

Nebulized Amphotericin B Conventional

This handout explains what Amphotericin B is and how to use it. If you have any questions, talk with your doctor, respiratory therapist or pharmacist.

What is Amphotericin B?

Amphotericin B (am-fo-ter-i-sin) is an antifungal medicine. It is used to treat infections caused by many types of fungus such as *Candida* or *Aspergillus*. Antifungal medicines kill the fungus by stopping its growth. These drugs are sometimes used to control frequent lung infections that occur with cystic fibrosis (CF) or after lung transplant surgery.

What You Need

Premixed syringes that have 2.5 mg of amphotericin B per 0.5 mL.

Supplies Needed

For one 2.5 mg treatment:

- Premixed Syringe (2.5 mg/0.5 mL)
- Sterile Water for Inhalation Unit Dose Packets 5 mL

How to Mix or Prepare

Premixed Syringe (2.5 mg/0.5 mL)

- Because these are premixed, you do not have to do anything.

How to Nebulize

Premixed Syringe (2.5 mg/0.5 mL)

- Inject the 0.5 mL syringe contents into the nebulizer reservoir.
- Pour Sterile Water for Inhalation 2.5 mL (1/2 packet) into the medicine reservoir of the nebulizer.
- Put the nebulizer together and start the treatment.

Important to Know

- Take slow, deep breaths while you inhale the medicines into your lungs.
- A treatment takes about 10-15 minutes (cup is empty).
- Be sure to hold the cup upright so that the medicine does not spill.
- If the medicine sticks to the sides of the cup, gently tap the side of the cup.
- A new syringe should be used for each treatment.
- Follow the instructions from your health care provider on how often to nebulize.

How to Store

Amphotericin B premixed syringes can be stored in the refrigerator for a max of two weeks. After the beyond use date (BUD) on the syringe, the drug can't be used and should be thrown away.

When should I use it?

This medicine should be used on a regular basis to help control fungal lung infections. If you use a bronchodilator inhaler, use it before the nebulizer.

Your symptoms should improve as you keep doing this treatment. If your infection does not improve, or gets worse, call your doctor.

Side Effects

When inhaled, this medicine may cause some irritation to the lungs, or a cough. If these occur, tell your doctor or respiratory therapist right away.

How to Clean and Disinfect the Small Volume Nebulizer

It is important to keep your nebulizer clean. **Take apart the nebulizer and rinse the parts with hot water after each treatment.**

To Clean

1. Take the nebulizer apart and wash the pieces in warm soapy water.
2. Rinse with hot tap water.
3. Place the nebulizer pieces in a bowl and add enough 70% ethyl alcohol to fully cover them.
4. Soak all parts for 20 minutes.
5. Rinse all parts of the nebulizer with sterile water. **Do not use water from the faucet, bottled**

water, or distilled water. To make water sterile, you can boil it for 5 minutes.

6. Use this water once, and then throw it out.
7. Place the pieces on a paper towel to dry.

Equipment

If you have questions or need more supplies, call your Home Health Equipment provider