



**Central Michigan District Health Department**  
***“Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities”***

For more information, call your local CMDHD branch office:

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[www.cmdhd.org](http://www.cmdhd.org)

## **Flagyl (Metronidazole)**

Flagyl is used for the treatment of Trichomonas and Bacterial Vaginosis infection in men and women. If you are diagnosed as having one of these infections, your sexual partner may need to be evaluated or treated. To prevent getting the infection a second time, it is wise to use condoms or avoid vaginal intercourse until you and your partner have finished your Flagyl treatment.

Flagyl should not be used if:

- You have a prior history of a reaction to Metronidazole
- You have taken Antabuse within the previous two weeks
- You have a history of seizures, a central nervous system disorder, a liver disease, a low white blood cell count, or are taking blood thinners, Lithium, Tagamet, or seizure medication
- If you are pregnant or breastfeeding
- You are taking alcohol containing medicines: Nyquil, Geritol, or drinking alcohol in any other form.

**Do not drink alcohol, breastfeed or have unprotected sex during the course of this treatment and 3 days after completion of medication. If used with alcohol, severe nausea, vomiting, abdominal cramping and flushing could occur.**

Some side effects of Flagyl include:

- Diarrhea/Loose stools
- Headaches
- Dizzy, light headed
- Sharp metallic taste in your mouth
- Swelling or drying of the tongue
- Dark urine
- Stomach pains
- Loss of appetite
- Nausea/vomiting
- Temporary decrease in the number of white blood cells in your body (white blood cells help to fight off infections)

Directions for the use of this medication:

- Take the full amount of medication
- If this medicine upsets your stomach, take with meals or a light snack.
- For bacterial vaginal infections: Take one tablet twice a day for 7 days.
- For Trichomonas vaginal infection: Take 4 tablets once only.

Call the clinic if you experience any other unusual side effects. Another method of birth control should be used during the course of treatment plus one week after.