

# PipTaz Medsurge

## Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) summary

The [full CMI](#) on the next page has more details. If you are worried about using this medicine, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

### 1. Why am I using PipTaz Medsurge?

PipTaz Medsurge contains the active ingredient piperacillin and tazobactam. PipTaz Medsurge is used to treat various bacterial infections.

For more information, see Section [1. Why am I using PipTaz Medsurge?](#) in the full CMI.

### 2. What should I know before I am given PipTaz Medsurge?

Do not use if you have ever had an allergic reaction to PipTaz Medsurge.

**Talk to your doctor if you have any other medical conditions, take any other medicines, or are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding.**

For more information, see Section [2. What should I know before I am given PipTaz Medsurge?](#) in the full CMI.

### 3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with PipTaz Medsurge and affect how it works.

A list of these medicines is in Section [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#) in the full CMI.

### 4. How PipTaz Medsurge will be given?

- A doctor or nurse in hospital will always give PIPTAZ to you. It will usually be given to you as a slow injection into a vein over 20-30 minutes.

More instructions can be found in Section [4. How PipTaz Medsurge will be given?](#) in the full CMI.

### 5. What should I know while using PipTaz Medsurge?

Things you should do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using PipTaz Medsurge</li></ul>
Looking after your medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PipTaz Medsurge should be stored below 25°C and protected from light.</li></ul>

For more information, see Section [5. What should I know while using PipTaz Medsurge?](#) in the full CMI.

### 6. Are there any side effects?

The most common side effects are nausea or indigestion, vomiting, diarrhoea or constipation, rash, itchy or red skin, allergic reactions such as hives (urticaria), a new infection caused by bacteria that are resistant to PIPTAZ (superinfection), difficulty sleeping, headache, dizziness or light-headedness.

For more information, including what to do if you have any side effects, see Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#) in the full CMI.

# PipTaz Medsurge

**Active ingredient(s): piperacillin and tazobactam**

## Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

This leaflet provides important information about using PipTaz Medsurge. **You should also speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like further information or if you have any concerns or questions about using PipTaz Medsurge.**

**Where to find information in this leaflet:**

- [1. Why am i using PipTaz Medsurge?](#)
- [2. What should I know before I am given PipTaz Medsurge?](#)
- [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#)
- [4. How PipTaz Medsurge will be given?](#)
- [5. What should I know while using PipTaz Medsurge?](#)
- [6. Are there any side effects?](#)
- [7. Product details](#)

## 1. Why am I using PipTaz Medsurge?

PipTaz Medsurge contains the active ingredients piperacillin and tazobactam. They belong to a group of antibiotics called penicillins that work by killing bacteria.

Piperacillin is an antibiotic that kills many types of bacteria. Tazobactam belongs in the penicillin group but does not have activity against bacteria. It helps piperacillin to overcome bacteria which have become resistant to piperacillin.

PIPTAZ is active against bacteria which cause serious infections such as: -

- Chest infections
- Urine infections
- Stomach infections
- Skin infections
- Gynaecological infections
- Septicaemia (blood poisoning).

It is also used to treat many other infections. In hospitalised children aged 2 to 12 years, PIPTAZ is used to treat serious infections in the abdomen. PIPTAZ is not recommended to treat abdominal infections in children under 2 years.

PIPTAZ will not work against infections caused by viruses such as colds or flu.

This medicine is available only with a doctor's prescription. PIPTAZ is not addictive.

## 2. What should I know before I am given PipTaz Medsurge?

### Warnings

**Do not use PipTaz Medsurge if:**

1. you have ever had an allergic reaction to:
  - piperacillin, tazobactam, or any other penicillin antibiotics
  - any antibiotic in the cephalosporin group
  - medicines called beta-lactamase inhibitors.

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include rash, itching or hives on the skin, swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body, shortness of breath, wheezing or troubled breathing.

2. PipTaz Medsurge should not be given to children under two years of age unless directed by the child's doctor.

**Check with your doctor if you:**

- you are allergic to any foods, dyes, preservatives or any other medicines
- you have any other health problems, including kidney or liver disease The dose of PipTaz Medsurge will be altered, depending on blood tests.
- you are on a low salt diet
- you are being treated with PipTaz Medsurge for gonorrhoea, your doctor should test you for syphilis as well. PipTaz Medsurge in high doses may hide early symptoms of syphilis without curing it long-term.

If you are not sure whether you should be taking PipTaz Medsurge, talk to your doctor

During treatment, you may be at risk of developing certain side effects. It is important you understand these risks and how to monitor for them. See additional information under Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#)

### Pregnancy and breastfeeding

Check with your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.

PipTaz Medsurge passes into breast milk. Therefore, if you are breast-feeding, you should discuss with your doctor whether to stop breast-feeding while or stop using PipTaz Medsurge.

## 3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any medicines, vitamins or

supplements that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

#### **Some medicines may interfere with PipTaz Medsurge and affect how it works.**

- medicines for gout (probenicid)
- aminoglycoside antibiotics, including tobramycin
- vancomycin, an antibiotic
- preparations used for thinning blood (warfarin, heparin)
- methotrexate, used to treat cancer, rheumatoid arthritis and other inflammatory conditions
- vecuronium, a muscle relaxant used in surgery

These medicines may be affected by PipTaz Medsurge or may affect how well it works. You may need to be given different amounts of your medicine or you may need to be given different medicines.

**If you have not told your doctor or pharmacist about any of the above, tell them before you start taking PipTaz Medsurge.**

## **4. How PipTaz Medsurge will be given?**

### **How much you will be given**

- The dosage of PipTaz Medsurge is generally 4.5g every eight hours (ie, 4 g piperacillin and 0.5 g tazobactam). The dose may vary between 2.25g (2 g piperacillin and 0.25 g tazobactam) and 4.5 g (4 g piperacillin and 0.5 g tazobactam) and may also be given every six hours.
- For children aged 2 to 12 years, weighing up to 40 kg, and with normal kidney function, the recommended dosage is 112.5 mg/kg (100 mg piperacillin/12.5 mg tazobactam) every 8 hours.
- For children aged 2 to 12 years, weighing over 40 kg, and with normal kidney function, the recommended dose is 4.5 g (4 g piperacillin/0.5 g tazobactam) every 8 hours.

Your doctor may change these dosages.

If you have kidney disease your doctor will adjust the dose to suit you.

### **How PipTaz Medsurge will be given**

- A doctor or nurse in hospital will always give PipTaz Medsurge to you. It will usually be given to you as a slow injection into a vein over 20-30 minutes.

### **How long you will receive PipTaz Medsurge**

- The length of time you will be given PipTaz Medsurge depends on the type and severity of your infection. It should be given for at least five days, and for 48 hours after all signs of illness and fever have gone.

### **Overdose**

- It is unlikely that you will ever receive an overdose of PipTaz Medsurge because it will be given by a trained nurse or doctor.

## **5. What should I know while using PipTaz Medsurge?**

### **Things you must do**

**If you develop severe diarrhoea, tell your doctor immediately. Do this even if it occurs several weeks after stopping.**

This may be a sign of a serious side effect that affects the bowel. You may need urgent medical care. Do not take any medicines to treat this diarrhoea without checking with your doctor.

If you receive PipTaz Medsurge for a prolonged time, your doctor may wish to do some blood tests. Sometimes blood disorders can occur if you take PipTaz Medsurge

**If a doctor asks you for a urine sample, tell him/her that you are receiving PipTaz Medsurge.**

Antibiotics in the penicillin family, including PipTaz Medsurge, can cause interference in some tests for glucose in urine. Penicillins that are excreted in urine can cause a falsepositive result. The doctor will request a test, which is not affected by penicillins.

### **Looking after your medicine**

It is unlikely that you will be asked to store this medication. If you are:

**Keep it where young children cannot reach it.**

A locked cupboard at least 1 and a half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

**Store medicine below 25°C and protect from light.**

Do not store it:

- in the bathroom or near a sink, or
- in the car or on window sills.

Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

### **When to discard your medicine**

If your doctor tells you to stop taking PipTaz Medsurge, or it has passed its expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any left over.

## **6. Are there any side effects?**

All medicines can have side effects. If you do experience any side effects, most of them are minor and temporary. However, some side effects may need medical attention.

See the information below and, if you need to, ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have any further questions about side effects.

## Less serious side effects

Less serious side effects	What to do
<p><b>The most common side effects are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nausea or indigestion</li> <li>• vomiting</li> <li>• diarrhoea or constipation</li> <li>• rash, itchy or red skin</li> <li>• allergic reactions such as hives</li> <li>• a new infection caused by bacteria that are resistant to PipTaz Medsurge (superinfection)</li> <li>• difficulty sleeping</li> <li>• headache, dizziness or lightheadedness</li> </ul> <p><b>The rare side effects are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increased sweating</li> <li>• eczema</li> <li>• flaking or peeling of the skin</li> <li>• inflammation of the mouth</li> <li>• dry mouth</li> <li>• weakness and tiredness</li> <li>• hallucinations or severe confusion</li> <li>• muscle or joint pain or prolonged muscle relaxation</li> <li>• fever</li> <li>• hot flushes</li> <li>• swelling of the hands, feet and ankles</li> <li>• swelling or redness along a vein which is extremely tender when touched</li> <li>• changes in liver function including jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes) or hepatitis</li> <li>• severe diarrhoea caused by a certain superinfection in the gut</li> <li>• convulsions ('fits') if PipTaz Medsurge is given in high doses</li> <li>• short-term changes in kidney function</li> <li>• cough, fever, chills, shortness of breath and chest pain</li> <li>• thrush, especially with prolonged treatment.</li> </ul> <p>Less often, serious effects have occurred in people taking PipTaz Medsurge.</p>	<p><b>Speak to your doctor if you have any of these less serious side effects and they worry you.</b></p>

## Serious side effects

Serious side effects	What to do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• tiredness, being short of breath and looking pale</li> <li>• frequent infections such as fever, severe chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers</li> <li>• bleeding or bruising more easily than normal, nose bleeds</li> </ul>	<p><b>Call your doctor straight away, or go straight to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital if you</b></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• moderate or severe skin rash or blisters often with flu-like symptoms (lips, eyes, mouth, nose or genitals).</li> </ul> <p>This is not a complete list of all possible side effects. Others may occur in some people and there may be some side effects not yet known</p>	<p><b>notice any of these serious side effects.</b></p>
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**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that may be making you feel unwell.**

Importantly, tell your doctor if you have severe diarrhoea in the next few weeks after PipTaz Medsurge treatment.

Do not try to treat it yourself with medicines that you can buy without a prescription.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you do not understand anything in this list.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

### Reporting side effects

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicine is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicine. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions

<https://nzphvc.otago.ac.nz/reporting/>

**Always make sure you speak to your doctor or pharmacist before you decide to stop taking any of your medicines.**

## 7. Product details

### What PipTaz Medsurge contains

<b>Active ingredient (main ingredient)</b>	Piperacillin / Tazobactam
<b>Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)</b>	None
<b>Potential allergens</b>	None

Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to any of these ingredients.

### What PipTaz Medsurge looks like

PipTaz Medsurge is a white to off-white sterile powder.

### Who distributes PipTaz Medsurge

Medsurge Pharma Limited  
PO Box 331054  
Takapuna, Auckland 0622  
Tel: 0800 788 261  
[www.medsurgehc.com](http://www.medsurgehc.com)

### Marketed and distributed by Medsurge Healthcare

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