

*Did you know...*

**Pinworm is approximately 3x more common than head lice?<sup>1,2</sup>**



**Don't toy with pinworm.**

Talk to your doctor about the prescription treatment with a **95% cure rate.<sup>3</sup>**

### **Important Safety and Patient Information about EMVERM**

#### **What is EMVERM?**

EMVERM is a prescription medicine used to treat adults and children 2 years of age and older with intestinal worm infections caused by pinworm, whipworm, roundworm, or hookworm.

#### **Who should not take EMVERM?**

Do not take EMVERM if you are **allergic** to mebendazole or any of the ingredients in EMVERM. See page 9 for a complete list of ingredients in EMVERM.

**Please see additional Important Safety Information throughout and accompanying Full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.**



**Emverm<sup>®</sup>**  
(mebendazole)  
chewable tablet, USP  
**100 mg**

## What is pinworm?

**Pinworms**—also known as *seatworms* and *threadworms*—are little parasites. When someone has pinworms, it is also known as a *pinworm infection*.<sup>4</sup>

A person becomes infected by swallowing infective pinworm eggs. After the eggs have been swallowed, they hatch in the small intestine and grow into adult pinworms, which crawl out of the person's bottom while they sleep to lay thousands of eggs.<sup>1</sup>

Once a person touches pinworm eggs, usually from scratching their bottom, the eggs can be spread to other objects and surfaces, putting others at risk for infection.<sup>1</sup>

### What are the signs?

If you see your child **scratching their bottom**, you should consult with your doctor as this **is the most common sign of a pinworm infection**. Other symptoms may include disturbed sleep, restlessness, irritability, abdominal pain, weight loss, and nausea.<sup>4-6</sup>



**Before you take EMVERM, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:**

- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if EMVERM will harm your unborn baby.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. EMVERM can pass into your milk and may harm your baby. Talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby if you take EMVERM. Do not breastfeed while taking EMVERM.

**Please see additional Important Safety Information throughout and accompanying Full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.**

## Who gets pinworm?

Pinworm infects people of all ages and income levels.<sup>4</sup> In fact, pinworm is one of the most common parasitic worm infections worldwide and is the most common parasitic worm infection in the United States, infecting up to **40 million people**.<sup>1</sup>

Pinworm is most commonly found in preschool- and school-aged children ages 3 to 14 and is approximately **3 times more common than head lice**.<sup>1,2</sup>

If a child with pinworm infection goes untreated, their classmates, teachers, and other members of their household, including adults, are also at risk of being infected.<sup>7,8</sup>



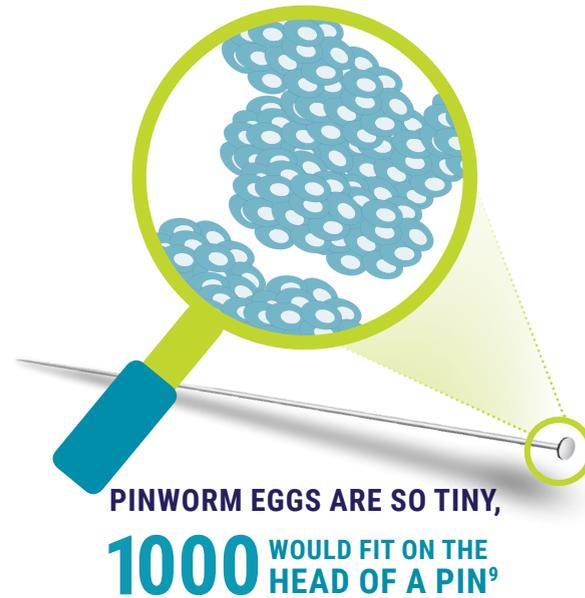
**Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take**, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

Using EMVERM with certain other medicines can change the way these medicines act, causing serious side effects. Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of them to show to your healthcare provider or pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

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## Why pinworm spreads so easily

- Pinworm eggs, which are invisible to the naked eye, can live **up to 3 weeks** on surfaces such as doorknobs, bedding, towels, faucets, furniture, toys, and other objects<sup>7</sup>
- As people touch objects with eggs on them, the eggs stick to their fingers and can collect under the fingernails<sup>1</sup>
- When a person puts their fingers or fingernails in their mouth, they swallow the tiny eggs without realizing it and may become infected<sup>1</sup>
- Eggs **can also become airborne and inhaled** when shaking out bed linens and underclothing of infected children. These items must be handled carefully and laundered promptly<sup>1,7</sup>

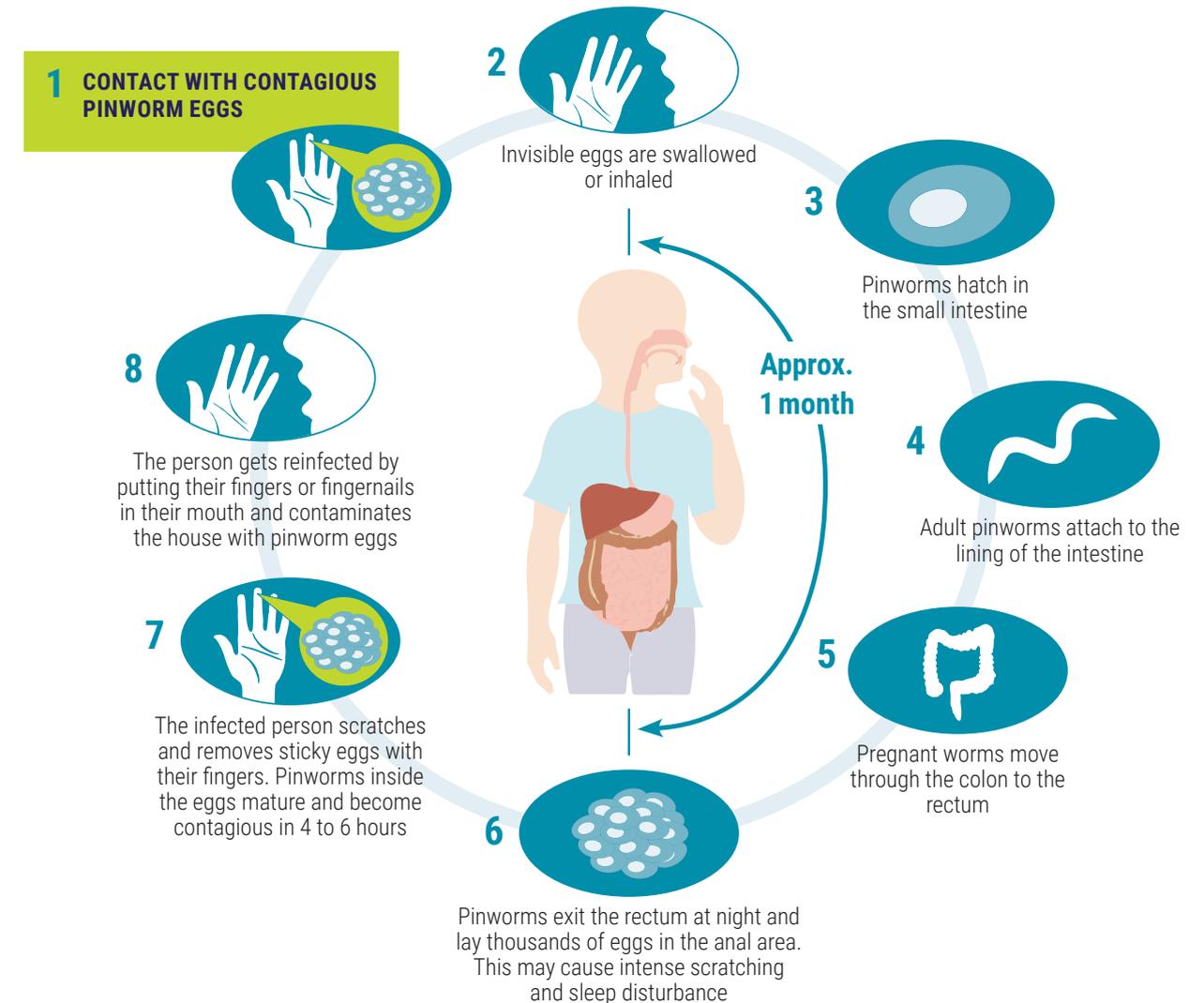


### How should I take EMVERM?

- Take EMVERM exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it.
- Take EMVERM by mouth with or without food.
- EMVERM tablet may be chewed, swallowed, or crushed and mixed with food.
- If you take too much EMVERM, you might have symptoms that include stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea.

Please see additional Important Safety Information throughout and accompanying Full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.

## How pinworm can infect and reinfect<sup>1</sup>



 **Emverm<sup>®</sup>**  
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chewable tablet, USP  
100 mg

- **EMVERM** is the **only available** prescription medicine approved for **pinworm**
  - Approved for treatment in patients 2 years of age and older<sup>3</sup>
- **Mebendazole**, the active medicine in EMVERM, has been prescribed by doctors for pinworm for more than **40 years**<sup>10</sup>
- EMVERM can cure pinworm, often in a **single dose**. However, a *second* course of treatment may be given to prevent reinfection. The second treatment is to kill any worms that hatched after the first treatment<sup>3,8</sup>
- Other people in your household may also be infected, so your doctor may prescribe EMVERM for others as appropriate<sup>8</sup>

**EMVERM HAS A  
95% CURE RATE  
AGAINST PINWORM<sup>3</sup>**



## What should I avoid while taking EMVERM?

Do not take EMVERM with metronidazole (a medicine used to treat bacterial and protozoan infections) as serious skin reactions called Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) can happen.

**Please see additional Important Safety Information throughout and accompanying Full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.**

## What are the possible side effects of EMVERM?

### EMVERM may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Low white blood cell count (neutropenia).** Neutropenia can cause you to get other infections. Your healthcare provider will check your blood count regularly during your treatment with EMVERM. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have a fever or any signs of an infection while taking EMVERM.
- **Severe skin reactions (Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis).** EMVERM may cause rare, but serious skin reactions when taken with metronidazole and other medicines that contain mebendazole. These severe allergic reactions may be life-threatening and need to be treated in a hospital. Call your healthcare provider right away or get emergency medical help if you have any allergic reactions or the following symptoms:
  - severe skin blisters
  - sores around the mouth, nose, eyes, vagina or penis (genitals)
  - peeling skin
  - swollen face, lips, mouth, tongue, or throat
  - itchy rash (hives)

### The most common side effects of EMVERM include:

- loss of appetite (anorexia)
- stomach pain
- diarrhea
- passing gas
- nausea
- vomiting
- rash

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of EMVERM.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.



- One 100 mg tablet, taken once, is the **same dose for adults and children** aged 2 years and older<sup>3</sup>
- Chewable, kid-friendly tablet can also be swallowed or crushed and mixed with food<sup>3</sup>
- If not cured 3 weeks after the first dose, a *second* dose is recommended<sup>3</sup>

## ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT EMVERM



### How should I store EMVERM?

- Store at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).
- Safely throw away medicine that is out of date or no longer needed.

**Keep EMVERM and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

### General information about the safe and effective use of EMVERM.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information leaflet. Do not use EMVERM for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give EMVERM to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them. You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about EMVERM that is written for health professionals.

**Please see additional Important Safety Information throughout and accompanying Full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.**

## 7 ways to prevent the spread of pinworm infection

1. **Wash hands thoroughly and frequently** with soap and water. This is especially important after using the toilet, changing diapers, and before preparing or eating food.<sup>7</sup>
2. **Cut fingernails** short and avoid nail biting. Eggs collect under the fingernails. Consider buying a nail brush for each family member, and sanitize the brushes after each use.<sup>1</sup>
3. **As much as possible, discourage children from scratching their bottoms**, especially near the anal area—that's where the eggs are. If you see your kids scratching their bottoms, have them wash their hands.<sup>1</sup>
4. **Change and wash** underwear, pajamas, towels, and bed sheets daily. Pinworm eggs can contaminate clothing and bedding.<sup>1</sup>
5. **Do NOT shake out towels or bed sheets.** The tiny eggs can become airborne and inhaled or deposited onto food and swallowed, which can spread the infection. Consider wearing a surgical mask when cleaning to avoid breathing in eggs.<sup>1,7</sup>
6. **Clean the bedroom floor** by vacuuming or damp mopping. Avoid dry sweeping that may stir up dust, potentially causing pinworm eggs to become airborne.<sup>1</sup>
7. **Disinfect** doorknobs, toilet seats, furniture, countertops, cell phones, remote controls, and other shared surfaces the infected person may have touched, as eggs can survive **up to 3 weeks** on indoor surfaces.<sup>7</sup>

### What are the ingredients in EMVERM?

**Active ingredient:** mebendazole

**Inactive ingredients:** microcrystalline cellulose, corn starch, anhydrous lactose NF, sodium starch glycolate, magnesium stearate, stearic acid, sodium lauryl sulfate, sodium saccharin, and FD&C Yellow #6.

**To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Amneal Specialty, a division of Amneal Pharmaceuticals LLC at 1-877-835-5472 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).**

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(mebendazole)  
chewable tablet, USP  
100 mg

# Eligible patients may pay as little as \$5 with the EMVERM Savings Card\*



**The EMVERM Savings Program**  
is designed to help make your EMVERM  
prescription more affordable.

\*To learn more, including terms, conditions, and eligibility criteria, visit [EMVERM.com/savingscard](https://www.emverm.com/savingscard).

## Important Safety and Patient Information about EMVERM

### The most common side effects of EMVERM include:

- loss of appetite (anorexia)
- passing gas
- vomiting
- stomach pain
- nausea
- rash
- diarrhea

### **Please see additional Important Safety Information throughout and accompanying Full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.**

**References:** **1.** Enterobiasis. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website. <https://www.cdc.gov/dpdx/enterobiasis/index.html>. Updated December 8, 2017. Accessed May 10, 2019. **2.** Epidemiology & risk factors. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website. <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/epi.html>. Updated September 24, 2013. Accessed January 24, 2019. **3.** EMVERM [prescribing information]. **4.** Meinking TL, Burkhart CN, Burkhart CG. *Clin Dermatol*. 2003;21(5):407-416. **5.** Kucik CJ, Martin GL, Sortor BV. *Am Fam Physician*. 2004;69(5):1161-1168. **6.** Pinworm. *Partners in Pediatrics*. <https://partnerspediatrics.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Pinworm.pdf>. Updated May 2011. Accessed March 12, 2019. **7.** American Academy of Pediatrics. *Red Book: 2018-2021 Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases*. 31st ed. Itasca, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics; 2018:634-635, 994. **8.** Treatment. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website. <https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/pinworm/treatment.html>. Updated August 30, 2016. Accessed February 18, 2019. **9.** Maguire JH. Intestinal nematodes (roundworms). In: Bennett JE, Dolin R, Blaser MJ, eds. *Mandell, Douglas, and Bennett's Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases*. 8th ed. Philadelphia, PA: Elsevier Saunders; 2015:3199-3207.e2. **10.** Friedman AJ, Ali SM, Albonico M. [published online December 24, 2012.] *J Trop Med*. 2012;2012:590463.



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 **Emverm**<sup>®</sup>  
(mebendazole)  
chewable tablet, USP  
**100 mg**

## HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use EMVERM® safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for EMVERM®.

EMVERM® (mebendazole) chewable tablets, for oral use  
Initial U.S. Approval: 1974

### INDICATIONS AND USAGE

EMVERM® is an anthelmintic indicated for the treatment of patients two years of age and older with gastrointestinal infections caused by:

- *Ancylostoma duodenale* (hookworm),
- *Ascaris lumbricoides* (roundworm),
- *Enterobius vermicularis* (pinworm),
- *Necator americanus* (hookworm), and
- *Trichuris trichiura* (whipworm), (1).

### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Adults and Pediatrics: The tablet may be chewed, swallowed, or crushed and mixed with food (2).

	Pinworm (enterobiasis)	Whipworm (trichuriasis)	Roundworm (ascariasis)	Hookworm
Dose	1 tablet once	1 tablet morning and evening for 3 consecutive days	1 tablet morning and evening for 3 consecutive days	1 tablet morning and evening for 3 consecutive days

## FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION: CONTENTS\*

- 1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE
- 2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION
- 3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS
- 4 CONTRAINDICATIONS
- 5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS
  - 5.1 Risk of Convulsions
  - 5.2 Hematologic Effects
  - 5.3 Metronidazole Drug Interaction and Serious Skin Reactions
- 6 ADVERSE REACTIONS
  - 6.1 Clinical Studies
  - 6.2 Postmarketing Experience
- 7 DRUG INTERACTIONS
- 8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS
  - 8.1 Pregnancy

### DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

- Chewable Tablet: 100 mg (3)

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Patients with a known hypersensitivity to the drug or its excipients (4)

### WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- **Risk of Convulsions:** Convulsions in infants below the age of 1 year have been reported (5.1).
- **Hematologic Effects:** Neutropenia and agranulocytosis have been reported in patients receiving mebendazole at higher doses and for prolonged duration. Monitor blood counts in these patients (5.2).
- **Metronidazole and Serious Skin Reactions:** Stevens-Johnson syndrome/toxic epidermal necrolysis (SJS/TEN) have been reported with the concomitant use of mebendazole and metronidazole. Avoid concomitant use of mebendazole and metronidazole (5.3).

### ADVERSE REACTIONS

Adverse reactions reported in clinical trials were anorexia, abdominal pain, diarrhea, flatulence, nausea, vomiting and rash (6.1).

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Impax Laboratories, Inc. at 1-877-994-6729 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and FDA approved patient labeling.

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- 8.2 Lactation
  - 8.4 Pediatric Use
  - 8.5 Geriatric Use
  - 10 OVERDOSAGE
  - 11 DESCRIPTION
  - 12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY
    - 12.1 Mechanism of Action
    - 12.3 Pharmacokinetics
    - 12.4 Microbiology
  - 13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY
    - 13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility
  - 14 CLINICAL STUDIES
  - 16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING
  - 17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION
- \* Sections or subsections omitted from the full prescribing information are not listed.

## FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

### 1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

EMVERM® is indicated for the treatment of patients two years of age and older with gastrointestinal infections caused by *Ancylostoma duodenale* (hookworm), *Ascaris lumbricoides* (roundworm), *Enterobius vermicularis* (pinworm), *Necator americanus* (hookworm), and *Trichuris trichiura* (whipworm).

### 2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The recommended dosage for EMVERM® is described in Table 1 below. The same dosage schedule applies to adults and pediatric patients two years of age and older. The tablet may be chewed, swallowed, or crushed and mixed with food.

Table 1: Dosage of EMVERM in Adult and Pediatric Patients (two years of age and older)

	Pinworm (enterobiasis)	Whipworm (trichuriasis)	Roundworm (ascariasis)	Hookworm
Dose	1 tablet once	1 tablet morning and evening for 3 consecutive days	1 tablet morning and evening for 3 consecutive days	1 tablet morning and evening for 3 consecutive days

If the patient is not cured three weeks after treatment, a second course of treatment is advised. No special procedures, such as fasting or purging, are required.

### 3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Chewable Tablet: 100 mg, round, light peach-colored, unscored, debossed "ap" above "107" on one side and plain on the other side.

### 4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

EMVERM® is contraindicated in persons with a known hypersensitivity to the drug or its excipients.

### 5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

#### 5.1 Risk of Convulsions

Although EMVERM® is approved for use in children two years of age and older, convulsions have been reported in infants below the age of 1 year during post-marketing experience with mebendazole, including EMVERM® [see Adverse Reactions (6.2) and Use in Specific Populations (8.4)].

#### 5.2 Hematologic Effects

Agranulocytosis and neutropenia have been reported with mebendazole use at higher doses and for more prolonged

durations than is recommended for the treatment of soil-transmitted helminth infections. Monitor blood counts if EMVERM® is used at higher doses or for prolonged duration.

#### 5.3 Metronidazole Drug Interaction and Serious Skin Reactions

Stevens-Johnson syndrome/toxic epidermal necrolysis (SJS/TEN) have been reported with the concomitant use of mebendazole and metronidazole. Avoid concomitant use of mebendazole, including EMVERM® and metronidazole.

### 6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

#### 6.1 Clinical Studies

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared to rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice.

The safety of mebendazole was evaluated in 6276 subjects who participated in 39 clinical trials for treatment of single or mixed parasitic infections of the gastrointestinal tract. In these trials, the formulations, dosages and duration of mebendazole treatment varied. Adverse reactions reported in mebendazole-treated subjects from the 39 clinical trials are shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Adverse Reactions Reported in Mebendazole-treated Subjects from 39 Clinical Trials\*

Adverse Reaction(s)
<b>Gastrointestinal Disorders</b>
Anorexia
Abdominal Pain
Diarrhea
Flatulence
Nausea
Vomiting
<b>Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Disorders</b>
Rash

\* Includes mebendazole formulations, dosages and treatment duration other than EMVERM® 100 mg tablet

#### 6.2 Postmarketing Experience

The following adverse reactions have been identified in adult and pediatric patients postmarketing with mebendazole formulations and dosages other than the EMVERM® 100 mg chewable tablet. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

Table 3: Adverse Reactions Identified During Postmarketing Experience with Mebendazole\*

	Adverse Reaction(s)
<b>Blood and Lymphatic System Disorders</b>	Agranulocytosis, Neutropenia
<b>Immune System Disorders</b>	Hypersensitivity including anaphylactic reactions
<b>Nervous System Disorders</b>	Convulsions, Dizziness
<b>Hepatobiliary Disorders</b>	Hepatitis, Abnormal liver tests
<b>Renal and Urinary Disorders</b>	Glomerulonephritis
<b>Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Disorders</b>	Toxic epidermal necrolysis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, Exanthema, Angioedema, Urticaria, Alopecia

\*Includes mebendazole formulations, dosages and treatment duration other than EMVERM® 100 mg chewable tablets

### 7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

Concomitant use of mebendazole, including EMVERM®, and metronidazole should be avoided [see Warnings and Precautions (5.3)].

### 8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

#### 8.1 Pregnancy

##### Risk Summary

The available published literature on mebendazole use in pregnant women has not reported a clear association between mebendazole and a potential risk of major birth defects or miscarriages [see Data]. There are risks to the mother and fetus associated with untreated helminthic infection during pregnancy [see Clinical Considerations].

In animal reproduction studies, adverse developmental effects (i.e., skeletal malformations, soft tissue malformations, decreased pup weight, embryolethality) were observed when mebendazole was administered to pregnant rats during the period of organogenesis at single oral doses as low as 10 mg/kg (approximately 0.5-fold the total daily maximum recommended human dose [MRHD]). Maternal toxicity was present at the highest of these doses [see Data].

The estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage for the indicated populations is unknown. All pregnancies have a background risk of birth defect, loss, or other adverse outcomes. In the U.S. general population, the estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage in clinically recognized pregnancies is 2–4% and 15–20%, respectively.

#### Clinical Considerations

##### Disease-Associated Maternal and/or Embryo/Fetal Risks

Untreated soil transmitted helminth infections in pregnancy are associated with adverse outcomes including maternal iron deficiency anemia, low birth weight, neonatal and maternal death.

#### Data

##### Human Data

Several published studies, including prospective pregnancy registries, case-control, retrospective cohort, and randomized controlled studies, have reported no association between mebendazole use and a potential risk of major birth defects or miscarriage. Overall, these studies did not identify a specific pattern or frequency of major birth defects with mebendazole use. However, these studies cannot definitely establish the absence of any mebendazole-associated risk because of methodological limitations, including recall bias, confounding factors and, in some cases, small sample size or exclusion of first trimester mebendazole exposures.

##### Animal Data

Embryo-fetal developmental toxicity studies in rats revealed no adverse effects on dams or their progeny at doses up to 2.5 mg/kg/day on gestation days 6–15 (the period of organogenesis). Dosing at ≥10 mg/kg/day resulted in a lowered body weight gain and a decreased pregnancy rate. Maternal toxicity, including body weight loss in one animal and maternal death in 11 of 20 animals, was seen at 40 mg/kg/day. At 10 mg/kg/day, increased embryo-fetal resorption (100% were resorbed at 40 mg/kg/day), decreased pup weight and increased incidence of malformations (primarily skeletal) were observed. Mebendazole was also embryotoxic and teratogenic in pregnant rats at single oral doses during organogenesis as low as 10 mg/kg (approximately 0.5-fold the total daily MRHD, based on mg/m<sup>2</sup>).

In embryo-fetal developmental toxicity studies in mice dosed on gestation days 6–15, doses of 10 mg/kg/day and higher resulted in decreased body weight gain at 10 and 40 mg/kg/day and a higher mortality rate at 40 mg/kg/day. At doses of 10 mg/kg/day (approximately 0.2-fold the total daily MRHD, based on mg/m<sup>2</sup>) and higher, embryo-fetal resorption increased (100% at 40 mg/kg) and fetal malformations, including skeletal, cranial, and soft tissue anomalies, were present. Dosing of hamsters and rabbits did not result in embryotoxicity or teratogenicity at doses up to 40 mg/kg/day (1.6 to 3.9-fold the total daily MRHD, based on mg/m<sup>2</sup>).

In a peri- and post-natal toxicity study in rats, mebendazole did not adversely affect dams or their progeny at 20 mg/kg/day. At 40 mg/kg (1.9-fold the total daily MRHD, based on mg/m<sup>2</sup>), a reduction of the number of live pups was observed and there was no survival at weaning. No abnormalities were found on gross and radiographic examination of pups at birth.

## 8.2 Lactation

### Risk Summary

Limited data from case reports demonstrate that a small amount of mebendazole is present in human milk following oral administration. There are no reports of effects on the breastfed infant, and the limited reports on the effects on milk production are inconsistent. The limited clinical data during lactation precludes a clear determination of the risk of EMVERM® to a breastfed infant; therefore, developmental and health benefits of breastfeeding should be considered along with the mother's clinical need for EMVERM® and any potential adverse effects on the breastfed infant from EMVERM® or from the underlying maternal condition.

## 8.4 Pediatric Use

The safety and effectiveness of EMVERM® 100 mg chewable tablets has not been established in pediatric patients less than two years of age. Convulsions have been reported with mebendazole use in children less than one year of age [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1) and *Adverse Reactions* (6.2)].

## 8.5 Geriatric Use

Clinical studies of mebendazole did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 and older to determine whether they respond differently from younger subjects.

## 10 OVERDOSAGE

In patients treated at dosages substantially higher than recommended or for prolonged periods of time, the following adverse reactions have been reported: alopecia, reversible transaminase elevations, hepatitis, agranulocytosis, neutropenia, and glomerulonephritis.

### Symptoms and signs

In the event of accidental overdose, gastrointestinal signs/symptoms may occur.

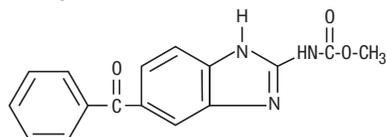
### Treatment

There is no specific antidote.

## 11 DESCRIPTION

EMVERM® (mebendazole) is an orally administered, synthetic anthelmintic available as chewable tablets, each containing 100 mg of mebendazole. Inactive ingredients are: microcrystalline cellulose, corn starch, anhydrous lactose NF, sodium starch glycolate, magnesium stearate, stearic acid, sodium lauryl sulfate, sodium saccharin, and FD&C Yellow #6.

Chemically, mebendazole is methyl 5-benzoylbenzimidazole-2-carbamate with a molecular formula of C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and the following structural formula:



Mebendazole is a white to slightly yellow powder with a molecular weight of 295.29. It is less than 0.05% soluble in water, dilute mineral acid solutions, alcohol, ether and chloroform, but is soluble in formic acid.

## 12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

### 12.1 Mechanism of Action

Mebendazole, a benzimidazole, is an anthelmintic drug [see *Microbiology* (12.4)].

### 12.3 Pharmacokinetics

#### Absorption

Following oral administration of mebendazole, the majority of the dose remains in the gastrointestinal tract where it exerts an anthelmintic effect locally. Following administration of 100 mg twice daily for three consecutive days, plasma concentrations of EMVERM® (mebendazole) and its primary metabolite, the 2-amine hydrolyzed metabolite, do not exceed 0.03 mcg/mL and 0.09 mcg/mL, respectively. Dosing with a high fat meal increases the bioavailability of mebendazole, although the overall effect of food on the amount of drug remaining in the gastrointestinal tract is not expected to be substantial.

#### Distribution

The plasma protein binding of mebendazole is 90 to 95%. The volume of distribution is 1 to 2 L/kg, indicating that absorbed mebendazole penetrates areas outside the vascular space.

#### Metabolism

Orally administered mebendazole is extensively metabolized primarily by the liver. Plasma concentrations of its major metabolites (hydrolyzed and reduced forms of mebendazole) are higher than those of mebendazole. All metabolites are devoid of anthelmintic activity. Impaired hepatic function, impaired metabolism, or impaired biliary elimination may lead to higher plasma concentrations of mebendazole.

## Excretion

Mebendazole, the conjugated forms of mebendazole, and its metabolites likely undergo some degree of enterohepatic recirculation. The apparent elimination half-life after an oral dose ranges from 3 to 6 hours in most patients. Less than 2% of orally administered mebendazole is excreted in urine and the remainder in the feces as unchanged drug or its metabolites.

## 12.4 Microbiology

### Mechanism of Action

Mebendazole interferes with cellular tubulin formation in the helminth and causes ultrastructural degenerative changes in its intestine. As a result, its glucose uptake and the digestive and reproductive functions are disrupted, leading to immobilization, inhibition of egg production and death of the helminth.

### Antimicrobial Activity

Mebendazole is active against:

*Ancylostoma duodenale*

*Ascaris lumbricoides*

*Enterobius vermicularis*

*Necator americanus*

*Trichuris trichiura*

### Resistance

There is a potential for development of resistance to mebendazole. The mechanism of resistance to mebendazole is likely due to changes of beta-tubulin protein, which reduces binding of mebendazole to beta-tubulin; however, the clinical significance of this is not known.

## 13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

### 13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

In carcinogenicity tests of mebendazole in mice and rats, no carcinogenic effects were seen at doses as high as 40 mg/kg (one to two times the human dose, based on mg/m<sup>2</sup>) given daily over two years. No mutagenic activity was observed with mebendazole in a bacterial reverse gene mutation test. Mebendazole was mutagenic in the absence of S-9 when tested using a continuous (24 hour) treatment incubation period in the mouse lymphoma thymidine kinase assay. Mebendazole was aneugenic *in vitro* in mammalian somatic cells. In the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus assay, orally administered mebendazole induced an increased frequency of micronucleated polychromatic erythrocytes with evidence suggestive of aneugenicity. Doses up to 40 mg/kg in rats (2 times the total daily human dose, based on mg/m<sup>2</sup>), given to males for 60 days and to females for 14 days prior to gestation, had no effect upon fetuses and offspring.

## 14 CLINICAL STUDIES

Efficacy rates derived from various studies are shown in Table 4 below:

**Table 4: Mean Cure Rates and Egg Reductions from Clinical Studies**

	Pinworm (enterobiasis)	Whipworm (trichuriasis)	Roundworm (ascariasis)	Hookworm
Cure rates mean	95%	68%	98%	96%
Egg reduction mean	-	93%	99%	99%

## 16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

EMVERM® (mebendazole) is available as a 100 mg, round, light peach-colored chewable tablet, unscored, debossed "ap" above "107" on one side and plain on the other side. They are supplied as follows:

Blister package of 1 tablet

NDC 64896-669-30

Store at 68° to 77°F (20° to 25°C) [See USP Controlled Room Temperature].

## 17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

Advise the patient to read the FDA-approved patient labeling (Patient Information).

Advise patients that:

- Taking EMVERM® and metronidazole together may cause serious skin reactions and should be avoided [see *Warning and Precautions* (5.3)].
- EMVERM® can be taken with or without food [see *Dosage and Administration* (2)].

Manufactured by:  
Alcami  
Wilmington, NC 28405

Distributed by:  
Impax Specialty Pharma  
Hayward, CA 94544

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## PATIENT INFORMATION

EMVERM® (EM-verm)

(mebendazole) Chewable Tablets USP, for oral use

### What is EMVERM?

Emverm is a prescription medicine used to treat adults and children 2 years of age and older with intestinal worm infections caused by pinworm, whipworm, roundworm, or hookworm.

### Who should not take EMVERM?

Do not take Emverm if you are **allergic** to mebendazole or any of the ingredients in Emverm. See the end of this leaflet for a complete list of ingredients in Emverm.

### Before you take EMVERM, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if EMVERM will harm your unborn baby.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. EMVERM can pass into your milk and may harm your baby. Talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby if you take EMVERM. Do not breastfeed while taking EMVERM.

**Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take**, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

Using EMVERM with certain other medicines can change the way these medicines act, causing serious side effects.

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of them to show to your healthcare provider or pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

### How should I take EMVERM?

- Take EMVERM exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it.
- Take EMVERM by mouth with or without food.
- EMVERM tablets may be chewed, swallowed, or crushed and mixed with food.
- If you take too much EMVERM, you might have symptoms that include stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea.

### What should I avoid while taking EMVERM?

Do not take Emverm with metronidazole (a medicine used to treat bacterial and protozoan infections) as serious skin reactions called Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) can happen.

### What are the possible side effects of EMVERM?

**EMVERM may cause serious side effects, including:**

- **Low white blood cell count (neutropenia).** Neutropenia can cause you to get other infections. Your healthcare provider will check your blood count regularly during your treatment with EMVERM. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have a fever or any signs of an infection while taking EMVERM
- **Severe skin reactions (Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis).** EMVERM may cause rare, but serious skin reactions when taken with metronidazole and other medicines that contain mebendazole. These severe allergic reactions may be life-threatening and need to be treated in a hospital. Call your healthcare provider right away or get emergency medical help if you have any allergic reactions or the following symptoms:
  - severe skin blisters
  - sores around the mouth, nose, eyes, vagina or penis (genitals)
  - peeling skin
  - swollen face, lips, mouth, tongue or throat
  - itchy rash (hives)

### The most common side effects of EMVERM include:

- loss of appetite (anorexia)
- stomach pain
- diarrhea
- passing gas
- nausea
- vomiting
- rash

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of EMVERM.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

### How should I store EMVERM?

- Store at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).
- Safely throw away medicine that is out of date or no longer needed.

### Keep EMVERM and all medicines out of the reach of children.

### General information about the safe and effective use of EMVERM.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information leaflet. Do not use EMVERM for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give EMVERM to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them. You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about EMVERM that is written for health professionals.

### What are the ingredients in EMVERM?

**Active ingredient:** mebendazole

**Inactive ingredients:** microcrystalline cellulose, corn starch, anhydrous lactose NF, sodium starch glycolate, magnesium stearate, stearic acid, sodium lauryl sulfate, sodium saccharin, and FD&C Yellow #6.

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For more information, call Impax Laboratories, Inc. at 1-877-99-IMPAX (1-877-994-6729).