What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Soframycin.

It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor or pharmacist has weighed the risks of you using Soframycin against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

If you have any concerns about using this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine. You may need to read it again.

What Soframycin is used for

Soframycin is used to treat bacterial infection of the eye or ear.

Soframycin is an antibiotic of the aminoglycoside class. It works by killing bacteria.

Your doctor may have prescribed Soframycin for another reason.

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

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

Before you use it

When you must not use it

Do not use Soframycin if you have an allergy to Soframycin or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.

Soframycin may affect your developing baby if you use it during pregnancy.

Taking other medicines

Tell your Doctor or Pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

How much to use

For the eye

2 drops every one or two hours initially, diminishing to 2 or 3 drops three times daily.

For the ear

2 or 3 drops may be instilled into the ear three times daily.

How to use it

Soframycin Drops for the ear may be used following the steps below:

Remove the cap from the bottle immediately before use and place it back on the bottle immediately after use. To use the drops, tilt your head so that the affected ear is uppermost. Position the rubber dropper, which is attached to the bottle, directly above the ear hole. With the bottle tipped upside down, gently squeeze the
rubber dropper until 2 or 3 drops fall into the ear. Keep your head tilted for about a minute to allow the drops to penetrate deep into the ear.

**Soframycin Drops for the eye may be used following the steps below:**

You may find it easier to put drops in your eye while you are sitting or lying down.

1. Wash your hands well with soap and water.
2. Shake the bottle.
3. Remove the lid.
4. Hold the bottle upside down in one hand between your thumb and middle finger.
5. Using your other hand, gently pull down your lower eyelid to form a pouch.
6. Tilt your head back and look up.
7. Put the tip of the bottle close to your eye. Do not let it touch your eye.
8. Release one drop into your eye by gently squeezing/tapping or pressing the base of the bottle with your index finger.
9. Close your eye. Do not blink or rub your eye.
10. While your eye is closed, place your index finger against the inside corner of your eye and press against your nose for about 2 minutes. This will help stop the medicine draining through the tear duct to the nose or throat, from where it can be absorbed into other parts of your body. Ask your doctor or pharmacist for some hints.
11. Repeat steps 4-10 to instil the second drop or follow the directions given to you by your doctor and pharmacist.
12. Replace the lid, sealing it tightly.
13. Wash your hands again with soap and water to remove any residue.

**If you are not sure how to use eye drops, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

**How long to use it**

Continue using Soframycin until your doctor or pharmacist tells you to stop.

Do not stop using it unless your doctor or pharmacist tells you to even if you feel better.

**If you forget to use it**

If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and use your next dose when you are meant to.

Otherwise, use it as soon as you remember, and then go back to using your medicine as you would normally.

If you are not sure what to do, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

If you have trouble remembering to use your medicine, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

**While you are using it**

**Things you must do**

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, tell your doctor, dentist or pharmacist that you are using Soframycin.

If you become pregnant while using Soframycin, stop using it and tell your doctor or pharmacist immediately.

**Things you must not do**

Do not give Soframycin to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.

Do not use Soframycin to treat any other complaints unless your doctor or pharmacist tells you to.

Do not stop using Soframycin, or lower the dosage, without checking with your doctor or pharmacist.

**Side effects**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are using Soframycin.

Although most people will not experience a side effect, Soframycin has been known to cause allergic reactions.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following and they worry you:

- Itching or redness of the eyes or ears

**After using it**

**Storage**

Keep your medicine in a cool, dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C. Do not refrigerate.

Keep it where children cannot reach it.

A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

**Disposal**

Soframycin should be discarded 4 weeks after first opening.

If your doctor or pharmacist tells you to stop using Soframycin or the medicine has passed the expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any that is left over.

Return any unused medicine to your pharmacist.

**Product description**

**What it looks like**

Soframycin Eye/Ear Drops is a sterile colourless solution in an amber glass dropper bottle. Each bottle contains 8 mL of solution.

**Ingredients**

Soframycin does not contain lactose, sucrose, gluten, tartrazine or any other azo dyes.

Soframycin Eye/Ear Drops contains:

**Active ingredient:**

- framycetin sulfate (5 mg/mL)

**Inactive ingredients:**
• citric acid - anhydrous
• sodium citrate
• sodium chloride
• benzalkonium chloride
  (preservative)
• water - purified

**Supplier**

Soframycin is supplied in Australia by:
Sanofi-Aventis Australia Pty Ltd
12-24 Talavera Road
Macquarie Park NSW 2113

Soframycin is supplied in New Zealand by:
Sanofi-Aventis New Zealand Limited
Level 8, James and Wells Tower
56 Cawley Street
Ellerslie, Auckland

This leaflet was prepared in November 2014.

Australian Registration Number:AUST R 47541

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