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**PREDNISONE**

**Brand names: Deltasone®**

## What is this medication used for?

Prednisone is in a class of medications called corticosteroids. It is used to treat many diseases including lung conditions like asthma, COPD and emphysema, serious skin reactions, arthritis, allergic reactions, and preventing organ rejection. It is also used for other conditions determined by your doctor.

## How should I take this medication?

Prednisone is taken by mouth.

Prednisone should be taken at the same time each day.

You should take prednisone with food to decrease stomach irritation.

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and wait until your next regularly scheduled dose. Do not take extra medicine to make up for the missed dose.

Do not take any new medication (prescription or over-the-counter) without checking with your doctor or pharmacist first.

## What are the side effects of this medication?

- Nausea and stomach upset are possible. Take prednisone with food to decrease this.
- Prednisone can increase your blood pressure and your blood sugar. These should be closely monitored, especially if you are being treated for high blood pressure or diabetes.
- Edema and swelling can be caused by prednisone.
- Prednisone can suppress your immune system. Stay away from people who have colds or flu or other contagious infections as you may be more likely to catch it.

Other side effects not listed may also occur. Check with your physician if you notice any other effects.

## Contact your doctor immediately if you experience any of the following while taking this medicine:

blurred vision, swelling in feet or legs, 2 pound weight gain in 24 hours, bloody vomiting or bloody stools, skin rash or other unexplained skin changes, increased thirst or urination.

## Special Instructions:

You should avoid sun or tanning bed exposure when taking prednisone because it will make you more likely to get a sun burn, which may be serious. Wear a sunscreen with SPF of at least 15 if sun exposure cannot be avoided.

You should monitor your blood pressure and blood sugar while taking prednisone.

You should not receive certain vaccines while taking prednisone. Check with your doctor first, if you need or want any type of vaccination.

You may have your blood tested periodically to make sure that prednisone is not harmful to you.

This information is only a summary. Please contact your healthcare professional for additional information about this medication.

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