomiting
 - diarrhea
 - nausea (12 %)
 - upset stomach
 - loss of appetite
 - dry mouth; sharp, unpleasant metallic taste
 - dark or reddish-brown urine
 - furry tongue; mouth or tongue irritation
 - numbness or tingling of hands or feet
 - seizures
 - rare lowering of white blood cell count (reversible)

What side effects should prompt me to STOP Metronidazole and get medical attention?

- Any symptom that makes you not feel well
- Stop if you get numbness or tingling in any area
- Severe allergic reactions (rash; hives; itching; difficulty breathing; tightness in the chest; swelling of the mouth, face, lips, or tongue)
- fever,
- chills, or persistent sore throat;
- general feeling of discomfort;
- joint pain or swelling;
- loss of appetite; mental or mood changes; nausea or vomiting; pain, swelling, or redness at the injection site; red, swollen, or blistered skin;
- severe stomach pain; unusual bruising or bleeding;
- vision changes; wheezing; yellowing of eyes or skin, joint pain, itching, runny nose.

