Trimethoprim / Sulfamethoxazole (trye-METH-oh-prim / sul-fa-meth-OX-a-zole)

This medicine is used to treat infections, or to prevent infections, such as a type of pneumonia called Pneumocystis carinii pneumonitis, in transplant patients or people who take immunosuppressants.

Other names for this medicine:
- Bactrim, Bactrim DS, Septra, Septra DS. There may be other brand names for this medicine.
- Also known as co-trimoxazole.

How to take this medicine
- This medicine is taken by mouth with or without food.
- Most transplant patients take this medicine one time each day. Your doctor will tell you how much medicine to use and how often.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you can. If it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then to use the medicine and skip the missed dose. Do not use extra medicine to make up for a missed dose.
- Do not stop taking this medicine unless your doctor tells you to.
Side effects

**Common side effects**
- Nausea and vomiting
- Skin rash
- Hives
- Confusion
- Muscle twitching

**Serious side effects**
Call your doctor right away if you have any of these side effects:
- Blistering, peeling, red skin rash
- Any unusual swelling or tingling in your face, hands, mouth or throat
- Chest tightness
- Trouble breathing

**Warnings**
- Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to “sulfa” drugs
- Very rarely, this medicine causes serious skin reactions. If you start to have a skin rash, or if you think you are having a severe reaction, stop taking this medicine and call your doctor right away.
- This medicine may make your skin more sensitive to the sun. Use sunscreen and protect your skin if you have to be outside in the sun.
- Avoid being in the sun while on this medicine. Do not use tanning booths or sunlamps.

**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.

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