

Metronidazole (Flagyl)

Indication(s): Travel associated gastroenteritis when parasitic infection is suspected.

Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to metronidazole.

Precautions: Use with caution in those with CNS diseases - If abnormal neurologic symptoms occur, treatment must be discontinued immediately. Oral metronidazole is not recommended during the 1st trimester. Hold breastfeeding in nursing mothers pending consultation from a HMA.

Drug Interactions: Concomitant alcohol use causes a disulfiram-like reaction during therapy (flushing, headache, nausea & vomiting, abdominal cramps, sweating) (Avoid Combo).

Adverse effects: ($\geq 1\%$) Nausea (~12%); abdominal pain; anorexia; constipation; diarrhea; dizziness; furry tongue; glossitis; headache; unpleasant metallic taste, vomiting.

Pharmacology: A chemically reactive, reduced form of metronidazole is thought to be responsible for loss of the helical structure of bacterial and protozoan DNA resulting in strand breakage and impairment of cellular function.

Dosage and Administration: 500mg PO TID x 7 days.