

## Rifinah



Rifinah is a combination of two medicines (Rifampicin and Isoniazid) in one tablet.

### Before taking Rifinah

Tell your doctor about:

- ⊙ All other medicines that you are taking including any that you buy over the counter in a community pharmacy
- ⊙ Any previous allergy to any other medicines
- ⊙ If you have ever had any liver disease.

### Taking your Rifinah

Same procedure as Rifater

### Side effects

Same as Rifater

Protect your family and friends from TB – take all your TB medicine

**Remember** the TB Nurse is here to help and advise throughout your treatment. Please contact your TB Nurse if you feel unwell on your treatment or if there is anything you are unsure of regarding your medication.

Your TB Nurse is:

**TB specialist nurse:**

**Lesley Snyman**

Contact no:

**Tel: 01474 360528/6 or  
Mobile: 07799895044**

Your Hospital Doctor is:

**TB Alert** is a unique charity, raising awareness of Tuberculosis in the UK and supporting the work of the NHS by providing information to patients. We also support projects in developing countries ensuring that all patients receive proper treatment. With your support we can make a positive, worldwide impact on Tuberculosis and save more lives.



### TB Alert

Community Base  
113 Queens Road  
Brighton BN1 3XG  
Tel: 01273 234029

For further information or copies of this leaflet, please contact 01273 234770 (office hours only).

To make a donation or volunteer to help TB Alert, please contact 01273 234784 (office hours only).

Or go to our website at [www.tbalert.org](http://www.tbalert.org)

Information given in this leaflet regarding the treatment of Tuberculosis is not intended as a substitute for the knowledge, expertise, skill, and judgment of your TB nurse/doctor or other healthcare professionals in patient care. None of the information contained in this leaflet is intended to be used for decisions on diagnosis or treatment. Questions and concerns regarding diagnosis and treatment should be directed to a healthcare professional.

Original development work by the North West London TB Network



# Rifater, Ethambutol, Pyrazinamide & Rifinah

A company limited by guarantee Registered in England No. 360528 Registered Charity No. 1071886 design: worksong london 020 8552 6300



## Rifater



Rifater is a combination of three medicines (Rifampicin, Isoniazid and Pyrazinamide) in one tablet.

### Before taking Rifater

Tell your doctor about:

- ⦿ All other medicines that you are taking including any that you buy over the counter in a community pharmacy.
- ⦿ Any previous allergy to any other medicines.
- ⦿ If you have ever had any liver disease.

### Taking your Rifater

Rifater is best absorbed if the stomach is empty. Take your Rifater half an hour before you eat food. Your doctor or nurse will discuss with you the most suitable time of day for you to take your Rifater.

### Side effects

Rifater, like all other medicines, may have some side effects:

- ⦿ Stomach upsets such as nausea (feeling sick) vomiting and diarrhoea
- ⦿ Flu like symptoms such as chills, fever, dizziness and bone pain
- ⦿ Jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes) If you notice this, please stop taking all your medicines and seek medical attention immediately
- ⦿ Skin rashes and itchiness
- ⦿ Menstrual disturbances
- ⦿ Peripheral neuropathy (pins and needles in the fingers or toes)

- ⦿ Body secretions (urine, saliva, semen, vaginal fluids) will be orangey-red. This is normal and not a cause for concern; if your urine is dark before your dose of Rifater tell your doctor or nurse. Contact lenses may also be discoloured.
- ⦿ The effectiveness of hormonal contraceptives (oral, implants or other) is reduced. You will need alternative or additional methods of contraception; ask your doctor or nurse for advice.

## Ethambutol



### Before taking Ethambutol

Tell your doctor about:

- ⦿ All other medicines that you are taking including any that you buy over the counter in a community pharmacy.
- ⦿ Any previous allergy to any other medicines.

### Taking your Ethambutol

Ethambutol can be taken before or after you eat food. Your doctor or nurse will discuss with you the most suitable time for you to take your Ethambutol.

### Side effects:

Ethambutol may rarely cause visual disturbances (blurred and red/green colour disturbance). Your doctor or nurse will arrange for you to have a simple eye test prior to starting Ethambutol. If you develop the above visual disturbances whilst taking Ethambutol, please stop taking it and inform your doctor or nurse immediately.

## Pyrazinamide



### Before taking Pyrazinamide

Tell your doctor about:

- ⦿ All other medicines that you are taking including any that you buy over the counter in a community pharmacy.
- ⦿ Any previous allergy to any other medicines.
- ⦿ If you have ever had any liver disease.

### Taking your Pyrazinamide

Pyrazinamide can be taken before or after you eat food. Your doctor or nurse will discuss with you the most suitable time for you to take your Pyrazinamide.

### Side effects

Pyrazinamide, like all other medicines, may have some side effects:

- ⦿ Stomach upsets such as nausea (feeling sick) vomiting and diarrhoea
- ⦿ Flu like symptoms such as chills, fever, dizziness and bone pain
- ⦿ Jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes). If you notice this, please stop taking all your medicines and seek medical attention immediately
- ⦿ Skin rashes and itchiness.