



## ETHAMBUTOL

Ethambutol is an antibiotic used to treat tuberculosis (TB) and occasionally other related infections.

### When should I take this?

- Take this medicine at the same time every day. This will help you remember to take the medicine.

### How should I take this?

- It is very important that you take this medicine regularly.
- Take as directed by your doctor.

### What should I do if I miss a dose?

- If you miss a dose, take that dose as soon as you remember. But if it is almost time for the next day's dose, skip the missed dose.
- **Do not take a double dose.**

### Is there anything I should avoid when taking this?

- Ethambutol should be taken at least **4 hours before or 4 hours after** the following:
  - Antacids or supplements containing aluminum

Tell your doctor, nurse and pharmacist if you are **taking any other medicines**, including any over-the-counter (non-prescription) products.

### What are some possible side effects?

- Stomach upset, nausea or vomiting

**Caution: Stop taking this medicine and call your doctor or nurse immediately if you experience the following symptoms:**

- Changes or blurring of **vision**
- Difficulty distinguishing between red and green colors
- Rash

**Tell your doctor if you experience any unusual symptoms not mentioned on this information sheet.**

## ETHAMBUTOL (cont'd)

### What else do I need to know about taking Ethambutol?

- Tell your doctor if you have any of these **conditions**: eye problems or disease, gout, kidney disease, liver disease.
- It is important that you go for all **lab and vision tests** ordered by your doctor and that you attend all **appointments** with your doctor or nurse.
- Tell your doctor or nurse if you are **pregnant**, plan to become pregnant, or if you wish to **breastfeed** your baby.

### Where should I store this medication?

- Keep away from the reach of children
- Protect from light
- Tablets: Store at room temperature in a cool, dry place.
- Suspension: Store at room temperature in a cool, dry place. Shake well before use.

### Where do I call if I have any other questions?

Your doctor, clinic or Public Health Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Vancouver TB Services Clinic:	604-707-2692
New Westminster TB Services Clinic:	604-707-2698
BCCDC Vaccine and Pharmacy Services:	604-707-2580