## Royal Devon University Healthcare

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## Other formats

If you need this information in another format such as audio CD, Braille, large print, high contrast, British Sign Language or translated into another language, please contact the PALS desk on 01271 314090 or at rduh.pals-northern@nhs.net.

Metronidazole is an antibiotic that is used to treat bacterial infections, including bacterial vaginosis and pelvic inflammatory disease (PID).

Metronidazole is available as a tablet.

Take metronidazole as instructed on patient medication label.

Metronidazole should be taken with or just after food and with plenty of water.

The medication will start working straight away. However, it is important to take the whole course of medicine that has been prescribed. This is because it takes a while for the antibiotics you have taken to kill the bacteria causing your infection.

**Important:** Do not drink alcohol while taking metronidazole and for 48 hours after finishing the course because of the possibility of an unpleasant reaction.

Metronidazole may darken urine.

If you are taking metronidazole to treat **pelvic inflammatory disease (PID)**, you must not have sex (even with a condom) until you and your partner have completed treatment. This is because it takes a while for metronidazole you have taken to kill the bacteria causing your infection.

It is best to avoid all sexual contact during this time (including oral sex, vaginal sex, anal sex and sex with a condom). It is important to wait until your

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