**MYCOPHENOLATE**

mycophenolate mofetil, mycophenolate sodium, mycophenolic acid

**Drug class:** Immunosuppressant

### Availability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Availability</th>
<th>Brand name</th>
<th>Quick guide</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral liquid 1 g/5 mL mycophenolate mofetil</td>
<td>CellCept</td>
<td>![Warning Icon]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capsule 250 mg mycophenolate mofetil</td>
<td>CellCept, Cellplant, Ceptolate, Imulate</td>
<td>![Warning Icon]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tablet 500 mg mycophenolate mofetil</td>
<td>CellCept, Cellplant, Ceptolate, Imulate</td>
<td>![Warning Icon]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enteric-coated tablet 180 mg, 360 mg (mycophenolic acid)</td>
<td>Myfortic</td>
<td>![Warning Icon]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Effect of food

Give with or soon after food to reduce gastrointestinal side effects.

### Warnings

- **Hazard.**
- **Teratogen.**
- **Do not handle the contents of open the capsule or crushed or dispersed tablets or the injection.** Contact a pharmacist or medicines information service for advice.

### Dose changes

A dose change is required when switching from the enteric-coated tablet to the oral liquid. A dose of 720 mg of mycophenolic acid (enteric-coated tablet) is equivalent to 1 g of mycophenolic mofetil (oral liquid). Monitor carefully.

### Other

May cause mouth ulcers, swallowing difficulties and loss of taste.

### What to do for people with enteral feeding tubes

- **Oral liquid**
  - See **Warnings.** Wear gloves and a mask.
  - Stop the feed and flush with 30 mL of water.
  - Draw the required dose into an oral dispenser and give into the enteral feeding tube.
  - Flush the tube with 30 mL of water and restart the feed.
  - Suitable for size 8 French tubes and larger.
  - Suitable for duodenal but not for jejunal administration.
  - Contains sorbitol.

- **Capsule**
  - Do not open or crush the capsule.

- **Tablet**
  - Do not break or crush the tablet.

- **Enteric-coated tablet**
  - Do not break or crush the tablet.

**Summary of options in order of preference:**

1. Use the oral liquid. See **Dose changes.**
2. Mycophenolate is available as an IV injection and it can be given into the enteral feeding tube. It must be reconstituted and given using safe handling practices. Consult the prescriber.
### What to do for people with swallowing difficulties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Formulation</th>
<th>Instructions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Oral liquid</strong></td>
<td>See <em>Warnings</em>. Wear gloves and a mask. Measure the dose and give using an oral dispenser.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capsule</strong></td>
<td>Do not open or crush the capsule.¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tablet</strong></td>
<td>Do not break or crush the tablet.¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enteric-coated tablet</strong></td>
<td>Do not break, crush or chew the tablet.¹</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summary of options in order of preference:**
1. Use the oral liquid. See *Dose change*.
2. If the person cannot swallow thin fluids, consult a pharmacist, medicines information service or the prescriber for advice.

### REFERENCES: