



London Health Sciences Centre

Multi-Organ Transplant Program

University Hospital
Patient Medication Information
Pharmacy Services 519-663-3172

Brand Name: CellCept®
Common Name: mycophenolate mofetil (MMF)

What is it?

Mycophenolate mofetil, or MMF, is an immunosuppressive drug used to prevent rejection in patients who have had an organ transplant. You will need to take other anti-rejection medications, such as prednisone and cyclosporine or tacrolimus (FK-506), along with mycophenolate.

How should it be taken?

Mycophenolate is taken twice daily, every 12 hours. It may be taken at the same time as all your other pills. Do not open or crush the capsules. Keep the capsules in the blister pack foil until you are ready to take them. Mycophenolate should be stored at room temperature. Keep this medication away from children.

If you miss a dose

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose. Do not double up the next dose.

What side effects can this medicine cause? What can I do about them?

You may experience nausea or vomiting, diarrhea or constipation, heartburn, acne, tremors, or headache. Heartburn and stomach upset is quite common. If this happens to you, you should take this medication with food. Notify your doctor immediately if you have any unusual stomach pain or blood in the stool, or if you have had any serious stomach problems in the past.

As with all immunosuppressive drugs, you will be more prone to getting infections. MMF may cause some types of blood cells to decrease (specifically, white blood cells), so it is important to keep all your blood work appointments.

Cautions/Other advice:

If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you must inform your physician. Mycophenolate may be harmful to the unborn baby. Breastfeeding is not advised as mycophenolate may pass into the breast milk and harm your baby.

Do not take any antacids that contain magnesium or aluminum hydroxide (eg. Mylanta, Maalox, Amphojel, Gaviscon) with this medication. Antacids can make mycophenolate less effective. Antacids containing calcium (eg. Tums) have no effect on mycophenolate, and they are safe to use.

Do not take azathioprine (Imuran®) if you are taking mycophenolate. Inform your physician if you are taking acyclovir, gancyclovir, or cholestyramine as these medications may interact with MMF.