

Inhaled tobramycin

(DBL Tobramycin[®], Sun Tobramycin[®], WKT Tobramycin[®], Tobra-Day[®])

What is inhaled tobramycin?

Tobramycin belongs to a group of antibiotics called aminoglycosides. It is only available on a doctor's prescription.

What is it for?

Tobramycin is used to prevent and treat pseudomonas aeruginosa infection in the lungs. When inhaled, tobramycin concentrates in the lungs – this helps to kill the bacteria.

How to use this medication?

Tobi[®] Dry Powder for inhalation is administered using a Podhaler device. It is very important to only use the specific Podhaler device that is provided with the Tobi[®] capsules. Wipe the mouthpiece of the inhaler device after use, but do not wash with water. Discard the device after 7 days.

Tobramycin solution is usually inhaled twice per day using a nebuliser. Your child's doctor will decide how long treatment should continue.

If your child's dose is 80mg:

Dilute 2mL of the 40mg/mL tobramycin solution (DBL Tobramycin[®]) with 2mL sodium chloride 0.9% to produce a final volume of 4mL.

If your child's dose is 150mg:

Use a syringe to remove 2.5mL of the 300mg/5mL tobramycin solution and put in the nebuliser cup. Discard the remaining contents of the ampoule.

If your child's dose is 250mg:

Dilute 2.5mL of the 500mg/5mL tobramycin solution (Tobra-Day[®]) with 1.5mL sodium chloride 0.9% to produce a final volume of 4mL.

If your child's dose is 300mg:

Squeeze the entire contents of the 300mg/5ml solution into the nebuliser cup.

If you are unsure how to get the medication out of the vial or need assistance using a nebuliser or Podhaler device, please contact the Pharmacy Department or nursing staff from the respiratory clinic for instructions.



What to do if a dose is missed

If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and give the next dose at the usual time. Otherwise, give the medication as soon as you remember and then go back to giving the medicine as usual.

Do not try to make up for missed dose(s) by giving more than one dose at a time. This can increase the risk of unwanted side effects.

Storing the medication

It is important to keep tobramycin locked away out of the reach of children. Do not keep the medicine in the bathroom, near the kitchen sink or in any other damp, warm places, because this may make the medication less effective.

Leave the medication inside the vial until it is time for use.

DBL Tobramycin[®] 2mL 40mg/mL vials and sodium chloride 0.9% should be stored at room temperature (below 25°C).

Tobra-Day[®] 5mL 500mg/5mL vials should be refrigerated between 2°C and 8°C, do not freeze.

Sun and WKT Tobramycin should be stored refrigerated between 2°C and 8°C.

Upon removal from the refrigerator, pouches (opened or unopened) may be stored at room temperature (up to 25 degrees) for up to 28 days.

It is acceptable to withdraw 2.5mL from the Tobra-Day[®] vial for the morning dose, return the vial to the refrigerator and then withdraw the remaining 2.5mL for the evening dose. After 24 hours you should dispose of the opened vial.

Use of other medication

Inhaled tobramycin, although not taken orally, can still interact with a number of other medications. Therefore, it is important to advise your doctor or pharmacist before giving any other medication. This includes medicines that you buy without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Possible side effects

Side effects can occur while using inhaled tobramycin. Some of these are not serious and will go away with time or after the dose has been modified. Others are more serious and require you to check with your doctor.

Less serious side effects include:

- sore mouth and gums
- cough

- voice alteration
- taste disturbances.

Contact your child's doctor as soon as possible if any of the following occur:

- hearing problems such as ringing in the ears
- muscle weakness
- decreased urine output.

If you are worried about any of these side effects or any other effects, please contact your child's doctor.

Stop using this medication and take your child to a doctor or emergency department if they experience any signs of an allergic reaction. These may include:

- wheezing
- difficulty breathing or swallowing
- fainting
- swelling of the lips or tongue
- severe itchy rash (hives).

Commercially available dosage forms and strengths:

- 80mg/2mL vials (DBL Tobramycin®)
- 500mg/5ml vials (Tobra-Day®)
- 300mg/5ml preservative free ampoule (Sun, WKT)
- 28mg capsules for inhalation (Tobi® Podhaler).

Your hospital pharmacy will advise you if they manufacture any additional dosage forms to the above.

If you have any concerns, contact your child's doctor or the PCH Pharmacy Department

- Dispensary: 6456 0190 – select option 2
- Paediatric Medicines Information Service: 6456 0190 – select option 1

In case of overdose or poisoning contact the Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26



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