

Additional Information for patients for Isotretinoin (Roacutane)

Isotretinoin may interact with other drugs: if you are on antibiotics as tetracycline, lymecycline, erythromycin please stop these for at least 7 days before starting isotretinoin.

Please kindly check your fasting bloods at least 7 days before starting isotretinoin. A fasting blood test means you may not eat or drink anything other than water 12 hours before the blood test. Usually a blood test is needed before starting and 6-8 weeks after starting this drug.

Isotretinoin is best taken after the fullest meal of the day; in most people this is supper at night.

Importantly in women the prescription **MUST** be got from the chemist **WITHIN SEVEN** days otherwise the chemist may not give it.

Dryness is a side effect of this drug: dry skin (use Epaderm/Doublebase/Cetraben all over ;ointment is better than cream.

For dry lips vaseline, Blistex, carmex, epaderm, white soft paraffin are helpful.

Dry eyes: systane or any moisturising eye drops

Dry nose: just splash some water, there are saline preparations, vaseline if needed

Female patients should be consented regards the teratogenic side effects. All patients may get headaches; rarely mood changes, depression. Any patient who feels low must stop the drug and report to their GP.