WHAT IS PURINETHOL® MERCAPTOPURINE ?

- Cancer drug used in the treatment of some forms of leukemias.
- Prescribed and renewed by your hospital doctor specialized in hematology ; can be renewed by your family doctor.
- Available in city pharmacies on presentation of your prescription.

Pale, yellow tablets, bearing « PT » and « 50 » engraved on either side of the break line on one side, and smooth on the other side, dosed at **50 mg.**

- Store it at a temperature not over 25°C, out of reach and sight of children.
- Do not get the tablets out of the bottle to put them in a pill-box.
- Wash your hands carefully before and after each handling of the tablets
- Do not throw away the opened bottles, please bring them back to your pharmacist.

HOW TO TAKE THIS MEDICINE?

When ?	……h……	**= 1 take a day in the evening at a fixed hour, during or away from the meal** (at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after having had milk or dairy)
How ?		Swallow the tablets whole, with water, every day at the same moment of the day. Do not chew, nor cut, crush or dissolve the tablets.

You can help yourself with **your tracking book* and a calendar** to spot the takes. Never stop or change the rhythm of administration of your treatment without your doctor's advice.
** This file is not a prescription ; refer to your latest prescription..

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF MISSING OR VOMITING?

- **In case of missing,** do not take the missed dose. The next dose will be taken at the usual hour, without doubling it. Please note it in your tracking book*.
- **In case of vomiting,** do not take a new dose. The next dose will be taken at the usual hour, without doubling it. Please note it in your tracking book*.

INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER MEDICINES AND/OR FOOD

Check with **your doctor** and **your pharmacist** that the medicines (with or without prescription) and/or other substances (food, spices and plants, probiotics, essential oils, food supplements…) and other by-products that you are taking **are compatible with your treatment.** The molecules they contain, their measuring and consuming frequency may interact with your treatment and affect its efficiency and the outcome of side effects.

- You and your partner must use efficient contraceptive methods (condoms and one other means) during the whole treatment and **up to 3 months after the last take**.
- Stop breast feeding during the treatment.

Male fertility may be affectd during the treatment with mercaptopurine. You can be informed by your doctor about the possibility of preserving sperm before starting the treatment.

*Tracking book available on the sites www.omeditbretagne.fr or www.omedit-paysdelaloire.fr

WHAT SIDE EFFECTS MAY OCCUR WITH PURINETHOL® MERCAPTOPURINE ?

Like all medicines, mercaptopurine may bring about side effects, although you may not experience any.

Side effects	Prevention
Photosensitiveness	Use a gel or a hypoallergenic, soap-free bar. Avoid hot water. Dab your skin dry. Apply a hydrating agent (cream or milk). Avoid exposure to the sun, especially between 12 and 4 pm. Wear protecting clothes, even under a parasol (UVA reflection). Use a sun screen > 50, to be applied 30 minutes before exposure and renewed every 2 hours.
Digestive effects : diarrhea, abdominal pains, nauseas, vomiting, loss of appetite	Watch over your weight and remember to hydrate well (1,5/2 l of water/day). **In case of diarrhea**, favor food that i slow in fibers (starchy food, carrots, bananas…). Avoid food that may speed up your intestinal transit (dairy, raw fruit and vegetables, cereals, fat food, spices) . **In case of nauseas/vomiting**, make several small light meals during the day and eat slowly. Avoid greasy, fried and spicy food, as well as those whose smell may trigger nauseas. Avoid staying on an empty stomach as this increases nauseas. Rather drink between meals . Take the antiemetic medicines you have been prescribed, if needed.
Decrease in red blood cells, white cells and platlets	**Decrease in red blood cells** : contact your doctor in case of paleness, short breath during effort, or even at rest, persisting fatigue, heart throbs (palpitations), dizziness and head aches. **Decrease in white blood cells** : contact your doctor in case of a temperature >38°C, shivers, sweats, cough, or any sign of infection. **Decrease in platlets** : contact your doctor in case of an outcome of small red dots on your skin, bruises, nose bleedings, small eye or gum bleedings, blood in urine or motion.
Hepatic effects : yellow skin or eyes, itching, dark urine, clear motions	Limit your consumption of substances that are toxic for the liver (alcohol…) Contact your doctor in case of an outcome of one of these signs.
Risk of infection	Limit contacts with people having an infection. Wash your hands regularly. Disinfect any wound carefully. Contact your doctor in case of a temperature >38°C, cough, short or painful breathing, pain when urinating/ smelly urine, Change in the nature or frequency of motion (diarrhea, constipation), or in case of redness, pain or oozing around the central catheter, the parenteral feeding tube or the urinary catheter.

Only some of the most frequent side effects mentionned above. For further information, please refer to your medicine leaflet or ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice.
You can also ask your question ask your question to [center for side effects monitoring](#) or notify any side effect on the following site : [signalement-sante-gouv-fr](#)

In all cases, remember to make the biological tests prescribed by your doctor.

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF SIDE EFFECT(S) ?

- Take the medication prescribed for side effects in accordance with the doses.

- Respect measures of prevention.

Promptly contact your doctor in case of :

- Signs of infection (fever, cough, shivers, urinary burns…)

- Signs of hepatotoxicity (itching, yellow skin or eyes, dark urine or clear motion)

- Unusual bleedings, bruises, unusual paleness

- Any persisting or worsening side effect.

Useful contacts :

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Remarks :

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