

Dornase alfa

Pulmozyme 2.5 mg/2.5 mL

What does it do?

Breaks down mucous plugs enabling them to be coughed up more easily.

How is it taken?

Pulmozyme is usually inhaled once per day via nebuliser. It should NOT be diluted.

Talk to your physiotherapist about the best time for you to use Dornase alfa in relation to your other therapies and to discuss the nebuliser pump you currently have or may need to purchase. Dornase alfa is best given via a nebuliser that is able to pump 6-8L of compressed air per minute. Your doctor will decide how long you or your child should continue taking Dornase alfa.

If you forget to give a dose, give the missed dose as soon as you remember, then give the next dose at the time it is normally due. Do not try to make up for missed doses by giving more than one dose at a time.

Where do I get it?

Only available from **RCH pharmacy** on presentation of a valid RCH prescription written by a doctor at RCH

How do I store it?

All medicines should be stored out of the reach of children

Dornase alfa should be kept in the fridge (between 2-8°C). Storage conditions must be strictly observed as Dornase alfa is extremely expensive and may be difficult to replace. Use an esky to transport Dornase alfa from the hospital to the home. Leave the ampoules in the foil packet until it is time to use this medication as this medicine is extremely sensitive to light.

What side-effects may I experience?

All medicines can cause some side effects. If they occur, most are likely to be minor and temporary. However, some may be serious. Check with your doctor as soon as possible if you think you or your child is experiencing any side effects or allergic reactions from this medicine that are troublesome or ongoing, even if the problem is not listed below. Some side effects can occur if you take this medicine with certain other medicines, including over-the-counter or herbal medicines. Always tell your pharmacist about any medicines you or your child are taking.

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you notice any of the following:

Voice hoarseness, sore vocal cords, sore throat, skin rash, chest pain, conjunctivitis (sore, red, gritty or weeping eye/s).

Stop using this medicine and contact a doctor or emergency department if signs of an allergic reaction occur. These may include:

An unexplained increase in wheezing, difficulty breathing or swallowing, fainting, swelling of the lips or tongue, severe itchy rash (hives).

This is not a complete list of all possible side effects. Others may occur in some people and there may be some side effects not yet known.

The information contained in this leaflet is intended to support not replace discussion with your doctor or health care professionals.

ASK YOUR PHARMACIST ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE ABOUT THIS MEDICINE

For further information, contact The Royal Children's Hospital Drug Information Centre on 03 9345 5208.

The authors of these medicine information handouts have made considerable effort to ensure the information is accurate, up to date and easily understood.

The Royal Children's Hospital accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracies, information perceived as misleading, or the success of any treatment regimen detailed in the handouts.