

**PACKAGE LEAFLET**

## Package leaflet: Information for the user

### ColiFin 1 Million International Units Powder for Nebuliser Solution

Colistimethate sodium

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### **What is in this leaflet:**

1. What ColiFin is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you use ColiFin
3. How to use ColiFin
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store ColiFin
6. Contents of the pack and other information

#### **1. What ColiFin is and what it is used for**

ColiFin is given as an inhalation to treat chronic chest infections in patients with cystic fibrosis. ColiFin is used when these infections are caused by specific bacteria called *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

#### **2. What you need to know before you use ColiFin**

##### **Do not use ColiFin**

- If you are allergic (hypersensitive) to colistimethate sodium, colistin or to other polymyxins.

##### **Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before using ColiFin

- If you have or have had kidney problems
- If you suffer from myasthenia gravis
- If you suffer from porphyria
- If you suffer from asthma

In premature and new-born babies, special care should be taken when using ColiFin as the kidneys are not yet fully developed.

Coughing and chest tightness may lead to discontinuation. This may be relieved by using an inhaled bronchodilator (e.g. salbutamol) before using ColiFin. Your doctor will supervise your first dose of ColiFin and check your lung function before and after dosing.

If chest tightness occurs despite the use of a bronchodilator, please tell your doctor because this may indicate an allergic reaction and the treatment should be discontinued.

During treatment with ColiFin neurotoxicity may occur with the possibility of dizziness, confusion or visual disturbance. If you do experience any side effects such as dizziness, confusion or visual disturbance or also ones not listed in this patient information, please tell your doctor.

##### **Other medicines and ColiFin**

- medicines which can affect how your kidneys function. Taking such medicines at the same time as ColiFin can increase the risk of damage to the kidneys
- medicines which can affect your nervous system. Taking such medicines at the same time as ColiFin can increase the risk of side effects in your nervous system
- medicines called muscle relaxants, often used during general anaesthesia. ColiFin can increase the effects of these medicines. If you have a general anaesthetic, let your anaesthetist know that you are having ColiFin

If you suffer from myasthenia gravis and are also taking other antibiotics called macrolides (such as azithromycin, clarithromycin or erythromycin) or antibiotics called fluoroquinolones (such as ofloxacin, norfloxacin and ciprofloxacin), taking ColiFin further increases the risk of muscle weakness and breathing difficulties.

Having colistimethate sodium as an infusion at the same time as receiving ColiFin as an inhalation can increase your risk of side effects.

ColiFin should not be mixed with any other drugs in the nebuliser!

### **Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

### **Driving and using machines**

ColiFin has moderate influence on the ability to drive and use machines. During treatment with ColiFin neurotoxicity may occur with the possibility of dizziness, confusion or visual disturbance. If you do experience any side effects, such as dizziness, confusion or visual disturbance do not drive or operate machines and talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

## **3. How to use ColiFin**

ColiFin is for inhalation use.

Always use this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

### **The recommended dose is:**

	<b>Proposed Dose</b>	<b>Maximum dose per day</b>
<b>Adults, Adolescents</b> (age 12 years to 17 years), <b>Children</b> (age 2 years to 11 years)	1 - 2 million units two to three times per day	6 million units
<b>Children less than 2 years</b>	0.5 - 1 million units twice daily	2 million units

Your doctor may decide to adjust the dose depending on your circumstances. If you also take other inhaled medicines, your doctor will tell you which order to take them in.

Please note ColiFin is also available as 2 million units vial that might be a more suitable dose depending on the posology prescribed by the doctor.

For use in children younger than 2 years the PARI LC Sprint Baby (red nozzle insert) with mask is recommended.

Your doctor will tell you how long your treatment with ColiFin will last. Do not stop treatment early because when treating bacterial infections it is important to complete the full course of treatment to reduce the risk of resistance formation of the infectious bacteria.

### Preparation for inhalation treatment

If you are treating yourself at home, your doctor or nurse will show you how to use ColiFin in your nebuliser when you first start this treatment.

**To start your treatment, you will need the following:**

- **One 10 ml vial of ColiFin 1 million units**
- **Sterile 0.9 % NaCl inhalation solution 3 ml for dissolving the powder**
- **A nebuliser appropriate for inhalation use of ColiFin (e.g. eFlowrapid or PARI LC SPRINT)**

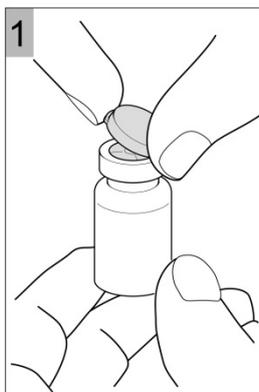
It is important that your nebuliser system functions properly before starting your treatment with ColiFin.

**Read carefully the instructions for use of the nebuliser for further information on handling the nebuliser system.**

Place the components of your nebuliser on a clean flat surface and follow the manufacturer's instructions for use.

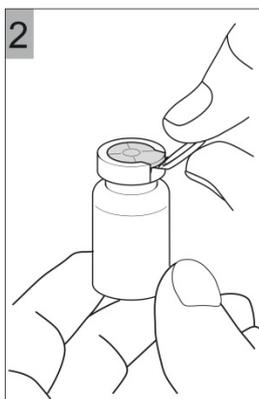
### Preparing your ColiFin for Inhalation

ColiFin must be used immediately after dissolution. Do not dissolve ColiFin until ready to administer a dose (see also section 5).

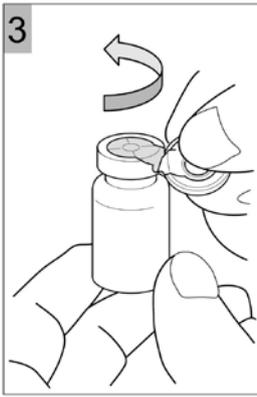


**Step 1:**

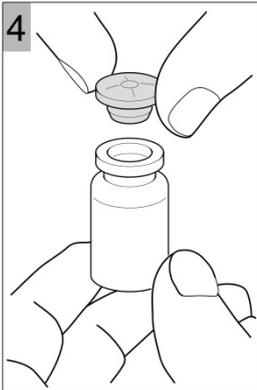
Take one vial of ColiFin and gently tap the glass vial so that the powder settles to the bottom. This helps ensure you get the proper dose of medication. Open the vial by lifting up the red plastic overcap on the top (Figure 1).



**Step 2:** Pull down the red plastic overcap together with the metal ring (Figure 2).



**Step 3:** Tear the red overcap with a twisting movement in the direction of the arrow. Correct performance will allow you to tear the metal ring open. Tear the metal ring sideways so that the breaking point on the opposite side bends. Remove the metal ring from the vial. Safely dispose of the ring and overcap.



**Step 4:** Carefully remove the rubber stopper.

- **Add 3 ml of sterile 0.9 % NaCl inhalation solution to ColiFin 1 million units vial (red cap)**

#### Using your ColiFin

ColiFin is for inhalation use with an appropriate nebuliser (e.g. eFlow*rapid* or PARI LC SPRINT). For more detailed information on correct use of the selected nebuliser follow the instruction manual of the nebuliser. Inhalation should take place in a well ventilated room.

#### After inhalation of ColiFin

Please refer to the manufacturer's instructions for use of the nebuliser for cleaning and disinfecting instructions.

#### **If you use more ColiFin than you should**

If you have used more ColiFin than you should, talk to a doctor or pharmacist immediately. If too much ColiFin is accidentally given, the effects can be serious and can include kidney problems, muscle weakness and difficult (or even stopping) breathing.

#### **If you forget to use ColiFin**

If you are treating yourself and have missed any doses, you should give the missed dose as soon as you remember and then give the next dose at 8 or 12 hours later and carry on from there as instructed.

Do not use a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

#### **If you stop using ColiFin**

You should not stop using ColiFin as prescribed without first consulting with your doctor.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

#### **4. Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

An allergic reaction is possible. Serious allergic reactions can happen even with the very first dose and can include rapid development of rashes, swelling of face, tongue and neck, inability to breathe due to narrowing of airways and loss of consciousness. Urgent medical attention is needed.

**If you think you are having an allergic reaction to ColiFin, tell your doctor immediately.**

**Some side effects can be serious.**

Very common: may affect more than 1 in 10 people

- A feeling of tightness in the chest due to narrowing of the airways (may not always be a true allergic reaction)

Not known: frequency cannot be estimated from the available data

- Patients with severe renal impairment and higher dosages may experience side effects known for intravenous administration
- Confusion
- Psychotic disorder
- Visual disturbance
- Dizziness

If you experience any of these, **tell your doctor straight away.**

#### **Other possible side effects:**

Very common: may affect more than 1 in 10 people

- mouth or throat sore
- Coughing
- Shortness of breath
- Wheezing
- Worsening of lung function test results
- Transient absence of spontaneous respiration

If any of these affects you severely, **tell your doctor.**

Not known: frequency cannot be estimated from the available data

- Subjective skin sensations
- Speech disorder
- Vertigo
- Renal failure

#### **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme.

Website: [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard). By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

#### **5. How to store ColiFin**

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and on the vial label. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not store above 25°C.

Keep the vials in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

ColiFin solution for nebulisation should be used immediately after preparation. If this is not possible, a ColiFin solution should be stored in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C) and not longer than 24 hours.

If not used immediately, in-use storage times and conditions are the responsibility of user.

Any remaining solution should be discarded.

For single use only.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What ColiFin contains**

- The active substance is colistimethate sodium.
- Each 10 ml vial contains 1 million units equivalent to 80 mg of colistimethate sodium.

### **What ColiFin looks like and contents of the pack**

ColiFin is a powder for nebuliser solution.

1 million units/vial: White powder in a 10 ml colourless glass vial with a red cap.

Also available:

2 million units/vial: White powder in a 10 ml colourless glass vial with a lavender cap.

The product is available in the following pack size:

Cardboard box containing 8 cardboard boxes of 7 vials each (56 vials)  
plus 2 boxes 0.9 % NaCl inhalation solution containing 30 ampoules à 3 ml each (60 ampoules)  
plus eFlow*rapid* nebuliser handset

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer**

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**This medicinal product is authorised in the Member States of the EEA under the following names:**

United Kingdom	ColiFin 1 MIU Powder for Nebuliser Solution
Germany	ColiFin 1 Million I.E. Pulver zur Herstellung einer Lösung für einen Vernebler
Netherlands	ColiFin PARI 1.000.000 IE Poeder voor verneveloplossing
Austria	ColiFin 1 Mio. I.E. Pulver zur Herstellung einer Lösung für einen Vernebler
Spain	COLFINAIR 1 MILLON DE UI POLVO PARA SOLUCION PARA INHALACION POR NEBULIZADOR
Italy	Colfinair 1.000.000 U Polvere per soluzione per nebulizzatore

**This leaflet was last revised in 06/2018**