

# Medications in Nephrotic Syndrome: Mycophenolate

## When do we use mycophenolate?

In children who may not get better with steroids or other medications, have repeated relapses, or have side effects to steroids

It may take several weeks for you to see a difference in your (your child's) condition.

## How do I (does my child) take mycophenolate?

For as long as the team tells you, even if you (your child) feel(s) better



At the same time of day, at least 12 hours apart



Do not change dose unless advised



## Precautions on mycophenolate



Watch for signs of infection



Avoid antacids, iron or magnesium supplements



Do not receive vaccines without talking to your team



Tell your healthcare team if you (your child) may be pregnant



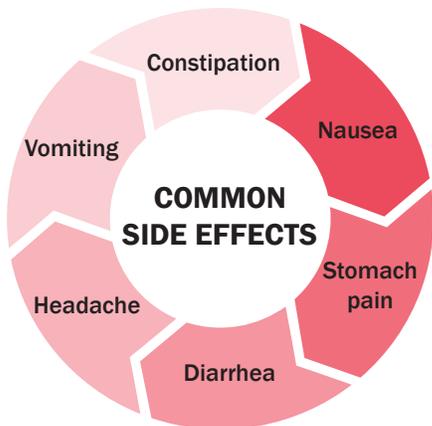
- If you (your child) miss(es) a dose, take it as soon as you remember
- If it is time for the next dose, skip the missed dose
- Never take two doses to make up for a missed dose



If you (your child) throw(s) up:  
 < 30 min. → repeat dose once  
 > 30 min. → do not repeat; call team for advice

Mycophenolate may cause birth defects if taken at time of conception or during pregnancy.

## Side effects

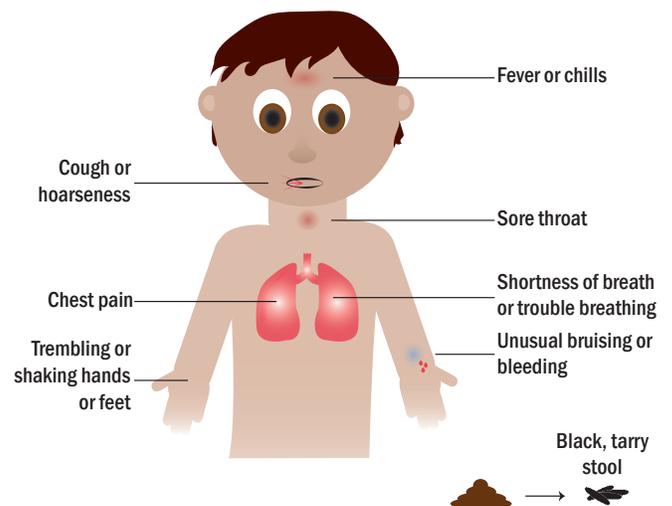


HELP PREVENT THESE SIDE EFFECTS BY TAKING MYCOPHENOLATE WITH FOOD EVERY TIME

Contact your healthcare team if you (your child) experience(s) these symptoms:

- Fever
- Multiple watery bowel movements or upset stomach
- Weakness or loss of energy

Seek immediate medical care if you have (your child has) any of these side effects:



The following side effects are very rare at the doses given for nephrotic syndrome. They include skin cancer and gastrointestinal bleeding.

# Mycophenolate: Additional Resources

## Incidence and outcomes of nephrotic syndrome

**INSIGHT Publication: *Ethnic Differences in Incidence and Outcomes of Childhood Nephrotic Syndrome***  
<http://cjasn.asnjournals.org/content/11/10/1760.short>

## How mycophenolate works

**National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases (NIDDK): *How is nephrotic syndrome treated?***  
<https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/kidney-disease/children/childhood-nephrotic-syndrome>

**The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne: *Are there any other treatments for nephrotic syndrome?***  
[http://www.rch.org.au/uploadedFiles/Main/Content/clinical-guide/130561%20SCOTT%20Nephrotic%20Syndrome%20booklet%20A5\\_LR.pdf](http://www.rch.org.au/uploadedFiles/Main/Content/clinical-guide/130561%20SCOTT%20Nephrotic%20Syndrome%20booklet%20A5_LR.pdf)

## How to give mycophenolate

**AboutKidsHealth (SickKids): *How should you give your child mycophenolate?***  
<http://www.aboutkidshealth.ca/En/HealthAZ/Drugs/Pages/Mycophenolate-for-Nephrotic-Syndrome.aspx>

**NephCure Kidney International: *How should I take Mycophenolate Mofetil? How is Mycophenolate Mofetil administered?***  
<https://nephcure.org/livingwithkidneydisease/treatment-options/mycophenolate-mofetil-cellcept-myortic/>

## Side effects

**Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health: *Mycophenolate mofetil for nephrotic syndrome - Are there any possible side effects?***  
[https://www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/sites/default/files/content-type/leaflet/pdf/20120529111128\\_0.pdf](https://www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/sites/default/files/content-type/leaflet/pdf/20120529111128_0.pdf)

**NephCure Kidney International: *What are the possible side effects of Mycophenolate Mofetil?***  
<https://nephcure.org/livingwithkidneydisease/treatment-options/mycophenolate-mofetil-cellcept-myortic/>

**AboutKidsHealth (SickKids): *What are the possible side effects of mycophenolate?***  
<http://www.aboutkidshealth.ca/En/HealthAZ/Drugs/Pages/Mycophenolate-for-Nephrotic-Syndrome.aspx>