



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Provincial Tuberculosis Services

Main Switchboard
TB Services Fax

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www.bccdc.ca

para-AMINOSALICYLIC ACID

Para-aminosalicylic acid (PASER®) is an antibacterial used in the treatment of tuberculosis.

When should I take this?

- Take with food to reduce stomach upset.
- Take this medicine at the same time every day. This will help you remember to take the medicine.

How should I take this?

- It is very important that you take this medicine regularly as directed by your doctor.
- Open the packet when ready to take your dose. Sprinkle all the granules on acidic food such as apple sauce or yogurt and swallow whole without chewing, or SWIRL to mix it into a fruit drink such as tomato juice, orange juice, grape juice, cranberry juice, apple juice or fruit punch.
- **Do not use if the packet is swollen or if the granules have lost their tan colour and are dark brown or purple.**
- Empty granules may be seen in stool – this is normal.

What should I do if I miss a dose?

- If you miss a dose, take that dose as soon as you remember. But if it is almost time for the next day's dose, skip the missed dose.
- **Do not take a double dose.**

Is there anything I should avoid when taking this?

- Before taking **PASER**, make sure you tell your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist all the medications (including non-prescription) you are taking. **DO NOT** start a new medication without consulting a doctor or a pharmacist.

What are some possible side effects?

- Nausea and vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Stomach pain

language

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Caution: Call your doctor or nurse immediately if you experience the following symptoms:

- Rash
- Fever
- Persistent nausea or vomiting
- Loss of appetite
- Yellowing of skin or white part of the eyes
- Unusual tiredness or weakness
- Dark, pink or bloody urine
- Black stools
- Any other persistent side effects

Tell your doctor if you experience any unusual symptoms not mentioned on this information sheet.

You may require Vitamin B12 supplementation if you are on PASER for more than one month. Consult your doctor if you are feeling weak or tired.

PASER might interfere with some urine **ketone tests**.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant, or if you wish to breast-feed your baby.

Where should I store this medication?

- Keep the packets unopened until ready for use.
- Keep away from the reach of children.
- Store in **refrigerator** or **freezer** (below 15°C).
- Avoid excessive heat storage.
- Keep away from direct light.

Where do I call if I have any other questions?

Your doctor, clinic or Public Health Unit: _____

Vancouver TB Services Clinic: 604-707-2692

New Westminster TB Services Clinic: 604-707-2698

BCCDC Vaccine and Pharmacy Services: 604-707-2580