

## ***Patient Information Sheet***

# **MYCOPHENOLATE MOFETIL / MYCOPHENOLATE SODIUM**

### ***Renal Vasculitis Service Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh***

Your doctor has recommended that you take Mycophenolate Mofetil (MMF, *Cellcept*<sup>®</sup>) **OR** Mycophenolate Sodium (*Myfortic*<sup>®</sup>). This medication works to suppress the body's immune system, which is causing the inflammation in your body. The medication comes in the form of tablets that are usually taken twice daily.

#### ***Before starting this medication you need to be aware of the possible side effects:***

- **Diarrhoea.** This is a common side effect of this medication. It commonly resolves in a few weeks, but if persistent may require a change in drug prescription.
- **Infection.** As the body's immune system is suppressed, your resistance to infection is reduced. If you develop symptoms of an infection e.g. a fever, chills or sore throat you should consult your doctor immediately. **Do not** have any vaccinations without discussing these with your specialist.
- **Low white blood cell count.** This is monitored with regular blood tests but you may be at increased risk of infection.
- **Abnormal liver function tests.** This is uncommon and monitored with regular blood tests.

#### ***Monitoring of treatment***

- You will be required to have blood tests regularly to ensure your blood count is safe. Your treatment may be stopped or adjusted based on these results.

#### ***Before starting the medication please inform your doctor if:***

- You may be pregnant or are breastfeeding
- You are planning to have children in near future
- You are sexually active

For this medication, there is additional advice regarding pregnancy and contraception for **BOTH** female and male patients. This is on page 2 of this leaflet.

**YOU MUST NOT GET PREGNANT OR FATHER A CHILD WHILST TAKING MYCOPHENOLATE MOFETIL (MMF) OR MYCOPHENOLATE SODIUM (MYFORTIC) AS IT CAN HARM AN UNBORN BABY. MORE INFORMATION CAN BE SUPPLIED IF REQUESTED.**

I acknowledge that I have received the above information about Mycophenolate Mofetil (MMF) and Mycophenolate Sodium (Myfortic<sup>®</sup>).

Name of Patient: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Patient: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Prescriber: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Prescriber: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# ***Patient Information Sheet***

## **MYCOPHENOLATE MOFETIL / MYCOPHENOLATE SODIUM**

***Renal Vasculitis Service***

***Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh***

### **Advice regarding pregnancy & contraception**

Your doctor has recommended that you take Mycophenolate Mofetil (MMF, *Cellcept*<sup>®</sup>) **OR** Mycophenolate Sodium (*Myfortic*<sup>®</sup>). This medication can harm an unborn child. It is important to avoid starting this medication during pregnancy, and to avoid becoming pregnant or fathering a child while taking this medication.

**FEMALE patients** who are sexually active and of child bearing age:

- **BEFORE** starting this medication you will need to have 2 pregnancy tests to confirm you are not pregnant.
- **DURING** treatment with this medication you should use 2 forms of effective contraception **at the same time** (such as the pill / coil **AND** barrier methods such as condoms / diaphragms).
- **AFTER** stopping this medication you should continue to use 2 forms of effective contraception **at the same time**, for **6 weeks** after the last dose.

**MALE patients** who are sexually active (including those who have had sterilisation or vasectomy):

- **DURING** treatment with this medication you should use condoms **AND** female partners should use effective contraception.
- **AFTER** stopping this medication you use condoms for a total of **90 days** after the last dose **AND** female partners should use effective contraception for a total of **90 days** after your last dose of medication.

**If you become pregnant whilst taking this medication, DO NOT STOP your medication but contact your doctor immediately.**

**There are alternative treatments available if you become pregnant or are planning to start a family. Your doctor can discuss these with you.**

**\*Female patients:** I acknowledge it is my responsibility to ensure that I have had 2 pregnancy tests to confirm I am not pregnant prior to starting this treatment.

**\*All patients:** I acknowledge that I have received the above information about Mycophenolate Mofetil (MMF, *Cellcept*<sup>®</sup>) and Mycophenolate Sodium (*Myfortic*<sup>®</sup>).

Name of Patient: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Patient: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Prescriber: \_\_\_\_\_ Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Prescriber: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_