Nitrofurantoin
(monohydrate and macrocrystals formulation: Macrobid®),
(macrocrystals formulation: Macrodantin®, Teva-Nitrofurantoin, AA-Nitrofurantoin, Novo-Furantoin, Apo-Nitrofurantoin)

Nitrofurantoin is an antibiotic used to treat or prevent lower urinary tract infections. BCCDC provides this drug for treatment.

Allergies
- Tell your health-care provider if you have an allergy or sensitivity to nitrofurantoin.
- Tell your health-care provider if you have experienced an allergy or sensitivity to dantrolene (Dantrium®).
- Contact your health-care provider if you are experiencing itchiness, hives, severe allergic reactions (swelling of face, eyes, hands and feet, tingling/swelling of mouth, chest tightness, difficulty breathing) while taking nitrofurantoin.

Pregnancy/Breastfeeding
- Nitrofurantoin is contraindicated in pregnant women at term (38 to 42 weeks gestation), during labour (including imminent onset), and delivery.
- Nitrofurantoin is NOT recommended for mothers who are breastfeeding infants less than one month of age or infants with a blood condition called G6PD (glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase) deficiency.

Precautions – Consult your health-care provider:
- If you have kidney disease, a decreased amount of urine, or unable to urinate.
- If you have a history of liver problems, or developed liver problems previously from using nitrofurantoin.
- If you are experiencing lung reactions or symptoms (general weakness or discomfort, shortness of breath, cough, fever, chest pain or pressure).
- Nitrofurantoin may increase the risk of severe peripheral neuropathy (peripheral nerve damage) in the following situations:
  - anemia (low count of red blood cells).
  - kidney disease
  - diabetes
  - electrolyte imbalances
  - vitamin B deficiency
- Contact your health-care provider if you experience tingling, numbness or burning pain in hands, arms, legs or feet.
- If you are experiencing significant diarrhea
Nitrofurantoin (Cont’d)

Avoid the combination of nitrofurantoin, and
- **Antacids**: containing magnesium trisilicate (Gaviscon®)
- **Antibiotics**: norfloxacin
- **Antifungal**: fluconazole (Diflucan®)
- **Vaccines**: BCG vaccine

Tell your doctor if you are taking the following medication:
- **Anesthetics**: prilocaine
- **Bowel cleanser (prior to medical procedure)**: sodium picosulfate (Pico-Salax®)
- **Diuretics**: eplerenone (Inspra®), spironolactone (Aldactone®)
- **Gout medicines**: probenecid (Benuryl®), sulfinpyrazone
- **Vaccines**: Typhoid vaccine (Vivotif®)
- **Vitamins/Minerals**: folic acid

Side Effects
- You may experience headaches, upset stomach, vomiting, and changes to your urine colour (rusty-yellow to brown or black).

Instructions for Taking
- Take one capsule (= 100 mg) two times a day with food or milk for 5 days until finished.
- If you do miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. However if it is close to your next dose, skip the dose and resume your usual dosing time. Do not take a double dose.
- Avoid drinking alcohol or alcoholic-containing beverages.

Storage Instructions
- Store at room temperature between 15-25°C.
- Protect from light, heat, and moisture.
- Do not use medications beyond the printed expiry date.
- Keep away from the reach of children.

Special Instructions
- If your symptoms have not improved within 3 days or if they are getting worse, contact your health care provider.
- Do not share your medications with anyone or take anyone else’s medications.
- Contact your health-care provider if you are experiencing dark coloured urine that persists even after completion of treatment, pale stools, diarrhea (includes bloody), nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, pain in the upper stomach, yellowing of your skin or eyes, or any other concerns noted in the section entitled, Precautions.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact your doctor, local health unit, or see contact information on this letterhead.