Dapsone

| Spectrum of Activity* | *Pneumocystis jirovecii*  
| Toxoplasma gondii  
| *Mycobacterium leprae* |

### Indications
- **Primary indication:**
  - Prophylaxis for *Pneumocystis jirovecii*
  - Can be used for treatment in combination with trimethoprim for non-acutely ill patients

- *Toxoplasma gondii* prophylaxis in combination with pyrimethamine and leucovorin

- May be used for non-infectious diseases, ex: Dermatitis herpetiformis, Immune thrombocytopenia (ITP)

### Not indicated

### Safety Considerations
- Hemolysis (dose related)
  - Enhanced in G6PD-deficient patients
- Methemoglobinemia (dose-related; cyanosis, headache, dyspnea, chest pain, and fatigue)
- Dapsone hypersensitivity syndrome (fever, rash, eosinophilia, lymphadenopathy, hepatitis, pneumonitis)
- Agranulocytosis, anemia, leukopenia, pure red cell aplasia
- Neuropathy

### Monitoring
- Check G6PD levels prior to initiation
- CBC (weekly for first month, monthly for 6 months and semiannually thereafter). Use with caution in patients with severe anemia
- Reticulocyte counts, liver function tests (baseline and periodic)

### Renal Dosing

### Other Considerations
- Discontinue therapy if a significant reduction in leukocytes, platelets, or hemopoiesis
- **Sulfonamide allergy**: Use with caution in patients with hypersensitivity to other sulfonamides. Cross-reactions occur in only 7%-22% of sulfa-allergic patients

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*Fitzpatrick’s Dermatology in General Medicine, 8e New York, NY: McGraw-Hill; 2012.*