FLUCONAZOLE CAPSULES 150 MG

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

In this leaflet
1. What FLUCONAZOLE 150 is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take FLUCONAZOLE 150
3. How to take FLUCONAZOLE 150
4. Possible side-effects
5. How to store FLUCONAZOLE 150
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. WHAT FLUCONAZOLE 150 IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR

Fluconazole, the active ingredient, belongs to a group of medicines called anti-fungal agents and it is used to treat infections caused by fungi and may also be used to stop you from getting a candidal infection. The most common cause of fungal infections is a yeast called Candida.

Adults
You might be given this medicine by your doctor to treat the following types of fungal infections:
- Cryptococcal meningitis – a fungal infection in the brain
- Coccidioidomycosis – a disease of the bronchopulmonary system
- Infections caused by Candida and found in the blood stream, body organs (e.g. heart, lungs) or urinary tract
- Mucosal thrush - infection affecting the lining of the mouth, throat and denture sore mouth
- Genital thrush – infection of the vagina or penis
- Skin infections - e.g. athlete's foot, ringworm, jock itch, nail infection

You might also be given Fluconazole 150 to:
- stop cryptococcal meningitis from coming back
- stop mucosal thrush from coming back
- reduce recurrence of vaginal thrush
- stop you from getting an infection caused by Candida (if your immune system is weak and not working properly)

Children and adolescents (0 to 17 years old)
You might be given this medicine by your doctor to treat the following types of fungal infections:
- Mucosal thrush - infection affecting the lining of the mouth, throat
- Infections caused by Candida and found in the blood stream, body organs (e.g. heart, lungs) or urinary tract
- Cryptococcal meningitis – a fungal infection in the brain

You might also be given Fluconazole 150 to:
- stop you from getting an infection caused by Candida (if your immune system is weak and not working properly).
- stop cryptococcal meningitis from coming back

2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU TAKE FLUCONAZOLE 150

Do not take Fluconazole 150 if
- You have ever had an allergic reaction to fluconazole, to other medicines you have taken to treat fungal infections or to any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6). The symptoms may include itching, reddening of the skin or difficulty in breathing.
- You are taking terfenadine or astemizole (antihistamine medicines for allergies), cisapride (used for stomach upsets), pimozide (used for treating mental illness), quinidine (used for treating heart arrhythmia) or erythromycin (an antibiotic for treating infections).

Warnings and precautions
Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Fluconazole
- if you have any disease or illness affecting your liver or kidneys
- suffer from heart disease, including heart rhythm problems
- if you develop severe skin reactions (itching, reddening of the skin or difficulty in breathing)
- if you develop signs of ‘adrenal insufficiency’ where the adrenal glands do not produce adequate amounts of certain steroid hormones such as cortisol (chronic, or long lasting fatigue, muscle weakness, loss of appetite, weight loss, abdominal pain)

Other medicines and Fluconazole 150

Tell your doctor immediately if you are taking astemizole, terfenadine (an antihistamine for treating allergies) or cisapride (used for stomach upsets) or pimozide (used for treating mental illness) or quinidine (used for treating heart arrhythmia) or erythromycin (an antibiotic for treating infections) as these should not be taken with Fluconazole (see section: “Do not take Fluconazole if you”).

There are some medicines that may interact with Fluconazole. Make sure your doctor knows if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- nifedipine, isradipine, amlodipine, felodipine and losartan (for hypertension-high blood pressure)
- rifampicin, rifabutine (antibiotics for infections)
- medicines that thin the blood to prevent blood clots (Warfarin or similar medicines)
- benzodiazepines (midazolam, triazolam or similar medicines) used to help you sleep or for anxiety
- chlorpropamide, glibenclamide, glipizide or tolbutamide (used to control diabetes)
- phenytoin, carbamazepine (used for treating fits)
- ciclosporin, everolimus, sirolimus or tacrolimus (to prevent transplant rejection)
- theophylline (used to control asthma)
- zidovudine, also known as AZT, or saquinavir (used in HIV infected patients)
- prednisone (steroid)
- oral contraceptives
- alfentanil, fentanyl (used as anaesthesia)
- celecoxib, flurbiprofen, naproxen, ibuprofen, lornoxicam, meloxicam, diclofenac
  (Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAID))
- amitriptyline and nortriptyline (used as anti-depressant)
- amphotericin B, voriconazole (anti-fungal)
- cyclophosphamide and vinca alkaloids (vincristine, vinblastine or similar medicines)
  used for treating cancer
- halofantrine (used for treating malaria)
- Statins (atorvastatin, simvastatin and fluvastatin or similar medicines) used for reducing
  high cholesterol levels
- vitamin A (nutritional supplement)
- methadone (used for pain)
- ivacaftor (used for treating cystic fibrosis)
- amiodarone (used for treating uneven heartbeats ‘arrhythmias’)
- hydrochlorothiazide (a diuretic)

You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist about any other medicines that you are
taking, including medicines obtained without a prescription.

**Fluconazole 150 with food and drink**
You may take the capsule with or without a meal.

**Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility**
If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant, are planning to
have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.
You should not take Fluconazole while you are pregnant unless your doctor has told
you to.

You can continue breast-feeding after taking a single dose of Fluconazole up to 200 mg.
You should not breast-feed if you are taking a repeated dose of Fluconazole.

**Driving and using machines**
When driving vehicles or using machines, it should be taken into account that occasionally
dizziness or fits may occur.

**Fluconazole 150 contains lactose (milk sugar)**
This medicine contains a small amount of lactose (milk sugar). If your doctor has told you
that you have an intolerance to some sugars, such as lactose, please contact your doctor
before taking this medicine.

**3. HOW TO TAKE FLUCONAZOLE 150**

Always take Fluconazole 150 exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with
your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.
Swallow the capsule whole with a glass of water. It is best to take your capsule at the same time of each day.

The recommended doses of this medicine for different infections are below:

**Adults**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To treat cryptococcal meningitis</td>
<td>400 mg on the first day then 200 mg to 400 mg once daily for 6 to 8 weeks or longer if needed. Sometimes doses are increased up to 800 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To stop cryptococcal meningitis from coming back</td>
<td>200 mg once daily until you are told to stop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To treat coccidioidomycosis</td>
<td>200 mg to 400 mg once daily from 11 months for up to 24 months or longer if needed. Sometimes doses are increased up to 800 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To treat internal fungal infections caused by Candida</td>
<td>800 mg on the first day then 400 mg once daily until you are told to stop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To treat mucosal infections affecting the lining of mouth, throat and denture sore mouth</td>
<td>200 mg to 400 mg on the first day then 100 mg to 200 mg until you are told to stop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To treat mucosal thrush – dose depends on where the infection is located</td>
<td>50 mg to 400 mg once daily for 7 to 30 days until you are told to stop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To stop mucosal infections affecting the lining of mouth, throat</td>
<td>100 mg to 200 mg once daily, or 200 mg 3 times a week, while you are at risk of getting an infection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To treat genital thrush</td>
<td>150 mg as a single dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To reduce recurrence of vaginal thrush</td>
<td>150 mg every third day for a total of 3 doses (day 1, 4 and 7) and then once a week for 6 months while you are at risk of getting an infection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To treat fungal skin and nail infections</td>
<td>Depending on the site of the infection 50 mg once daily, 150 mg once weekly, 300 to 400 mg once weekly for 1 to 4 weeks (Athlete’s foot may be up to 6 weeks, for nail infection treatment until infected nail is</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To stop you from getting an infection caused by Candida (if your immune system is weak and not working properly) 200 mg to 400 mg once daily while you are at risk of getting an infection

**Adolescents from 12 to 17 years old**
Follow the dose prescribed by your doctor (either adults or children posology).

**Children to 11 years old**
The maximum dose for children is 400 mg daily.

The dose will be based on the child’s weight in kilograms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Daily dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mucosal thrush and throat infections caused by Candida – dose and duration depends on the severity of the infection and on where the infection is located</td>
<td>3 mg per kg of body weight (6 mg per kg of body weight might be given on the first day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cryptococcal meningitis or internal fungal infections caused by Candida</td>
<td>6 mg to 12 mg per kg of body weight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To stop children from getting an infection caused by Candida (if their immune system is not working properly)</td>
<td>3 mg to 12 mg per kg of body weight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Use in children 0 to 4 weeks of age**
Use in children of 3 to 4 weeks of age:
The same dose as above but given once every 2 days. The maximum dose is 12 mg per kg of body weight every 48 hours.

Use in children less than 2 weeks old:
The same dose as above but given once every 3 days. The maximum dose is 12 mg per kg of body weight every 72 hours.

**Elderly**
The usual adult dose should be given unless you have kidney problems.

**Patients with kidney problems**
Your doctor may change your dose, depending on your kidney function.

**If you take more capsules than you should**
Taking too many capsules at once may make you unwell. Contact your doctor or your nearest hospital casualty department at once. The symptoms of a possible overdose may include hearing, seeing, feeling and thinking things that are not real (hallucination and paranoid behaviour). Symptomatic treatment (with supportive measures and gastric lavage
If necessary) may be adequate.

**If you forget to take Fluconazole 150**

Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose. If you forget to take a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the dose that you missed.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

**4. POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS**

Like all medicines Fluconazole 150 may sometimes cause side-effects, although not everybody gets them.

A few people develop **allergic reactions** although serious allergic reactions are rare. If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. If you get any of the following symptoms, **tell your doctor immediately**.

- sudden wheeziness, difficulty breathing or tightness in the chest
- swelling of the eyelids, face or lips
- itching all over the body, reddening of the skin or itchy red spots
- skin rash
- severe skin reactions such as a rash that causes blistering (this can affect the mouth and tongue)

Fluconazole 150 may affect your liver. The signs of liver problems include:

- tiredness
- loss of appetite
- vomiting
- yellowing of your skin or the whites of your eyes (jaundice)

Fluconazole 150 may affect your adrenal glands and the levels of steroid hormones produced. The signs of adrenal problems include:

- tiredness
- muscle weakness
- loss of appetite
- weight loss
- abdominal pain

If any of these happen, stop taking Fluconazole 150 and tell your doctor immediately.

**Other side effects:** Additionally, if any of the following side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people) are:

- headache
- stomach discomfort, diarrhoea, feeling sick, vomiting
- increases in blood tests of liver function
• rash

Uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in 100 people) are:
• reduction in red blood cells which can make skin pale and cause weakness or breathlessness
• decreased appetite
• inability to sleep, feeling drowsy
• fit, dizziness, sensation of spinning, tingling, pricking or numbness, changes in sense of taste
• constipation, difficult digestion, wind, dry mouth
• muscle pain
• liver damage and yellowing of the skin and eyes (jaundice)
• wheals, blistering (hives), itching, increased sweating
• tiredness, general feeling of being unwell, fever

Rare side effects (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people) are:
• lower than normal white blood cells that help defend against infections and blood cells that help to stop bleeding
• red or purple discoloration of the skin which may be caused by low platelet count, other blood cell changes
• blood chemistry changes (high blood levels of cholesterol, fats)
• low blood potassium
• shaking
• abnormal electrocardiogram (ECG), change in heart rate or rhythm
• liver failure
• allergic reactions (sometimes severe), including widespread blistering rash and skin peeling, severe skin reactions, swelling of the lips or face
• hair loss

**Reporting of side effects**
If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard). By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

**5. HOW TO STORE FLUCONAZOLE 150**

• Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
• Do not store above 25°C.
• Do not use your medicine after the expiry date shown on the carton after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of the month.

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

**6. FURTHER INFORMATION**

**What FLUCONAZOLE 150 contains**
The capsule contains 150mg fluconazole as the active ingredient. The capsule also
contains lactose, pregelatinised maize starch, sodium laurilsulfate, colloidal anhydrous silica, magnesium stearate, purified talc and the capsule shell also contains gelatin, sodium laurilsulfate, water and the colours brilliant blue (E133) and titanium dioxide (E171).

**What FLUCONAZOLE 150 looks like and contents of pack**
This medicine is supplied as a pack of single blue capsule.

**Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer**
FDC International Ltd, Unit 6, Fulcrum 1, Solent Way, Whiteley, Fareham, Hampshire, PO15 7FE

Hard to see or read the leaflet? Call +44(0) 1489 565222 for help.

This leaflet was last revised in May 2016.