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2. Depo-Medrol

Depo-Medrol (injection)

Generic name: [methylprednisolone](#) (injection) [*METH-il-pred-NIS-oh-lone*]**Brand names:** DEPO-Medrol, [SOLU-Medrol](#), A-Methapred injection**Drug class:** [Glucocorticoids](#)[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Aug 16, 2023. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#) [FAQ](#)

What is Depo-Medrol?

Depo-Medrol is a steroid that prevents the release of substances in the body that cause inflammation.

Depo-Medrol is used to treat many different [inflammatory conditions](#) such as arthritis, lupus, psoriasis, [ulcerative colitis](#), allergic disorders, gland (endocrine) disorders, and conditions that affect the skin, eyes, lungs, stomach, nervous system, or blood cells.

Depo-Medrol may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

Depo-Medrol side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction**: hives; difficulty breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Depo-Medrol may cause serious side effects. Call your doctor at once if you have:

- blurred vision, tunnel vision, eye pain, or seeing halos around lights;
- [shortness of breath](#) (even with mild exertion), swelling, rapid weight gain;
- severe depression, changes in personality, unusual thoughts or behavior;
- new or unusual pain in an arm or leg or in your back;
- severe pain in your upper stomach spreading to your back, nausea and vomiting;
- bloody or tarry stools, coughing up blood or vomit that looks like coffee grounds;
- a seizure (convulsions); or
- **low potassium**--leg cramps, [constipation](#), irregular heartbeats, fluttering in your chest, increased thirst or urination, numbness or tingling, muscle weakness or limp feeling.

Depo-Medrol can affect growth in children. Tell your doctor if your child is not growing at a normal rate while using Depo-Medrol.

Common side effects of Depo-Medrol may include:

- weight gain (especially in your face or your upper back and torso);
- slow wound healing;
- [muscle pain](#) or weakness;
- thinning skin, increased sweating;
- stomach discomfort, bloating;
- headache; or
- changes in your menstrual periods.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Depo-Medrol side effects](#) (more detail)

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Warnings

You may not be able to receive a Depo-Medrol if you have a [fungal infection](#).

Before taking this medicine

You should not be treated with Depo-Medrol if you are allergic to it. You may not be able to receive a this medicine if you have a fungal infection.

Depo-Medrol can weaken your immune system, making it easier for you to get an infection. Steroids can also worsen an infection you already have, or reactivate an infection you recently had. **Tell your doctor about any illness or infection you have had within the past several weeks.**

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- [heart disease](#), [high blood pressure](#);
- a thyroid disorder;
- diabetes;
- glaucoma or cataracts;
- kidney disease;
- cirrhosis or other [liver disease](#);
- seizures, epilepsy or recent [head injury](#);
- past or present [tuberculosis](#);
- herpes infection of the eyes;
- a condition called [scleroderma](#);
- stomach ulcers, ulcerative colitis, [diverticulitis](#), or recent intestinal surgery;
- a parasite infection that causes diarrhea (such as [threadworms](#));

- mental illness or psychosis;
- [osteoporosis](#) or low bone mineral density (steroid medication can increase your risk of bone loss);
- a muscle disorder such as [myasthenia gravis](#); or
- an electrolyte imbalance (such as low levels of potassium in your blood).

It is not known whether Depo-Medrol will harm an unborn baby. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.

You should not breast-feed while using Depo-Medrol.

How is Depo-Medrol given?

Depo-Medrol is injected into a muscle or soft tissue, into a skin lesion, into the space around a joint, or given as an infusion into a vein. A healthcare provider will give you this injection.

Steroid medication can weaken your immune system, making it easier for you to get an infection. Call your doctor if you have any signs of infection (fever, chills, body aches).

If you have major surgery or a severe injury or infection, your Depo-Medrol dose needs may change. Make sure any doctor caring for you knows you are using this medicine.

If you use this medicine long-term, you may need medical tests and vision exams.

 [Detailed Depo-Medrol dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Call your doctor for instructions if you miss an appointment for your Depo-Medrol.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

What should I avoid while receiving Depo-Medrol?

Do not receive a "live" vaccine while using Depo-Medrol. Live vaccines include measles, mumps, rubella (MMR), rotavirus, typhoid, yellow fever, varicella ([chickenpox](#)), zoster (shingles), and nasal flu (influenza) vaccine.

Avoid being near people who are sick or have infections. Call your doctor for preventive treatment if you are exposed to chickenpox or measles. These conditions can be serious or even fatal in people who are using Depo-Medrol.

What other drugs will affect Depo-Medrol?

Sometimes it is not safe to use certain medications at the same time. Some drugs can affect your blood levels of other drugs you take, which may increase side effects or make the medications less effective.

Many drugs can affect Depo-Medrol. This includes prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and [herbal](#)

[products](#). **Not all possible interactions are listed here.** Tell your doctor about all your current medicines and any medicine you start or stop using.

 [Depo-Medrol drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does Depo-Medrol interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

Depo-Medrol

+

Enter a drug name

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Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

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DRUG STATUS

Availability	
Rx	Prescription only
Pregnancy & Lactation	
	Risk data available
CSA Schedule*	
N/A	Not a controlled drug
Approval History	
	Drug history at FDA
WADA Class	
Anti-Doping Classification	



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5.6 / 10

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