

# UNIPEN

## PHENOXYMETHYL PENICILLIN 250MG TABLETS

### Presentation

#### Unipen 250 mg Tablet:

Presented as white, round flat faced tablets, scored on one side, each containing Phenoxymethyl Penicillin Potassium BP equivalent to Phenoxymethyl Penicillin 250 mg.

### Pharmacological Actions

Phenoxymethyl penicillin is a beta lactam antibiotic and has a bactericidal action against gram-positive bacteria, gram-negative cocci, some other gram negative bacteria, spirochaetes and actinomycetes.

### Mechanism of Action

Phenoxymethyl penicillin exerts its killing action on growing and dividing bacteria by inhibiting bacterial cell wall synthesis, although the mechanism involved are still not precisely understood. Bacterial cell walls are held rigid and protected against osmotic rupture by peptidoglycan. Phenoxymethyl penicillin inhibits the final cross-linking stage of peptidoglycan production by binding to and inactivating transpeptidases, penicillin binding proteins on the inner surface of the bacterial cell membrane.

Other mechanism involved include bacterial lysis by the inactivation of endogenous inhibitors of bacterial autolysins.

### Indications

Unipen is a beta lactam antibiotic, effective in the treatment of mild to moderate infections and not for chronic, severe or deep-seated infection. Specific indications for phenoxymethyl penicillin include otitis media (in adults), pharyngitis or tonsillitis, rheumatic fever (primary and secondary prophylaxis), skin disorders (including nonbullous streptococcal impetigo), Lyme disease (early stage in pregnant women or young children), and spleen disorders (pneumococcal infection prophylaxis).

### Dosage and Administration

Phenoxymethyl penicillin potassium is administered by mouth, preferably at least 30 minutes before or 2 hours after food.

Doses are expressed in terms of the equivalent amount of phenoxymethyl penicillin.

The usual adult dose is 500 mg every 6 hours, increased to 750 mg every 6 hours for severe infections. Children may be given the following doses every 6 hours:

up to 1 year, 62.5 mg  
1 to 5 years, 125 mg  
6 to 12 years, 250 mg

Dosage may need to be modified in severe renal impairment.  
Or as directed by a Doctor.

### Contra-Indications

Unipen should not be taken by patients with a history of Penicillin hypersensitivity.

### Precautions

Unipen should be given with caution to patients with a history of allergy, especially to drugs.

Due to the risk of neurotoxic effects, extreme care should be taken if renal function is poor.

Care should also be taken in patients with congestive heart failure.

Unipen should be used with caution in patients receiving potassium containing drugs or potassium sparing diuretics.

### Side Effects

Gastro-intestinal disorders like diarrhoea and nausea may occur. Rarely, a sore mouth or tongue may occur.

### Storage

Store below 30°C, in a dry place.  
Protect from light.  
Keep out of reach of children.

### Legal Category

Prescription only medicine (POM)

### Package Quantities

Unipen Tablets: 10 x 10 blister pack  
100 x 10 blister pack  
250's  
1000's

Ref: P07U18/2



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ISSUED BY:

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