

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Bureau of Tuberculosis Control

FACTS ABOUT RIFAPENTINE

Your Doctor has prescribed rifapentine to treat tuberculosis in your lungs
Here are some things you should know about rifapentine:

- Rifapentine should be taken together with isoniazid, once every week.
- Rifapentine will only be given by direct observation by a health care worker either in the clinic or your home or other place convenient for you.
- You should eat a small meal before taking Rifapentine. This increases the absorption of the medication and makes it more effective.
- Do NOT drink alcohol while you are taking rifapentine and isoniazid.
- Rifapentine may cause body fluids such as urine, sweat, or tears to turn orange (may permanently stain contact lenses). This is not harmful to you.
- While you are taking rifapentine, you also need to see your doctor or nurse every month to make sure you are not having any side effects, check your health and answer your questions, and receive the next month's supply of your medication.
- Rifapentine is a safe and excellent medication to fight TB germs. But as with any medicine, a few people may have side effects
- Here are some of the possible side effects of rifapentine:
 - Skin rash
 - Nausea
 - Vomiting
 - Loss of appetite
 - Flu-like symptoms
 - Easy bruising
 - Fever
 - Interaction with other medicines
- If you have any of these side effects, stop taking rifapentine and tell your doctor or nurse right away.
- Rifapentine may make birth control pills, patches or injections less effective. If you use these methods to prevent pregnancy, you should use a back-up barrier method while taking rifapentine, and for up to two weeks after stopping the medicine.
- Remember to tell your doctor if you are getting treatment for HIV infection, methadone, birth control pills, patches or injections, or any other medications.

If you have any questions, call your clinic at:

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