

PREDNISONONE

Prednisone:

pronounced PRED-nih-sohn

Other names for this drug include:

Deltasone, Liquid Pred. Meticorten, Orasone, Prednicen-M, Prednisone Intensol, Sterapred

Reason this drug is prescribed:

SACROIDOSIS, GLOMERULONEPHRITIS

How to Take This Drug**How Much:**

TAPERING DOSAGE

How Often:

DAILY

By What Route:

ORAL

For How Long:

ORAL

If You Miss A Dose:

If you take one dose every other day, take the missed dose as soon as possible if you remember it the same morning. If not, wait and take it the next morning. Then skip a day and resume your regular schedule.

If you take one dose a day, take the missed dose as soon as possible. If you don't remember until the next day skip the missed dose and take your next dose on scheduled don't double dose.

If you take several doses a day, take the missed dose as soon as possible, then resume your regular schedule. If you don't remember until your next dose is due, double the next dose.

Side Effects:

Notify your primary health care provider if you experience side effects from this medication. Call immediately for any effects labeled "serious."

- **Serious:**

- Seizures
- Heart failure: shortness of breath; chest pain, anxiety
- Changes in heart rhythm
- Blood clots: shortness of breath, pain in the chest, legs, or buttocks
- Severe hormonal disorder with stress: from infection, surgery, or trauma
- Adrenal gland insufficiency: fatigue, muscle weakness, joint pain, fever, appetite and weight loss, difficulty breathing, dizziness, fainting
- Severe Hormonal disorder after abrupt withdrawal of the drug: rebound swelling and weight gain, fatigue, weakness, fever dizziness, drop in blood pressure on position change, difficulty breathing, poor appetite, aches in bones, depression, and fainting
- Low glucose level: dizziness, weakness
- After prolonged use withdrawal may be fatal

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- **Common:**
 - Exaggerated feeling of well-being
 - Sleeplessness
 - Stomach ulcer: blood in stools, abdominal pain
- **Less Common:**
 - False Brain Tumor: headache, vision changes
 - Cushingoid State: moonface, buffalo hump, sudden weight gain or swelling
 - Strange Behavior
 - Dizziness
 - Headache
 - High Blood Pressure: blurred vision, headache
 - Swelling
 - Numbness or Tingling in arms or legs
 - Cataracts
 - Glaucoma
 - Menstrual Irregularities
 - Stomach Irritation
 - Increased Appetite
 - Inflamed Pancreas: nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain
 - Nausea
 - Vomiting
 - Delayed Wound Healing
 - Acne
 - Various Skin Lesions
 - Muscle Weakness
 - Osteoporosis: softening of bone
 - Hairiness
 - Increased Risk of Infections
 - Low Potassium Level: muscle weakness, cramps
 - High Glucose Level: increased urination, hunger, or thirst
 - Carbohydrate Intolerance
 - Slow Growth in Children

Possible Interactions

Combining certain medications may alter their actions or produce unwanted side effects. Tell your health care provider about other prescription and nonprescription medications you're taking, especially:

Barbiturates

NSAIDs (Advil, Aleve, and Ibuprofen)

W (Dilantin)

Rifampin

Skin-Test Antigens

Toxoids

Indomethacin

Oral Anticoagulants (blood thinners)

Potassium-Depleting Medications

Salicylates (such as aspirin)

Thiazide Diuretics

Vaccines

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Special Instructions:

- Prednisone is not the same as prednisolone
- Take this medication exactly as prescribed.
- Don't stop taking this medication suddenly or without your health care provider's permission
- Take this medication with food or milk to lessen stomach irritation.
- Keep your appointments for regular blood tests and weight and blood pressure checks.
- Weigh yourself daily. Report sudden weight gain to your health care provider.
- Notify your health care provider if you have side effects of this medication
- If you have diabetes, monitor your glucose levels carefully. You may need more insulin.
- If you're elderly, you may be more prone to osteoporosis while taking this medication.
- If you're taking this medication for a long time, have your eyes examined periodically.
- This medication may hide infections or make them worse.
- Notify your health care provider if skin wounds are healing unusually slowly.
- Discuss dietary requirements, exercise, and vitamin supplements with your health care provider.
- Always carry a medical identification card identifying your medication needs.
- Know the signs and symptoms of early adrenal insufficiency and notify your health care provider if you experience tiredness, muscle weakness, joint pain, fever, poor appetite, nausea, difficulty breathing, dizziness, and fainting.
- Know the signs and symptoms of cushingoid symptoms (moonface, buffalo hump) and notify your health care provider of a sudden weight gain or swelling
- Liquid form of this medication contains alcohol.