

Cernevit

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 receiving Cernevit?

Cernevit contains a blend of vitamins and is given by injection or infusion into a vein. Cernevit is used as a vitamin supplement for people who cannot take vitamins by mouth.

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

2. What should I know before I receive Cernevit?

Do not use if you have ever had an allergic reaction to **any** of the ingredients listed at the end of the CMI.

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 receive Cernevit?](#) in the full CMI.

3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with Cernevit 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 is Cernevit given?

- Your doctor or trained nurse will give Cernevit by a slow injection or infusion after it has been mixed with Water for Injections or other compatible parenteral fluids into a vein (intravenously).
- Your doctor will determine the amount of Cernevit that is right for you.

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

5. What should I know while receiving Cernevit?

Things you should do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remind any doctor, nurse, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using Cernevit.
Drinking alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tell your doctor if you drink alcohol. Drinking too much alcohol while using Cernevit may increase the risk of liver damage.
Looking after your medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Store below 25°C. Protect from light. Do not freeze.

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

6. Are there any side effects?

Serious side effects, such as allergic reactions, are possible. 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.

Cernevit

Active ingredient(s): *multivitamin (see product details for full list)*

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

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

Where to find information in this leaflet:

- [1. Why am I receiving Cernevit?](#)
- [2. What should I know before I receive Cernevit?](#)
- [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#)
- [4. How is Cernevit given?](#)
- [5. What should I know while receiving Cernevit?](#)
- [6. Are there any side effects?](#)
- [7. Product details](#)

1. Why am I receiving Cernevit?

Cernevit contains a blend of vitamins and is given by injection or as an infusion into a vein by a doctor or trained nurse.

Vitamins help your body work properly by supporting normal growth, development and cell health.

Cernevit is used as a vitamin supplement for people who cannot take vitamins by mouth.

It may be added to other nutrition solutions given by infusion, depending on your nutritional need.

2. What should I know before I receive Cernevit?

Warnings

Do not use Cernevit if you:

- are allergic to **any** of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet, particularly thiamine (vitamin B1). Always check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.
- are allergic to soy/peanut protein products
- have liver problems
- have very high calcium levels causing your parathyroid glands to make too much parathyroid hormone (hyperparathyroidism)
- have too much of one or more vitamins in the body (hypervitaminosis)

Check with your doctor if you:

- have any other medical conditions
- are allergic to nicotinamide (vitamin PP/B3)
- are allergic to any other medicines, foods, dyes or preservatives

- have kidney or liver disease
- have active inflammatory bowel disease
- take or receive vitamins from other sources, especially vitamins A, D and E.
- take any medicines for any other condition

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.

It is not known if Cernevit may harm your baby. It is not recommended for use during pregnancy.

Talk to your doctor if you are breastfeeding or intend to breastfeed.

Vitamins that you receive can pass into breast milk. Cernevit is not recommended for use if you are breastfeeding.

Use in Children

Cernevit can be used in children over the age of 11 years.

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.

The vitamins and other ingredients in Cernevit may affect how some medicines work:

- antiepileptic medicines such as phenobarbital, primidone, fosphenytoin and phenytoin
- antibiotics, such as bleomycin and those in the tetracycline family
- warfarin, a medicine used to thin the blood (anticoagulant)
- blood pressure medicines such as propranolol and prazosin
- heart medicines such as quinidine
- levodopa, a medicine used for the treatment of Parkinson's disease
- aspirin
- deferoxamine, a medicine used to remove iron from the body
- chemotherapy medicines including 5-fluorouracil, capecitabine, methotrexate, raltitrexed and tegafur

Certain medicines can affect the levels or activity of vitamins in the body, and may affect how well Cernevit works:

- antiepileptic drugs such as phenobarbital, carbamazepine, valproate and phenytoin
- high doses of aspirin
- antiviral medicines such as efavirenz and zidovudine
- antibiotics such as chloramphenicol, ethionamide, trimethoprim, cycloserine, isoniazid
- medicines that suppress the immune system including methotrexate and sulfasalazine
- some medicines used for high blood pressure such as triamterene, hydralazine
- pyrimethamine, an antiparasitic medicine
- penicillamine, a medicine used for heavy metal toxicity
- some medicines used to treat depression such as phenelzine
- theophylline, a medicine used to treat respiratory illnesses

Some medicines contain vitamins that could increase the risk of side effects if given with Cernevit:

- retinoids such as bexarotene (vitamin A)
- tipranavir oral solution (vitamin E)

Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about what medicines, vitamins or supplements you are taking and if these affect Cernevit.

4. How is Cernevit given?

How it is given

- Your doctor or trained nurse will give Cernevit by a slow injection or infusion after it has been mixed with Water for Injections or other compatible parenteral fluids into a vein (intravenously).
- It may be mixed with other nutritional infusion solutions.

How much is given

- Your doctor will determine the amount of Cernevit that is right for you.
- Your doctor will decide how long you will need to receive Cernevit.
- They will closely monitor your condition and your blood during treatment to ensure that you safely receive the right amount.

If you use too much Cernevit

The doctor or nurse giving you Cernevit is highly trained and qualified, so it is unlikely that you will be given an overdose.

If you think that you have received too much Cernevit, you may need urgent medical attention.

You should immediately:

- phone the Poisons Information Centre (by calling **13 11 26**), or
- contact your doctor, or

- go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital.

You should do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

5. What should I know while receiving Cernevit?

Things you should do

Remind any doctor, nurse, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are receiving Cernevit.

Drinking alcohol

Tell your doctor if you drink alcohol.

Drinking too much alcohol while using Cernevit may increase the risk of liver damage.

Looking after your medicine

- Store below 25°C
- Protect from light
- Do not freeze

Follow the instructions in the carton on how to take care of your medicine properly.

Store it in a cool dry place away from moisture, heat or sunlight; for example, do not store it:

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

Keep it where young children cannot reach it.

Getting rid of any unwanted medicine

This medicine is for single use and for one person only. Any unused portion must be discarded and not used later, either for you or anyone else.

If you no longer need to use this medicine or it is out of date, take it to any pharmacy for safe disposal.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date.

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
Digestive system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nausea • vomiting • diarrhoea • stomach discomfort 	Speak to your doctor if you have any of these less serious side

Others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pain or burning at the injection or infusion site • generalised aching • fever • metallic taste in the mouth • fast breathing 	effects and they worry you.
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Serious side effects

Serious side effects	What to do
Allergic reaction-related <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swelling of the face, lips, mouth or throat, which may cause difficulty in swallowing • difficulty breathing or mild asthma-like attacks • sneezing • chest discomfort • hives • rash • redness of the skin • chest pain, shortness of breath, weakness or extreme tiredness which may be a sign of a heart attack Liver function related <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • yellowing of the skin or eyes • dark urine • pain in the upper right side of the abdomen Heart related: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fast heartbeat 	Call your doctor straight away, or go straight to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of these serious side effects.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that may be making you feel unwell.

Other side effects not listed here may occur in some people.

Reporting side effects

After you have received medical advice for any side effects you experience, you can report side effects to the Therapeutic Goods Administration online at www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

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

7. Product details

This medicine is only available with a doctor's prescription.

What Cernevit contains

Active ingredient (main ingredient)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retinol palmitate (vitamin A) • Colecalciferol (vitamin D3) • DI-alpha-tocopherol (vitamin E) • Ascorbic acid (vitamin C) • Cocarboxylase tetrahydrate (thiamine, vitamin B1) • Riboflavine sodium phosphate (vitamin B2) • Pyridoxine hydrochloride (vitamin B6) • Cyanocobalamin (vitamin B12) • Folic acid (vitamin B9) • Dexpantenol (vitamin B5) • Biotin (vitamin B7) • Nicotinamide (vitamin PP/B3)
Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)	Glycine, glycocholic acid, lecithin, sodium hydroxide and/or hydrochloric acid.
Potential allergens	Cocarboxylase tetrahydrate (also called thiamine or vitamin B1), nicotinamide (vitamin PP/B3), lecithin (soy derived).

Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to any of these ingredients. Cernevit contains soy-derived lecithin. Cross-allergic reactions between soybean and peanut proteins have been observed.

What Cernevit looks like

Cernevit looks like an orange-yellow powder contained in a brown glass vial, closed with elastomer closures and crimped by aluminium cap.

- Cernevit Powder for Intravenous Injection (Aust R 92418).

Your doctor or trained nurse will mix Cernevit with Water for Injections or other compatible parenteral fluids prior to the infusion or injection of your medicine.

Who distributes Cernevit

Baxter Healthcare Pty Ltd
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 Old Toongabbie
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 Australia

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