

Sporanox (itraconazole) basics

Treats fungal infections. Sporanox (itraconazole) is effective oral medication that treats many different kinds of fungal infections. However, it has the potential to interact with a lot of other medications and has a few serious but rare side effects.

What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.

	Hours	Days	Weeks	Months	Long term
Sporanox (itraconazole) Drug effectiveness		[Blue gradient bar]			
Possible side effects†	Hours	Days	Weeks	Months	Long term
Headache	[Red gradient bar]				
Diarrhea	[Red gradient bar]	[Red gradient bar]			
Blurred vision	[Red gradient bar]				
Dizziness	[Red gradient bar]				
Liver toxicity		[Red gradient bar]			

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

Tips from pharmacists

- If you are taking the pill form, take it after the same meal at the same time each day. If taking the liquid form, take it on an empty stomach with an accurate measuring device.
- If you're taking Sporanox (itraconazole) for an infection in the mouth or esophagus, swish the liquid solution in your mouth before swallowing.
- To make sure that the medicine is effective, be sure to take the full course of this medication, even if you are feeling better.
- Sporanox (itraconazole) should not be taken with any heartburn medications - especially proton pump inhibitors like Nexium or Prilosec.
- Be sure to use a reliable form of birth control while taking Sporanox (itraconazole).

Risks and warnings

The FDA has identified these as possible serious or life-threatening risks with this medication. Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Congestive Heart Failure

Sporanox (itraconazole) shouldn't be used to treat nail fungal infections in people with congestive heart failure as itraconazole because it can make the condition worse.

Drug interactions

Sporanox (itraconazole) has many drug interactions and can't be used together with a lot of other medications. Let your doctor or pharmacist know about all of your medications before starting Sporanox (itraconazole).

Liver toxicity

Although rare, Sporanox (itraconazole) can cause serious liver problems even in people without any liver disease. This could happen any time between the beginning of treatment or many weeks after starting treatment. Let your doctor know right away if you have yellowing of skin or white of eyes, dark urine, light colored stool, abdominal pain, nausea, and fatigue to your doctor.