

Pharmacist Checklist - Guidance for dispensing A-CNOTREN (isotretinoin)

A-CNOTREN (isotretinoin) belongs to the retinoid class of drugs that cause severe birth defects. Fetal exposure to A-CNOTREN, even for short periods of time, presents a high risk of congenital malformations and miscarriage.

A-CNOTREN (isotretinoin) is therefore strictly contraindicated during pregnancy and in women of childbearing potential, unless all conditions in the A-CNOTREN (isotretinoin) Pregnancy Prevention Programme are fulfilled.

A negative pregnancy test, issuing a prescription and dispensing A-CNOTREN (isotretinoin) should ideally occur on the same day

If you are aware that a pregnancy has occurred in a woman treated with A-CNOTREN (isotretinoin), treatment should be stopped immediately and the woman should be promptly referred to the prescribing doctor.

If you are aware that a female patient has become pregnant within one month [3 years for acitretin] of stopping A-CNOTREN (isotretinoin) she should be referred to her prescribing doctor.

As pharmacist, you should only dispense A-CNOTREN (isotretinoin) after checking the following information:

For women of child-bearing potential:	
In order to support regular follow up, including pregnancy testing and monitoring, the prescription for A-CNOTREN (isotretinoin) should ideally be limited to a 7-day supply.	
All patients should be instructed:	
Never to give the A-CNOTREN (isotretinoin) to another person.	
To return any unused capsules to their pharmacist at the end of treatment.	
Not to donate blood during A-CNOTREN (isotretinoin) therapy and for one month after discontinuation due to the potential risk to the foetus of a pregnant transfusion recipient	

