p-AMINOSALICYLIC ACID (PAS)
Fact Sheet

PAS is a simple molecule related to aspirin and the sunscreen PABA.

Dose: 4 grams three times a day

Administration: Oral, granules need to be given in acidic beverage

Excretion: Acetylated hepatically, 80% excreted in urine

Distribution: Widely distributed, poor CNS penetration

Adverse Reactions

Gastrointestinal

Other toxicities
1. Hypersensitivity reactions – fever, rash, joint pain and blood dyscrasias (leucopenia, neutropenia, thrombocytopenia and hemolytic anemia).
2. Hepatitis and Loeffler’s syndrome reported rarely.
3. Malabsorption of vitamin B₁₂, folic acid, iron and lipids.
4. Crystalluria may be prevented by the maintenance of urine at a neutral or alkaline pH.
5. Goiter and hypothyroidism may result because iodine accumulation in thyroid is inhibited.

Drug Interactions

Aspirin Potentiates the action of PAS.

Digoxin Oral absorption of PAS may be reduced with a subsequent reduction in serum levels of PAS. Digoxin doses may need to be increased.

p-Aminobenzoic Acid (PABA) PABA decreases PAS activity.

Sulfonamides PAS may antagonize antibacterial action.

Vitamin B₁₂ (Cyanocobalamin) PAS inhibits intestinal absorption of B₁₂ and thus may lead to a B₁₂ deficiency.