



Ethambutol

Reason for taking this medicine

Ethambutol (EMB) is a drug that is used with other drugs to treat tuberculosis (TB).

How to take this medicine

- It is very important that you take ethambutol exactly as prescribed
- If you are pregnant, think you might be pregnant, plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding, tell your health care provider before starting ethambutol
- If you miss a dose of ethambutol, take it as soon as possible but do not take two doses at one time
- Take EMB with food. This may prevent stomach upset
- Avoid alcoholic beverages while on EMB
- Do not take within 4 hours of antacids containing aluminum hydroxide
- Do not store EMB in areas where there is direct sunlight, heat or moisture

Caution

- Report any allergies to medicine to your health care provider and pharmacist before starting ethambutol
- Tell your health care provider if you have ever had kidney disease gout, or eye disorders, such as cataracts
- Always tell your health care provider and pharmacist if you are taking other medicines or herbal remedies
- If you will be taking this medicine for longer than two months you will need to have your eyes checked before starting, and throughout, your treatment

Side Effects

Ethambutol may cause side effects. Tell your health care provider if any of these symptoms are severe and do not go away:

- loss of appetite
- upset stomach
- metallic taste
- fever
- chills
- headache

- dizziness
- confusion
- joint pain
- gout episode

If you experience any of these symptoms, call your health care provider immediately

- **blurred or changed vision**
- **inability to see the colours: red or green**
- **sudden changes in vision**
- **skin rash**
- **itching**
- **eye pain**
- **“spots” in your vision**

Health Care Provider: _____

Phone Number: _____