

# Itraconazole

*i-tra-KOE-na-zole*

**Brand Name:** Sporanox

**Drug Class:** Opportunistic Infection and Other Drugs

Itraconazole, also known as Sporanox, belongs to the class of drugs known as antifungals. Antifungals kill fungi or stop fungi from multiplying or spreading. When fungal infections occur more frequently in patients with weakened immune systems, including people with HIV, they tend to be more serious and are called opportunistic infections (OIs).

## HIV/AIDS-Related Uses

Itraconazole was approved by the FDA on September 11, 1992, for the treatment of adults coinfecting with HIV and *Penicillium marneffei*. It is also approved for use as an alternative agent for the treatment or suppressive maintenance of cryptococcal meningitis in patients with AIDS and other OIs.

## Dosage Form/Administration

Itraconazole comes in capsule and oral solution forms that are taken by mouth and liquid form that is given by intravenous infusion into a vein.

## Contraindications

Individuals should tell a doctor about any medical problems before taking this medicine.

## Possible Side Effects

Along with its desired effects, itraconazole may cause some unwanted effects. Serious side effects of this medicine include fever and chills; skin rash or itching; sore throat; reddening, blistering, peeling, or loosening of skin and mucous membranes; dark or amber urine; loss of appetite; pale stools; stomach pain; unusual tiredness or weakness; yellow eyes or skin; and unusual bleeding or bruising. Individuals should tell a doctor if they have any of these side effects.

Other side effects may not be serious and may lessen or disappear with continued use of the medicine. Less serious side effects include dizziness, drowsiness, headache, abdominal pain, constipation, diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting. Individuals should tell a doctor if these side effects continue or are bothersome.

## Drug and Food Interactions

A doctor should be notified of any other medications being taken, including prescription, nonprescription (over-the-counter), or herbal medications.

## Clinical Trials

For information on clinical trials that involve Itraconazole, visit the ClinicalTrials.gov web site at <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov>. In the Search box, enter: Itraconazole AND HIV Infections.

## Manufacturer Information

Itraconazole  
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(800) 526-7736

Sporanox  
Ortho Biotech  
P.O. Box 6914  
430 Rt. 22 East  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807-0914  
(800) 682-6532

## For More Information

Contact your doctor or an AIDSinfo Health Information Specialist:

- Via Phone: 1-800-448-0440 Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 5:00 p.m. ET
- Via Live Help: [http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/live\\_help](http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/live_help) Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 4:00 p.m. ET