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## TRIMETHOPRIM SULFA (Brand Names: Septra, Bactrim, Tribrissen, Cotrim and others)

STRENGTHS: 480 and 960mg Tablets

oral suspension

**ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION: ORAL** 

Can be given with or without food, see label for instructions

**ACTION OF MEDICATION:** Sequential Blockade Antibiotic (combines two antibiotics, each interfering with bacterial folic acid production in a different step of the production sequence). This antibiotic is especially good at penetrating cells, body discharges etc.)

MOST COMMON SIDE EFFECTS REPORTED: Vomiting, diarrhea, appetite loss. If seen, these symptoms are not generally considered serious. Reduction of tear function can occur with this medication. Eyes develop a goopy yellow discharge and become uncomfortable. This should resolve with discontinuation of the medication but occasionally does not and on-going treatment is needed. Note, the oral suspension is famous for its bitter taste and can generate drooling and mouth foaming in response.

**SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS THAT HAVE BEEN REPORTED:** Serious side effects are considered rare (<5% incidence) but can occur. They include: liver disease/failure, kidney inflammation, eye inflammation (uveitis), immune mediated arthritis, bone marrow suppression, red blood cell destruction. For more details, see the web link listed below.

**STORAGE:** Keep away from light and store at room temperature.

**IF YOU MISS A DOSE:** Do not double up on the next dose. If less than 6 hours have passed since the dose was due, administer as normal. If more than 6 hours have passed, pick up with the next dose.

**OTHER INFORMATION:** Drug interactions are reported with Cyclosporine, Diuretics (especially the thiazide class), tricyclic antidepressants, aspirin, and methotrexate. For details, see link below.

For a more detailed presentation, visit: