

Allopurinol

[Allo-pure-IN-ol]
Zyloprim®

<http://Rheuminfo.com>
your rheumatology resource

How to use this medication

What is it



Allopurinol is a medication used to prevent attacks of gout. While taking this medicine it is important to have your blood tested occasionally.

Take it every day



This medicine is taken once a day.

Tablets



It comes in 100 & 300 mg tablets. The usual dose is between 50 to 800 mg per day. Discuss your dose with your doctor.

Be patient



It will take some time for the medicine to work. You may have flares of gout when starting. It is important to keep taking the medicine.

What you need to do

Stop if you develop a skin rash



Allopurinol can cause severe skin rashes. This is very rare. If you develop a skin rash stop the allopurinol immediately.

Allergic reaction



Allopurinol can sometimes cause an allergic reaction. Symptoms include fever, chills, nausea, vomiting, joint pain, and skin rash. This is rare. Stop allopurinol immediately.

Get occasional blood tests



It is important to occasionally have your blood tested while taking allopurinol. This is important to keep track of your gout and to make sure your blood counts, liver, and kidneys are ok.

Watch how much alcohol you drink



Drinking alcohol can flare your gout. It is best to avoid alcohol completely.

Side effects & important facts

Gout flare



When first started, allopurinol can increase gout flares. It is important to keep taking allopurinol. Your doctor can treat your flare of gout with different medicine.

Diarrhea & nausea



Allopurinol can cause diarrhea, abdominal pain, nausea, and vomiting.

Pregnancy & breastfeeding



Allopurinol has not been studied in pregnancy. Let your doctor know if you are planning to get pregnant or if you are breastfeeding.

Drug interactions



You must not take azathioprine while taking allopurinol. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before starting any new medicine.

When should I call my doctor

Please call if you need to stop



- If you feel sick and want to stop
- If you are concerned about any side effects
- If you want to or have already stopped the medicine

Other reasons to call your doctor:



Rash



Flare of
gout



Allergic
reaction



Pregnant
or Planning
Pregnancy

Other important information

Stopping allopurinol



You can simply stop taking allopurinol. Please call your doctor if you stop the medication.