

**READ THIS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF YOUR MEDICINE**

**PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION**

**PrSEPTRA® Injection**  
**sulfamethoxazole + trimethoprim, BP**  
**sterile solution for the preparation of intravenous infusions**

Read this carefully before you start taking SEPTRA® Injection and each time you get a refill. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about this drug. Talk to your healthcare professional about your medical condition and treatment and ask if there is any new information about SEPTRA® Injection.

**Serious Warnings and Precautions**

SEPTRA® Injection can cause serious side effects. If you get any of these side effects, stop taking SEPTRA® Injection and get immediate medical help:

- Severe skin reactions that may be life threatening. These include Steven-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis.
- A liver disease called fulminant hepatic necrosis that may be life-threatening.
- Blood problems including:
  - Agranulocytosis, where the number of white cells in the blood becomes dangerously low.
  - A blood disease called aplastic anemia, where the bone marrow is unable to make enough blood cells from being damaged.
  - A blood disease called immune thrombocytopenia, which can be life-threatening.
- Allergic reaction in the lungs and in the airways, where the airways can close up and make breathing difficult, and can be life-threatening if the person does not get medical help.

For further information and symptoms see:

- the “**To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use,...**” section
- the “**What are possible side effects from using SEPTRA® Injection?**” section

**What is SEPTRA® Injection used for?**

SEPTRA® Injection is used to treat:

- urinary tract infections;
- lung infections such as bronchitis or pneumonia (a lung infection caused by fungi);
- gastrointestinal (stomach and bowel) infections such as cholera or dysentery;
- nocardiosis, an infection of the lungs or other parts of the body;
- brucellosis which is a disease spread from animals to humans. When used to treat brucellosis it is used along with another medicine, gentamicin or rifampicin.

Antibacterial drugs like SEPTRA® Injection treat only bacterial infections. They do not treat viral infections. Although you may feel better early in treatment, SEPTRA® Injection should be used exactly as directed. Misuse or overuse of SEPTRA® Injection could lead to the growth of bacteria that will not be killed by SEPTRA® Injection (resistance). This means that SEPTRA® Injection may not work for you in

the future.

### **How does SEPTRA® Injection work?**

SEPTRA® Injection contains two different antibiotics called sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim. They work together to kill or to slow or stop the growth of bacteria or fungi that cause disease. This means that SEPTRA® Injection can be given to prevent or to treat certain kinds of infectious diseases.

### **What are the ingredients in SEPTRA® Injection?**

Medicinal ingredients: trimethoprim and sulfamethoxazole

Non-medicinal ingredients: propylene glycol, tromethamine, sodium hydroxide, sodium metabisulphite, ethanol 96% and water for injection.

### **SEPTRA® Injection comes in the following dosage forms:**

Solution for the preparation of intravenous infusions: sulfamethoxazole (80 mg / mL) + trimethoprim (16 mg / mL).

### **Do not use SEPTRA® Injection if:**

- you are allergic to sulfamethoxazole, trimethoprim or any of the other ingredients, including sodium metabisulfite (a sulfite preservative), in SEPTRA® Injection;
- you are allergic to sulphonamide medicines. Examples include diabetes medicines (such as gliclazide and glibenclamide). Talk to your healthcare professional if you are allergic to a medicine and you are not sure if it is a sulphonamide medicine causing bruises or bleeding (thrombocytopenia);
- you have liver problems;
- you have kidney problems;
- you have blood problems;
- you are pregnant;
- you are breastfeeding;
- you have been told that you have a rare blood problem called porphyria, which can affect your skin or nervous system.

### Children

If it is for your child, SEPTRA® Injection should not be given if they are less than 2 months old.

If you are not sure if any of the above apply to you, talk to your healthcare professional before being given SEPTRA® Injection.

**To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take SEPTRA® Injection. Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if you:**

- have severe allergies or asthma;
- you don't have enough folic acid (a vitamin) in your body called folate deficiency;
- you are underweight or malnourished;
- you have a disease called glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency;
- you are at risk for a rare blood disorder called porphyria, which can affect your skin or nervous system;
- you have been told by your healthcare professional that you have a high level of potassium in your blood;

- you have been told by your healthcare professional that you have a low level of sodium or albumin in your blood;
- you have been told by your healthcare professional that you have any serious disorder of the blood or blood forming tissues such as low blood cell counts;
- you have existing heart or lung disease, which may lead to a build-up of fluid in your body;
- you have hereditary disorder called phenylketonuria and are not on a special diet to help your condition;
- you are human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) positive or have a condition called Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS);
- If you have kidney problems.

**Other warnings you should know about:**

*Use in Elderly Patients*

Elderly patients are more likely to get serious side effects when receiving SEPTRA® Injection. This is increased if you have kidney or liver disease or are taking some types of other medicines, such as diuretics.

*Pregnancy and Breastfeeding*

Talk to your healthcare professional before taking this medicine if you are planning to get pregnant or planning to breastfeed. You should not receive SEPTRA® Injection if you are pregnant or are breastfeeding.

*Use in Patients with Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)*

If you have AIDS, you may be more likely to get side effects when receiving SEPTRA® Injection. These may include rash, severe allergic reactions, fever or low blood cell counts.

*Gastrointestinal - C. difficile colitis*

SEPTRA® Injection may increase your risk of being infected with a bacteria called *C. difficile*. Symptoms include watery diarrhea that happens three or more times per day or diarrhea associated with abdominal cramping.

*Driving and using machines*

After you are given SEPTRA® Injection you may feel weak, tired, dizzy, or confused. Before driving a vehicle or using machinery wait to see how you feel after being given SEPTRA® Injection.

**Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take, including any drugs, vitamins, minerals, natural supplements or alternative medicines.**

**The following may interact with SEPTRA® Injection:**

- medicines to remove excess water from the body known as diuretics (water pills) such as spironolactone;
- medicines to treat malaria such as pyrimethamine;
- medicines to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) such as zidovudine or lamivudine;
- medicines to thin the blood such as warfarin;
- medicines to treat epilepsy (fits) and seizures such as phenytoin;
- medicines to treat cancer or arthritis such as methotrexate;
- medicines to treat heart conditions such as digoxin or procainamide;

- medicines that can increase the amount of potassium in your blood, such as steroids (like prednisolone) and heart and high blood pressure medicines;
- medicines used after organ transplantation such as cyclosporine;
- medicines to treat Parkinson’s disease, multiple sclerosis, the flu or shingles such as amantadine;
- medicines to treat diabetes, such as glibenclamide, glipizide or tolbutamide (sulphonylureas) and repaglinide;
- medicines to treat bacterial infections such as rifampicin;
- medicines used after cancer treatment or to help with low levels of folate such as folic acid;
- medicines to help prevent pregnancy such as contraceptives.

**Drug-Food Interactions**

- Tell your healthcare professional if you have special dietary needs, especially if you are following a potassium rich diet. Potassium rich foods include beans, dark leafy greens, potatoes, squash, yogurt, fish, avocados, mushrooms and bananas.

**How to take SEPTRA® Injection:**

- SEPTRA® Injection will be given to you by a healthcare professional.
- It will be given to you as a continuous infusion into your vein. This is where a medicine is slowly given to you over a period of time.
- Your healthcare professional will dilute SEPTRA® Injection before giving it to you.
- You should drink plenty of fluids while receiving SEPTRA® Injection.

**Usual dose:**

- Your healthcare professional will decide how much SEPTRA® Injection you will receive.
- The dose you are given and how often you are given it will depend on:
  - your infection;
  - your weight;
  - your age.

**Overdose:**

If you have been given too much SEPTRA® Injection you may have the following signs or symptoms:

- anorexia (extreme fear of gaining weight);
- colic (severe pain in the abdomen caused by gas);
- nausea and vomiting;
- dizziness, drowsiness or confusion;
- fainting;
- headache;
- Pyrexia (fever);
- hematuria (blood in urine);
- crystalluria (cloudy urine);
- jaundice (yellowing of the skin or whites of the eye)
- Feeling depressed

If you think you have taken too much SEPTRA® Injection, contact your healthcare professional, hospital emergency department or regional poison control centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

**Missed Dose:**

Your healthcare professional will inject this medicine into you. If you miss a scheduled injection talk to your healthcare professional as soon as possible.

**What are possible side effects from using SEPTRA® Injection?**

These are not all the possible side effects you may feel when taking SEPTRA® Injection. If you experience any side effects not listed here, contact your healthcare professional.

Side effects may include:

- Feeling weak or tired;
- Trouble sleeping;
- Vision problems;
- Hair loss;
- Nose bleed;
- Inflammation at the site of injection;
- Swelling of body tissues with fluid;
- Chills;
- Sensitivity to sunlight;
- Palpitations (heart beat that feels too fast, strong or irregular);
- Cold sores, ulcers, or soreness of your tongue or inside of your mouth;
- Dry mouth;
- Heartburn;
- Abdominal pain or gas;
- Constipation;
- Nausea, vomiting and diarrhea;
- Loss of appetite;
- Passing more or less urine than usual; difficulty reaching bathroom in time;
- Muscle and joint pain or muscle weakness;
- Tingling or numbness in your hands and feet;
- Problems controlling your movements;
- Uncontrollable shaking;
- Vertigo (sensation of movement or feeling off balance);
- Ringing or other unusual sounds in your ears;
- Headache;
- Inflammation of your eye that causes pain and redness;
- Depression;
- Apathy (indifference and a lack of motivation);
- Feeling unsteady or dizzy.
- anorexia (extreme fear of gaining weight)

SEPTRA® Injection can cause abnormal blood test results.

<b>Serious side effects and what to do about them</b>			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
<b>Allergic reactions:</b> swelling of			√

face, mouth, tongue or throat which may be red and painful and/or cause difficulty in swallowing; red patches on the skin; rash; hives; fever (high temperature); joint pain; feeling sick (nausea); being sick (vomiting); chest pain.			
<b>Stevens-Johnson syndrome</b> (severe skin rash): redness, blistering and/or peeling of the skin and/or inside of the lips, eyes, mouth, nasal passages or genitals, accompanied by fever, chills, headache, cough, body aches or swollen glands			√
<b>Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis</b> (severe skin reaction): redness, blistering and/or peeling of large areas of the skin			√
Difficulty breathing, cough, wheezing, shortness of breath, tightness of the chest.			√
Aseptic meningitis (inflammation of the protective lining of the brain that is not caused by infection): including sudden headache or stiffness of your neck, accompanied by fever, nausea, vomiting, sensitivity to light.			√
Acute inflammation of the small and large intestine <i>Pseudomembranous colitis</i> : including watery or bloody diarrhea, abdominal cramps, pain or tenderness, fever, nausea, dehydration.			√
Fits (convulsions or seizures)			√
Heart problems: Increased heart rate, chest pain, shortness of breath).			√
<b>Pancreatitis</b> (Acute inflammation of the pancreas): including upper abdominal pain that spreads to the back, swollen and tender abdomen, nausea, vomiting, fever.			√

<b>Hypoglycaemia</b> (an abnormally low level of sugar in the blood): including dizziness or light-headedness, shakiness, nervousness or anxiety, feeling confused, sweating, chills.			√
Problems with your urine; pain or difficulty passing urine, blood or cloudiness in your urine.			√
<b>Hepatitis</b> (inflammation of the liver): fatigue, fever, body ache, abdominal pain, dark urine or pale stools, difficulty to urinate.			√
<b>Jaundice</b> (yellowing of the skin and whites of the eyes).			√
An infection called thrush or candidiasis which can affect your mouth or vagina.			√
<b>Hallucinations:</b> Seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting or feeling things that don't exist outside your mind			√
<b>Immune thrombocytopenia:</b> including being easily bruised, a rash on the skin that appears tiny pinpoint-sized reddish or purple spots, usually on the lower legs, bleeding from the gums or nose, and blood in the urine or stool.			√
<b>Aplastic anemia:</b> including feeling tired, feeling short of breath, pale skin, unexplained or easy bruising, fever, chills, sore throat, and a general feeling of being unwell.			√
<b>Severe Cutaneous Adverse Reactions (SCAR)</b> (severe skin reactions that may also affect other organs): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skin peeling, scaling, or blistering (with or without pus) which may also affect your eyes, mouth, nose or genitals, itching, severe rash, bumps under the skin, skin pain, skin color changes (redness, yellowing, purplish)</li> <li>• Swelling and redness of eyes or face</li> <li>• Flu-like feeling, fever, chills, body aches, swollen glands, cough</li> </ul> Shortness of breath, chest pain or			√

discomfort			
<b>Angioedema:</b> swelling of the face, hands, feet, genitals, tongue or throat, difficulty swallowing or breathing; swelling of the digestive tract which may cause diarrhea, nausea or vomiting			√
<b>Erythema multiforme</b> (an allergic skin reaction): raised red or purple skin patches, possibly with blister or crust in the center; possibly swollen lips, mild itching or burning			√

If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, talk to your healthcare professional.

### Reporting Side Effects

You can report any suspected side effects associated with the use of health products to Health Canada by:

- Visiting the Web page on Adverse Reaction Reporting (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada.html>) for information on how to report online, by mail or by fax; or
- Calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.

*NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.*

### Storage:

Store SEPTRA® Injection between 15° and 30°C. Protect from light. Keep out of reach and sight of children.

### If you want more information about SEPTRA® Injection:

- Talk to your healthcare professional
- Find the full product monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals and includes this Patient Medication Information by visiting the Health Canada website (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada.html>); the manufacturer's website ([www.aspenpharma.ca](http://www.aspenpharma.ca)), or by calling 1-844-330-1213.

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