

## Your guide to Utrogestan to reduce the risk of miscarriage

A soft vaginal capsule for women with bleeding in the current pregnancy and a history of three or more previous miscarriages, or women with one or two previous miscarriages who have a reduced chance of future pregnancy<sup>1\*</sup>

\*The benefit of this medicine was shown to be limited to women who have had three or more previous miscarriages.

This booklet is intended for patients prescribed Utrogestan to reduce the risk of miscarriage, and will help with your understanding of Utrogestan. It is not a substitute for talking to your healthcare professional.

### Early pregnancy bleeding and risk of miscarriage

Approximately 1 in 4 women will bleed in early pregnancy, many of whom go on to have a healthy baby.<sup>2,3</sup> However, about one third of women who experience early pregnancy bleeding will go on to have a miscarriage, and this risk is even higher in women who have had previous miscarriages.<sup>2,4</sup>

Progesterone may be used to help reduce the risk of miscarriage in women who have bleeding during early pregnancy, and who have a history of previous miscarriages.<sup>1</sup>



## Why Utrogestan?

Utrogestan contains the natural female hormone progesterone, an essential hormone for maintaining pregnancy. It is *identical* to the hormone produced naturally in your body and has been finely ground (or micronised) to enable your body to absorb it more easily.<sup>1,5,6</sup>

Utrogestan may be used to reduce the risk of miscarriage in women with bleeding in the current pregnancy and a history of three or more previous miscarriages. The benefit of this medicine was shown to be limited to women who have had three or more previous miscarriages.<sup>1</sup>

However, your doctor may consider it appropriate to use in women with less than three miscarriages, who have a reduced chance of future pregnancy. You doctor will rule out other known causes of potential miscarriage before starting treatment.<sup>1</sup>

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why this medicine has been prescribed for you.



### Using Utrogestan

Utrogestan is provided as a soft capsule to be inserted deep into the vagina.<sup>1</sup>

For treatment to reduce the risk of miscarriage in women with bleeding in the current pregnancy, the usual dose is 400 mg (one 400 mg capsule) twice daily, from the first sign of vaginal bleeding until at least the 16<sup>th</sup> week of pregnancy.<sup>1</sup>

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor carefully.



One vaginal capsule, twice per day<sup>1</sup>

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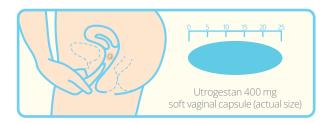
at morning and night<sup>1</sup>

Recommended

Started at the first sign of vaginal bleeding during the first trimester<sup>1</sup>

## How to insert Utrogestan

- Practise good hygiene and wash your hands before and after inserting the Utrogestan vaginal capsule.
- Use one Utrogestan 400 mg vaginal capsule from the bottle.
- Place the Utrogestan capsule on the tip of your finger and insert as far as possible into the vagina. No applicator is needed.



To view the video on how to insert the Utrogestan capsule, visit the link below or scan the QR code.

#### www.besins-healthcare.com.au/patientsupport/womens-health/pregnancy-support/



- Wearing a panty liner is recommended sometimes there may be some leakage from the dissolved capsule.
- You do not need to lie flat during or after the insertion of the Utrogestan capsule.

# How long should you use Utrogestan?

For treatment to reduce the risk of miscarriage in women with bleeding in the current pregnancy, Utrogestan should be continued until at least the 16th week of pregnancy.<sup>1</sup>

Do not stop using Utrogestan unless your doctor, nurse of pharmacist tells you to.<sup>1</sup>

## lf you forget to use Utrogestan

- If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and use your next dose when you are meant to, as usual.<sup>1</sup>
- Otherwise, use it as soon as you remember, and go back to using Utrogestan as you would normally.<sup>1</sup>
- Do not use a double dose to make up for the dose that you missed.<sup>1</sup>

## Frequently asked questions

#### What are the ingredients in Utrogestan?

The active ingredient is progesterone. The inactive ingredients (added during the manufacturing process) are sunflower oil, lecithin, gelatin, glycerol and titanium dioxide.<sup>1</sup>

#### Are there any side effects with Utrogestan?

Most women can use Utrogestan without side effects.<sup>1,7</sup>

Some women may experience side effects including vaginal burning, vaginal itching and vaginal discharge. The incidence of these side effects is extremely low.<sup>1,7</sup>

Some women may also experience drowsiness or dizziness. Make sure you know how you react to Utrogestan before you drive a car, operate machinery or do anything else that could be dangerous if you are dizzy or light-headed. If this occurs, do not drive.<sup>1</sup>

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are using Utrogestan.<sup>1</sup>

#### Can anyone use Utrogestan?

Most women can safely use Utrogestan.<sup>1,7</sup>

Utrogestan can't be used if you have certain medical conditions. These include, but are not limited to: an allergy to any of the ingredients in Utrogestan, including soya; undiagnosed vaginal bleeding; missed abortions or ectopic pregnancy; severe liver problems; cancer of the breast or genital tract; blood clots or a history of blood clots; bleeding on the brain; and porphyria disorder (a blood disease).<sup>1</sup>

Do not use Utrogestan if you are breast-feeding.<sup>1</sup>

Before starting Utrogestan, you should tell your doctor if you have had or suffer from epilepsy, migraine, high blood pressure, asthma, diabetes, depression, or heart, liver or kidney disease.<sup>1</sup> Your doctor is fully aware of all of the reasons why a woman should not use Utrogestan and will have assessed you to see if treatment is appropriate. If you are unsure whether you should use Utrogestan, talk to your doctor.

### Can you use Utrogestan with other medicines?

Tell your pharmacist or doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you get without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop. Don't forget to mention herbal medicines. Some medicines may affect the way other medicines work, and some medicines may interfere with Utrogestan if taken at the same time.<sup>1</sup>

Your doctor will know what medicines you need to be careful with or avoid while using Utrogestan. You can also refer to the Utrogestan Consumer Medicine Information (see the QR code on the back on this booklet) for a list of medicines that may interact with Utrogestan. If you are prescribed any new medicines, tell your doctor or pharmacist that you are already using Utrogestan.<sup>1</sup>

#### How should you store Utrogestan?

You should store Utrogestan in the original container in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 30°C. You do not need to store Utrogestan in the fridge.<sup>1</sup>

### How soon after using Utrogestan can you shower, swim or have sex?

Utrogestan is rapidly absorbed, however, it is advised that you wait 15 minutes before showering and 30 minutes before having sexual intercourse or swimming.

## More information

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about Utrogestan or if you have any concerns before, during or after using Utrogestan.

Further details can also be found in the Consumer Medicine Information available from your doctor, pharmacist or by clicking or scanning the QR code.

To find out more about Utrogestan as a treatment to reduce the risk of miscarriage, you can also visit **https://besins-healthcare.com.au/patientsupport/womens-health/pregnancy-support/** and enter the AUST R number found on the front of your Utrogestan pack.



References: 1. Utrogestan<sup>®</sup> (micronised progesterone) Consumer Medicine Information, accessed September 2024. 2. Victoria State Government, Department of Health, Better Health Channel. Pregnancy – bleeding problems. Available at <a href="https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/pregnancy-bleeding-problems">https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/pregnancy-bleeding-problems.</a> Accessed September 2024. 3. The Royal Women's Hospital, Victoria. Bleeding in early pregnancy-problems/bleeding-in-early-pregnancy. Accessed September 2024. 4. Coomarasamy A et al. Am J Obstet Gynaecol 2020;223(2):167–76. 5. Apgar BS et al. Am Fam Physician 2000;62:1839–1846. 6. Panay N. Post Reprod Health 2014;20:69–72. 7. Utrogestan<sup>®</sup> (micronised progesterone) Product Information, accessed September 2024. Utrogestan<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of Besins Healthcare. Besins Healthcare Australia Pty Ltd. ABN 68 164 882 062. Suite 5.02, 12 Help St, Chatswood NSW 2067. Office phone (02) 9904 74/73. For medical information call 1800 BESINS (237 467). www.besins-healthcare.com.au UTR-2189 Prepared October 2024







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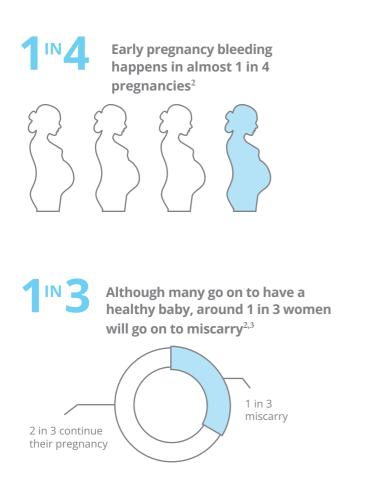
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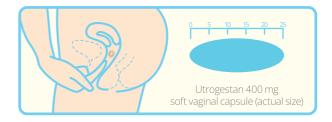
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