

## **RIFAMPICIN (Arificin)**

Rifampicin is an antibiotic used to treat a variety of medical condition, but it is also the drug of choice to protect people who have been in close contact with someone with severe meningococcal infection. Prophylactic treatment can successfully prevent the development and further spread of the disease.

The antibiotic is suitable for all age groups.

It targets bacteria that cause inflammation of the meninges and blood poisoning. If these bacteria are in the nose or throat, they can be removed by taking prophylactic antibiotic.

All persons who have been in close contact with the patient should receive **rifampicin**:

- **Adults 600 mg 2x/day for 2 days (Arificin 300 mg - 8 capsules);**
- **Children under one month: rifampicin (Arificin) 5 mg/kg bw 2x/day for two days;**
- **Children over 1 month of age rifampicin (Arificin) 10 mg/kg bw 2x/day 2 days.**

### **Contraindications**

Do not take rifampicin, if you:

- are hypersensitive to rifampicin,
- are taking anti-epileptic drugs,
- are taking anticoagulants,
- have jaundice,
- are pregnant.

### **Side effects:**

Urine, stool, saliva, sputum, tears, sweat and other body fluids turn red-orange when you take rifampicin.

Therefore, do not wear contact lenses while taking the capsules, as they may become permanently stained.

If you are taking oral contraceptives, replace them with other contraceptives during treatment, as rifampicin can cause menstrual cycle disturbances, intermenstrual bleeding, reduced effectiveness of the contraceptive pill and, as a result, unplanned pregnancy.

Ask your doctor about taking ciprofloxacin.

### **Pregnancy and breastfeeding:**

Do not take rifampicin if you are pregnant.

Rifampicin is excreted in breast milk only in small amounts and is unlikely to have any harmful effect on the infant.

Arificin capsules should be taken on an empty stomach (1/2 to 1 hour before or 2 hours after eating).

If you are unsure whether you can take the medicine, consult your chosen doctor.