

## Ivermectine 3MG tablets

### Uses

Ivermectine contains a medicine called ivermectin. This is a type of medicine which is used for infections caused by some parasites.

It is used to treat:

- An infection in your gut called intestinal strongyloidiasis (anguillulosis). This is caused by a type of round worm called “Strongyloides stercoralis”.
- An infection of your blood called microfilaraemia due to “lymphatic filariasis”. This is caused by an immature worm called “Wuchereria bancrofti”. Ivermectine does not work against adult worms, only against immature worms.
- skin mites (scabies). This is when tiny mites burrow under your skin. This can cause severe itching. Ivermectine should only be taken when your doctor has proven or thinks you have scabies.

### Dose and method of administration

Treatment of gastrointestinal strongyloidiasis (anguillulosis) The recommended dosage is 200 µg ivermectin per kg body weight, taken orally as a single dose. For guidance, the dose based on body weight is: Contraindications

BODY WEIGHT (kg)	DOSE (number of 3 mg tablets)
15 to 24	one
25 to 35	two
36 to 50	three
51 to 65	four
66 to 79	five
≥ 80	six

### Treatment of microfilaraemia caused by Wuchereria bancrofti (lymphatic filariasis)

The recommended dosage for mass treatment campaigns in Wuchereria bancrofti microfilaraemia (lymphatic filariasis) is approximately 150 to 200 µg ivermectin per kg body weight, taken as a single oral dose every 6 months.

In endemic areas where treatment can only be administered once every 12 months, the recommended dosage is 300 to 400 µg per kg body weight to maintain adequate suppression of microfilaraemia in treated patients. For guidance, the dose based on body weight is:

BODY WEIGHT (kg)	DOSE administered every 6 months (number of 3 mg tablets)	DOSE administered every 12 months (number of 3 mg tablets)
15 to 25	one	two
26 to 44	two	four
45 to 64	three	six
65 to 84	four	eight

Alternatively and in the absence of a set of weighing scales, the ivermectin dosage for administration in mass treatment campaigns can be determined by the patient's height, as follows:

HEIGHT (in cm)	DOSE administered every 6 months (number of 3 mg tablets)	DOSE administered every 12 months (number of 3 mg tablets)
90 to 119	one	two
120 to 140	two	four
141 to 158	three	six
> 158	four	eight

### Treatment of human scabies

Take a dose of 200 micro-grams for each kilogram of body weight.

You will not know if the treatment has been successful for 4 weeks.

Your doctor may decide to give you a second single dose within 8 to 15 days.

**Method of administration:** Tablets for oral use: In children under 6 years of age, the tablets should be crushed before swallowing.

Treatment consists of a single dose. The number of prescribed tablets should be taken all at the same time as a single dose. The tablets should be taken with some water on an empty stomach. Do not eat any food within two hours before or after taking this medicine. This is because it is not known how food affects the absorption of this medicine in the body.

### Interactions

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking/using, have recently taken/used or might take/use any other medicines. In general, you should seek advice from your doctor or pharmacist before taking any medicine.

### Undesirable side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. Side effects are usually not serious and do not last long. They may be more likely to happen in people infected with several parasites. This is particularly true if they have the worm “Loa loa”. The following side effects may happen with this medicine:

Allergic reactions: If you have an allergic reaction see a doctor straight away. The signs may include: sudden fever, sudden skin reactions (such as rash or itching) or other serious skin reactions, difficulty breathing. See a doctor straight away if you notice any of the side effects above.

Other side effects: liver disease (acute hepatitis), changes in some laboratory tests (increase of liver enzymes, increase of bilirubin on blood, increase of eosinophils), blood in urine.

The side effects below depend on what you are taking Ivermectine for. They also depend on whether you have any other infections. People with intestinal strongyloidiasis (anguillulosis) may have the following side effects: feeling unusually weak, loss of appetite, stomach pain, constipation or diarrhoea, nausea or vomiting, feeling sleepy or dizzy, shaking or tremors, a decrease in the number of white blood cells (leukopenia), a decrease in the amount of red blood cells or the red blood pigment haemoglobin (anaemia). Also, in intestinal strongyloidiasis (anguillulosis), adult round worms may be found in your stools.

People with microfilaraemia due to lymphatic filariasis caused by *Wuchereria bancrofti* may have the following side effects: sweating or fever, headache, feeling unusually weak, muscle, joint and general body pains, loss of appetite, nausea, pain in your stomach (abdominal and epigastric pain), cough or sore throat, discomfort when breathing, low blood pressure when getting or standing up - you may feel dizzy or light-headed, chills, dizziness, pain or discomfort in your testicle

People with scabies may have the following side effects: itching (pruritus) may get worse at the start of treatment. This does not usually last long. People with heavy infection of the worm "Loa loa" may have the following side effects: abnormal brain function, neck or back pain, bleeding in the whites of your eyes (also known as red eye), being short of breath, loss of control of your bladder or your bowels, difficulty standing or walking, mental status changes, feeling drowsy or confused, not responding to other people or going into a coma. People infected with the worm "Onchocerca volvulus" which causes river blindness may have the following side effects: itching or rash, joint or muscle pains, fever, nausea or vomiting, swelling of lymph nodes, swelling, especially of the hands, ankles or feet, diarrhoea, dizziness, low blood pressure (hypotension). You may feel dizzy or light-headed when standing up, fast heart rate, headache or feeling tired, changes to your vision and other eye problems such as infection, redness or unusual feelings, bleeding in the whites of your eyes or swelling of your eye lids, asthma may get worse.

### **Pregnancy and lactation**

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine. Ivermectine is excreted in human milk

### **How to store**

Do not store above 25°C.

Store in the original packaging in order to protect from light.