

# **Rifampin**

*Patient information sheet*



## **Why you are taking the medication:**

Rifampin is used alone or with other drugs to treat tuberculosis and to prevent people from getting sick if they have had contact with tuberculosis bacteria

## **Let your health care provider know right away if you have any of the following issues:**

- Unusual tiredness or loss of appetite
- Severe abdominal upset
- Fever or chills

## **Instructions for taking medication:**

- Best taken without food; if it bothers your stomach, try taking it with a small amount of food
- It is normal for your urine, tears, and other secretions to turn an orange color when taking this medicine
- Soft contact lenses may become discolored while you are on this medicine
- Make sure your doctor knows all the medicines you take because many drugs can interfere with this one
- Avoid the use of oral hormone-based birth control methods because rifampin may decrease their effectiveness
- As with all medications, it is important to take the full course of the medicine, even if you begin to feel better
- Rifampin interacts with many types of medications. It is very important to tell your healthcare provider about ANY medication you take including over the counter medication

## **Contact information for your health department:**

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### **WV Division of Tuberculosis Elimination**

350 Capitol Street, Room 125, Charleston, WV 25301

304-558-3669(ph) 304-558-1825(fax)

[www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/tuberculosis](http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/tuberculosis)