

Mycophenolate Mofetil (mye-koe-FEN-oh-late MOE-fe-til)

Also sold under the brand name, Cellcept, this medicine is used with other drugs to prevent organ rejection. It suppresses your body's immune system.

How to take this medicine

- This medicine is taken by mouth.
- Most patients take this medicine two times a day. Your doctor will tell you how much medicine to use and how often.
- It is best to take this medicine on an empty stomach, but you can take it with food.
- **Swallow the capsules and tablets whole.** Do not break, crush, open or chew.
- Do not stop taking this medicine unless your doctor tells you to

Side effects may include:

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Abdominal pain
- Weakness

Learn more about your health care.

- Tremor
- Headache
- Lower platelet counts
- Lower white blood cell counts
- Insomnia
- Mood changes
- Infection

Call your doctor right away if you:

- Are vomiting or have diarrhea greater than 24 hours.
- Have severe stomach pain, bloody vomit, or vomit that looks like coffee grounds.
- Notice blood in your stools or urine.
- Have symptoms of infection, such as fever or chills.
- Have unusual bruising or bleeding.
- Have sores or white patches in your mouth.
- Have trouble breathing or have chest pain.

Warnings

- Tell your doctor if you have ulcers, stomach bleeding, or any other stomach problems.
- Tell your doctor if you have high blood pressure.
- You may be more likely to get an infection while on this medicine.
- Try to stay away from people with colds, flu, or other infections.
- You may be at higher risk of skin cancer or cancer of the lymph system while on this medicine.
- Avoid being in the sun while on this medicine.
- Do not use tanning booths or sunlamps.

- Use sunscreen and protect your skin if you have to be outside in the sun.

If you miss a dose

- It is very important that you do not miss any doses of this medicine.
- Take the missed dose if it is only 2 or 3 hours from the time you were supposed to have a dose.
- Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next regular dose, then go back to your regular schedule.
- Do not take two doses at the same time.

For women of childbearing age

- This medicine may be harmful to an unborn baby.
- A pregnancy test should be done at least one week before starting this medicine.
- Contact your doctor right away if you think you are pregnant.
- Use 2 forms of birth control before you start this medicine, while you are using this medicine, and for 6 weeks after your last dose.
- Tell your doctor if you are breastfeeding.

Lab tests

- You will need to have blood tests done to watch for harmful side effects

Drugs and foods to avoid

- Be sure to let your doctor know if you are started on any new prescription medicines, such as acyclovir (Zovirax), cholestyramine (Questran, Questran Light), or birth control pills

- Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using any over-the-counter, vitamins, or herbal medicines.
- Magnesium- and aluminum-containing antacids such as Maalox and Mylanta may effect how this medicine is absorbed into the bloodstream. Separate dosing of these medicines by at least 2-4 hours.
- Talk to your doctor before receiving any vaccines.

Storage

- Store this medicine at room temperature.
- Keep away from heat, moisture, and direct light.
- Keep all medicine out of the reach of children.

For questions about this medicine, contact your transplant coordinator.

- **Talk to your doctor or others on your health care team if you have questions. You may request more written information from the Library for Health Information at (614) 293-3707 or email: health-info@osu.edu.**