

Pentamidine isethionate

pen-TAM-i-deen

Brand Name: Nebupent, Pentacarinat, Pentam 300

Pentamidine isethionate, also known as Pentam 300 or Nebupent, is a type of medicine called an antiprotozoal. Antiprotozoals help the body overcome infections caused by protozoa, microscopic organisms that can cause disease.

HIV/AIDS-Related Uses

Pentamidine isethionate was approved by the FDA on June 15, 1989, for use in the treatment of *Pneumocystis jiroveci* (formerly *Pneumocystis carinii*) pneumonia (PCP), an opportunistic infection in people with HIV/AIDS. Pentamidine is generally used only when patients with PCP cannot tolerate the first-line treatment, sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim.

Dosage Information

Pentamidine isethionate is given by oral inhalation or by injection into a muscle or vein.

Contraindications

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

Possible Side Effects

Along with its desired effects, pentamidine isethionate can cause some unwanted effects. Serious side effects of this medicine include drowsiness; flushed, dry skin; fruit-like breath odor; increased thirst; increased urination; loss of appetite; elevated liver function tests; anxiety; chills; cold sweats; cool, pale skin; headache; increased hunger; nausea; nervousness; shakiness; blurred vision; confusion; dizziness; fainting; lightheadedness; unusual tiredness or weakness; sore throat or fever; decreased frequency of urination; unusual bleeding or bruising; rapid or irregular pulse; electrocardiogram (ECG) abnormalities; torsades de pointes (an abnormal heartbeat); skin rash; redness; itching; fever; or pain, redness, or hardness at the site of injection. 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 of this medicine include nausea or vomiting, loss of appetite,

diarrhea, and unpleasant metallic taste. 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 Pentamidine isethionate, visit the ClinicalTrials.gov web site at <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov>. In the Search box, enter: Pentamidine isethionate AND HIV Infections.

Manufacturer Information

Pentamidine isethionate
Fujisawa Healthcare Inc
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Deerfield, IL 60015-2548
(800) 727-7003

Pentam 300
Fujisawa Healthcare Inc
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(800) 727-7003

Nebupent
Fujisawa Healthcare Inc
Parkway Center North / 3 Parkway North
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Pentacarinat
Rhone - Poulenc Rorer
500 Arcola Road
Collegeville, PA 19426
(800) 340-7502

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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 Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 4:00 p.m. ET