

Italom 200 Capsule

Itraconazole (200mg) Capsule

Category:

Antifungal Medication

Dosage Form:

Capsule

Strength:

- Itraconazole: 200 mg per capsule
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Description:

Itraconazole is a triazole antifungal agent used to treat various fungal infections. It works by inhibiting the synthesis of ergosterol, an essential component of fungal cell membranes, thereby disrupting the cell membrane structure and function, which ultimately leads to the death of the fungal cell. Itraconazole is effective against a broad range of fungi, including dermatophytes, yeasts, and certain molds, making it useful in the treatment of various fungal infections, both superficial and systemic.

Indications:

Itraconazole (200mg) capsules are used for the treatment of:

- **Fungal Infections:**
 - **Systemic fungal infections:** Candidiasis (oral, esophageal, and invasive), histoplasmosis, blastomycosis, and aspergillosis.
 - **Superficial fungal infections:** Onychomycosis (nail infection), tinea corporis (ringworm), tinea pedis (athlete's foot), and tinea cruris (jock itch).
 - **Dermatophyte infections** (e.g., dermatophytosis) and fungal nail infections.
 - **Fungal infections caused by** *Aspergillus* species and *Cryptococcus*.
 - **Prophylaxis of fungal infections:** In patients with immunocompromised conditions (e.g., AIDS or those undergoing chemotherapy).
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Mechanism of Action:

Itraconazole inhibits the enzyme lanosterol 14 α -demethylase, a key enzyme in the biosynthesis of ergosterol, which is an essential component of the fungal cell membrane. By blocking this enzyme, itraconazole prevents the formation of ergosterol, disrupting the fungal cell membrane integrity, and inhibiting fungal growth. The result is the death of the fungal cell, leading to the resolution of the infection.

Dosage and Administration:

- **Adult Dosage:**
 - **For systemic fungal infections:**
 - The usual dose is 200 mg once daily or 100 mg twice

daily, depending on the severity and type of infection.

- Duration of treatment may range from 1 to 6 months or longer, depending on the infection's location and severity.

- For onychomycosis (nail infection):
 - The typical dose is 200 mg once daily for 12 weeks.
- For dermatophyte infections (e.g., tinea):
 - 200 mg once daily for 4 weeks.

- **Pediatric Dosage:**

- The dosage for children is based on weight, and a healthcare provider will adjust the dose accordingly.

Administration:

- Itraconazole capsules should be taken with food for better absorption.
- Do not crush or chew the capsules; they should be swallowed whole.

Contraindications:

Itraconazole should not be used in the following situations:

- Hypersensitivity to Itraconazole or any of its ingredients
- Pregnancy (Category C) and Lactation: Itraconazole should be avoided during pregnancy unless absolutely necessary, as it may harm the fetus. It is not recommended for use during breastfeeding.
- Concomitant use with certain medications:

- Drugs that increase the blood levels of itraconazole, or those that it may interact with, including certain statins (e.g., simvastatin, atorvastatin), anticoagulants (e.g., warfarin), and benzodiazepines.
- QT prolonging drugs, as itraconazole may increase the risk of arrhythmias.
- CYP3A4 substrates: Strong inhibitors or inducers of the CYP3A4 enzyme can alter the effectiveness or toxicity of itraconazole.

Precautions:

- **Liver Disease:** Itraconazole is metabolized by the liver, so caution is advised in patients with liver dysfunction, and monitoring of liver function tests is recommended during therapy.
- **Renal Impairment:** Caution should be exercised in patients with kidney disease, as itraconazole may accumulate in the body.
- **Heart Conditions:** Since itraconazole can affect the heart's electrical activity, it should be used with caution in patients with heart failure or a history of arrhythmias, especially those with a reduced left ventricular ejection fraction.
- **QT Prolongation:** Itraconazole has been associated with QT interval prolongation; caution is required when used in combination with other drugs known to prolong the QT interval.

Adverse Effects:

Common side effects of itraconazole include:

- **Gastrointestinal Symptoms:** Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea, or constipation.
- **Headache or Dizziness**
- **Rash or Itching**
- **Liver Dysfunction:** Elevated liver enzymes (AST/ALT), jaundice, or hepatotoxicity (rare, but severe).
- **Edema (swelling)**
- **Hypokalemia (low potassium levels)**
- **Fatigue or Weakness**

Serious side effects may include:

- **Severe Allergic Reactions:** Difficulty breathing, swelling of face/lips/tongue, or hives.
- **Liver Damage:** Yellowing of the skin or eyes, dark urine, persistent abdominal pain.
- **Heart Failure:** Especially in patients with preexisting heart conditions.
- **Rhabdomyolysis (muscle breakdown):** Rare but potentially severe, especially when used with certain medications.

If any of these serious side effects occur, contact a healthcare provider immediately.

Drug Interactions:

Itraconazole may interact with several medications, which could either increase the risk of side effects or reduce the efficacy of one or both drugs. Notable interactions include:

- **CYP3A4 Inhibitors/Inducers:** Strong inducers of CYP3A4 (such as rifampin) can reduce itraconazole's effectiveness, while strong inhibitors of CYP3A4 (such as ritonavir or certain antibiotics) can increase itraconazole levels and toxicity.
- **Benzodiazepines (e.g., midazolam, triazolam):** Itraconazole may increase

the effects of these drugs, leading to excessive sedation.

- **Statins:** Combining itraconazole with certain statins can increase the risk of muscle-related side effects, including rhabdomyolysis.
- **Anticoagulants (e.g., warfarin):** Itraconazole may increase the effects of warfarin, increasing the risk of bleeding.

Storage Instructions:

- **Store at room temperature (15°C to 30°C).**
- **Keep the container tightly closed and in a dry place, away from heat and moisture.**
- **Keep out of the reach of children.**

Key Benefits:

- **Broad Spectrum Antifungal Activity:** Itraconazole is effective against a wide range of fungal infections, including both systemic and superficial types.
- **Long Half-Life:** It has a relatively long half-life, which allows for once-daily or infrequent dosing in many cases.
- **Good Bioavailability with Food:** Taking itraconazole with food improves its absorption, particularly in the capsules.

Conclusion:

Itraconazole (200mg) capsule is an effective antifungal medication that can treat a variety of fungal infections, ranging from superficial skin infections to life-threatening systemic conditions. It is well-tolerated in most patients, but it is important to follow the prescribed dosing regimen and monitor for any adverse

effects, particularly those related to liver function and cardiovascular health. Always consult a healthcare provider before starting treatment, especially if you have underlying health conditions or are taking other medications.

Manufactured in India for:



Cafoli Lifecare Pvt. Ltd.

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