



Amphotericin B

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- **Amphotericin B is an antifungal medication** used for treatment of serious fungal infections and various forms of leishmaniasis like aspergillosis, blastomycosis, candidiasis, coccidioidomycosis, and cryptococcosis etc.
- **This agent is generally reserved for use when antimonial therapy has failed.** For certain infections it is given with flucytosine. The overall use of amphotericin B for leishmaniasis is limited by toxicity of the drug and the need for prolonged intravenous therapy.
- **Amphotericin B has been shown to be useful as an alternative therapy for the treatment of especially mucocutaneous disease.** Amphotericin B has also been used in a limited number of cases to treat primary meningoencephalitis due to free-living amebae. Lipid micelle formulations of amphotericin B are useful because they are less toxic.
- **Amphotericin-B is currently being used to diagnose 'black fungus'.** The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is constantly making efforts to increase domestic production keeping in view the shortage in its supply.

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